

projectheart

PROJECT IDEAS

Welcome to the Project Heart community! We're so excited that you have chosen to join our mission to change the world...one kid at a time. When young people learn they are valued, powerful and impactful individuals who can use their unique talents to create positive change around them, the unexpected happens.

Oftentimes students will decide on a project that fits into one of three categories.

Creation for Donation or Sale – this could look like making dog beds for the animal shelter, making friendship bracelets or stuffies for students who are in sick in the hospital, creating illustrated books for seniors, etc. Creating something to sell is also very popular. Students like to make things like slime or duct tape creations with the intention of selling them and raising money for their nonprofit of choice.

An Event – this could look like hosting a dog wash and asking for donations which would go to a preselected animal agency, a party where the students teach others about the need they identified and ask people to help them support the organization, putting on a performance and asking for donations for the nonprofit, etc.

A Drive – students could collect food, clothes, toiletries, or numerous other helpful items. Typically you would choose a nonprofit with a need first and then research to find out what they need.

We know these projects tend to work best, but it is also good to let our students fail. Please steer them toward successful outcomes, but if students are passionate about decisions, it is best to defer to them. If you know something won't work, but everyone will be physically safe from harm, it is best to let students fail and figure out what to change. The most successful humans are those who have lots of practice with failures. Furthermore, sometimes adults are wrong and the students actually succeed even when we are skeptical!

To kick start the process, we've provided you with a list of nonprofit organizations you can use when selecting your service project. You may come up with an organization not on this list to give your 3Ts to, and that's great too!

Support Troops

It's always hard to be away from people you care about, but our soldiers do it every day. There are many ways that we can help them and let them know that their service is appreciated and invaluable. Below are a few resources to help let them know how much you care.

- Any Soldier is an organization that sends care packages to military bases overseas for soldiers who don't receive any. To learn more, visit <http://www.anysoldier.com>
- Soldier's Angels is a non-profit organization that provides comfort and aid to the men and women serving overseas. Visit <http://soldiersangels.org> to learn more.
- HeroBox is a non-profit organization that sends personalized care packages to deployed troops. To learn more, visit <http://www.herobox.org>
- A Million Thanks provides support and appreciate to our active and veteran military men and women through sending letters. Visit <https://amillionthanks.org/letter/> to learn more.
- Cell Phones for Soldiers - There's nothing like hearing the voice of someone you love through the phone. Cell Phones for Soldiers makes this possible by giving donated cell phones to troops overseas so they can call home. To learn more, go to <http://www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com>
- Afghans for Afghans is a humanitarian project that sends handmade quilts, sweaters, mittens and scarves to the struggling people of Afghanistan. Visit <http://www.afghansforafghans.org/index.html> to learn more.
- Knit Helmet Liners Knit N'Style provides a step-by-step knitting pattern for a helmet liner for soldiers. Visit <https://www.knitnstyle.com/?s=helmet+liner> for the pattern.

Shortlist of Northern Colorado Nonprofits of Volunteer Opportunities

Animals & Environment

- Animal Friends Alliance; 2200 N. Taft Hill Road Fort Collins, 80524 <https://www.savinganimalstoday.org/> (970) 224-3647
- Bird Observatory of the Rockies; 230 Cherry Street, First Floor Fort Collins, 80521 www.birdconservancy.org Jeff Birek (970) 482-1707 x25
- City of Fort Collins - Natural Areas Department; 1745 Hoffman Mill Road Fort Collins, 80524 www.fcgov.com/naturalareas Charlotte Norville cnorville@fcgov.com
- City of Loveland Parks and Recreation; 500 East Third Street Loveland, 80537 www.ci.loveland.co.us (970) 962- 2443

Animals & Environment Cont.

