

Connecting faith & finances for good.™

# 101WAYS TO SPARK ACTION IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Want to do something positive to strengthen your community? Think you can organize a team to help bring it to life in 90 days or less?

If you said "yes" to both, simply gather your team, submit an application to Thrivent and—once your idea is approved—you'll receive up to \$250 in "seed money" to help cover promotional, production and material expenses.

Need inspiration? Below you'll find 101 ways to offer a valuable service, raise funds or teach others an essential skill.

# **Service Projects**

### **Youth and Family**

- Check smoke detectors for the elderly.
- Build a wheelchair ramp.
- Hold a teddy bear drive for hospitalized children.
- 4. Make tie-together fleece blankets for the homeless.
- 5. Help make a house wheelchair-accessible.
- Clean up after a disaster.
- 7. Hold a clothing drive.
- 8. Deliver/serve meals.
- Hold a neighborhood food/toy/supply drive.
- Coordinate a care package drive for soldiers.
- 11. Build wheelchair-accessible picnic tables for parks.
- 12. Donate, assemble and distribute new parent kits.
- 13. Create pillow case dresses for the needy.
- 14. Clean up a community river/park/freeway.
- 15. Collect books or media for a library.
- **16.** Hold a birthday toy drive or gift drive.
- Crochet blankets out of recycled plastic bags for the homeless.
- 18. Collect toiletry and make-up items for a women's shelter.
- 19. Collect old cell phones for a women's shelter.

- 20. Host a blood drive.
- 21. Repair homes for those in need.
- 22. Repair cars for those in need.
- 23. Hold a youth fire safety demonstration.
- 24. Start a gardening program to benefit a food pantry.
- 25. Establish a nursing home/school pen pal project.
- 26. Host a gently used shoe drive.
- 27. Organize an immunization day.
- Build beds for the less fortunate.
- Coordinate a furniture collection drive.
- 30. Coordinate an electronic recycling drive.

### Seasonal

- 31. Winter coat drive.
- 32. Trick or treat for canned goods.
- Holiday toy/food drive.
- 34. Boxed emergency meals drive for the homebound.
- 35. Tax preparation event.
- 36. Back-to-school supply drive.
- 37. Leaf-raking program for the homebound.
- 38. Snow-removal program for the homebound.
- 39. Team up to place flags at veterans' graves.
- 40. Spring/summer landscaping for the elderly.
- 41. Benefit for someone with high medical bills.

# THRIVENT ACTION TEAMS

## **Fundraisers**

### **Youth and Family**

- 42. Chili/barbeque cook-off.
- 43. Community rummage/garage sale for charity.
- 44. Create/sell recipe books.
- 45. Local restaurant tasting/competition.
- 46. Car/dog wash.
- 47. 5k fun run.
- 48. Walk/ride for a cause (e.g., cancer).
- 49. Community fair/carnival.
- 50. Sadie Hawkins or other dance.
- **51.** Art show or auction.
- 52. Fashion show.
- 53. Dancing with the local stars.
- 54. Book fair.
- 55. White elephant silent auction.
- 56. Murder mystery dinner.
- 57. Iron Chef-style cook-off.
- 58. Aluminum can recycling drive.
- 59. Local talent show.
- 60. Penny wars.
- 61. Charity head shave.
- 62. Calendar art competition/sale.
- 63. Golf or miniature golf open.
- 64. Run a "Bowlathon."
- 65. Team sport tournament (softball, basketball, etc.)

#### Seasonal

- 66. Valentine's Day flower/candy sale.
- 67. St. Patrick's Day dinner.
- 68. Lenten fish fry.
- 69. Easter egg hunt.



- 70. Mother's/Father's Day brunch or high tea.
- 71. Fourth of July picnic/barbecue.
- 72. Halloween haunted house.
- 73. Sleigh rides or hay rides.
- 74. Holiday craft sale/bazaar.
- 75. Holiday turkey or ham drive.
- 76. Photos with Santa.
- 77. Holiday bake sale.
- 78. Wreath/candle/decoration sale.
- 79. Christmas concert.
- 80. Wrap Christmas gifts for donations.
- Poinsettia sale.

# **Educational Activities**

- 82. Basic budgeting workshop.
- 83. College planning 101 workshop.
- 84. Identify theft workshop and shredding event.
- 85. Internet safety workshop: Protect yourself online.
- 86. Taxes and You event.
- 87. Organization 101: Gain efficiency, save time and money.
- 88. Create a LinkedIn Profile workshop.
- 89. Good "cents" health fair.
- 90. Home-buying workshop.
- 91. Exercise and its positive long-term effects on your wallet.
- 92. Suicide awareness event.
- 93. Extreme couponing event.
- 94. Parenting 101: Practical purchases for baby.
- 95. Basic car maintenance: Avoid costly repairs.
- 96. Do-it-yourself basic home repair.
- 97. Bicycle safety rodeo.
- 98. Self-defense workshop.
- 99. Cultural event: How diversity strengthens your community.
- 100. Cooking on a budget.
- **101.** Eating in vs. dining out: At what cost?