- Alley Cat Allies; 2321 E. Mulberry Street, Suite 1 Fort Collins, 80524 <https://www.alleycat.org/listing/fort-collins-cat-rescue-spay-neuter-clinic/> (970) 484-8516
- Colorado State University Environmental Learning Center; 2400 S County Road 9 Fort Collins, 80525 www.warnercnr.colostate.edu/elc Kristen Wilkinson (970) 491-1661
- High Plains Environmental Center; 2698 Bluestem Willow Drive Loveland, 80538 www.suburbitat.org (970) 622- 9676
- Garbage Garage Education Center; 5887 S. Taft Hill Road Fort Collins, 80526 www.larimer.org/solidwaste Gloria Cohen (970) 498-5772
- Mulberry Community Gardens; 2310 W. Mulberry Fort Collins, 80521 www.mulberrycommunitygardens.org Jillian Jackson Jillian.mac.jackson@gmail.com
- Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado; 600 South Marion Parkway Denver, 80209 www.voc.org Jamie Burke (303) 715-1010

Arts & Culture

- Bee Family Centennial Farm Museum; 4320 E. County Road 58 Fort Collins, 80524 www.beefamilyfarm.org Liz Harrison (970) 482-9168
- Northern Colorado Intertribal Pow-Wow Association; PO Box 1938 Fort Collins, 80522 <https://ncipa.weebly.com/powwow.html>
- Rocky Ridge Music Center; 465 Longs Peak Road Estes Park, 80517 www.rockyridge.org (970) 586-4031
- Spellbinders Oral Storytellers, Larimer County Chapter; 900 E. Prospect Road Fort Collins, 80524 www.spellbinders.org (970) 282-0157
- Timberlane Farm Museum; 2306 E. 1st Street Loveland, 80537 www.timberlanefarmmuseum.org Teri Johnson (970) 646-2875

Health and Wellness, Hunger and Homelessness

- March of Dimes Foundation – <https://www.marchofdimes.org/ways-to-give/fundraise-your-way>
- National Multiple Sclerosis Society - Colorado-Wyoming Chapter; 1525 Riverside Avenue, Suite A, Fort Collins, CO 80524 <https://fightmscolorado.org/> Danielle Stukenberg (303) 698-5406

Health and Wellness, Hunger and Homelessness Cont.

- Denver Rescue Mission - Harvest Farm; 4240 East County Road 66 Wellington, 80549 www.denverrescuemission.org/location/harvest-farm (970) 568-9803
- FOCO Café; 225 Maple Street Fort Collins, 80521 www.fococafe.org Mallory Garneau feedingourcommunityourselves@gmail.com
- Food Bank for Larimer County; 5706 Wright Drive Loveland, 80538 AND 1301 Blue Spruce Drive Fort Collins, 80524 www.foodbanklarimer.org Ben Mensch (970) 530-3113
- Homeward Alliance; 242 Conifer Street Fort Collins, 80524 www.homewardalliance.org Breona Carroll breona@homewardalliance.org
- Loveland Rotary Foundation – StudentsPak Program; PO Box 1144 Loveland, 80539 <https://www.kidspak.org> / info@studentspak.net

Seniors, Youth, and Families

- City of Fort Collins - Senior Center; 1200 Raintree Drive Fort Collins, 80526 www.fcgov.com/recreation/seniorcenter Betsy Emond (970) 224-6030
- Meals on Wheels for Fort Collins, Inc.; 1217 E. Elizabeth, Suite 11 Fort Collins, 80524 www.fcmow.org Kristy Trippel kristy@fcmow.org
- Meals on Wheels of Loveland and Berthoud 437 N. Garfield Avenue Loveland, 80537 www.lovelandmealsonwheels.org Julia Modest (970) 667-0311 julia@lovelandmealsonwheels.org
- Junior League of Fort Collins; 2900 S. College Avenue Fort Collins, 80524 www.jlfortcollins.org (970) 482-0594
- AlphaBEST; www.alphabest.org
- Book Trust; 789 Sherman Street, Suite 300A Denver, 80203 www.booktrust.org
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Larimer County; 103 Smokey Street Fort Collins, 80525 www.begreatlarimer.org (970) 372-4537
- Kids at Heart; 6501 Brittany Street Fort Collins, 80525 <https://kidsatheartco.org/>
- Loveland Youth Gardeners; 907 S. Lincoln Avenue Loveland, 80537 www.lovelandyouthgardeners.org Heather Anderson (970) 669-7182

**Please note that contacts listed may have changed