



Participation



9

Purpose: Participants gain the tools and skills required to organise and implement a social action activity of their choice.

Participant learning objectives:

1. Gain knowledge and skills to create an action plan including tasks, roles, timeframes, resources, and outcomes
2. Understand the importance of creating SMART objectives
3. Be able to work co-operatively within a group to complete social action activity

| CONTENT | METHODS/ RESOURCES <i>Slides 106-115 can assist with this session.</i> | APPROX. TIME |
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| Social Action Recap | <p>Provide participants with a brief overview of the learning from week eight. Ask participants if they can remember the four key stages to social action: Explore, Organise, Act and Review.</p> <p>Split participants into their groups from last week and provide each group with their completed worksheet/ problem tree.</p> <p>If participants are happy with their vision statement produced last week, they are good to move on to the organise stage.</p> <p>Explain that now you are aware of the change you want to make/ see, this session will allow you to plan HOW you will make that change.</p> <p>Remind participants of what needs to be done in Step 2 –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make clear goals to make the change you want to see • Know what actions you will need to take to achieve these goals • Create an action plan (What needs to be done, who is doing it, when will it be completed by, what resources are needed, who else can support/ help, what will this action achieve) • Gather some contact information for others who may be able to support/ help | 15 minutes |

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| <p>SMART Goals</p> | <p>Introduce participants to the idea of creating SMART goals; goals which are Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic/ Relevant, and Timebound. There is a useful visual on slide 110.</p> <p>It is important to highlight SMART goals before participants begin to action plan to ensure that they clarify their ideas, focus their efforts, use time and resources wisely and increase their chances of achieving what they want to achieve.</p> | <p>20 minutes</p> |
| <p>Step 2 - Organise</p> | <p>Resources: Action plan template Pens Flipchart Markers</p> <p>Create a relaxing environment for the group (some background music, some food or sweets, move outdoors if the sun is out!).</p> <p>Provide each group with an action plan template. This will be the agreed action plan for the group. Ask group members to work together to complete their action plan detailing what needs to be done, who is doing it, when will it be completed by, what resources are needed, who else can support/ help, what will this action achieve.</p> <p>Participants can use the flipchart paper to brainstorm ideas/ actions before completing the action plan.</p> <p>Tip: It might be useful for each group to nominate someone to take photos/ videos etc. of the group completing their social action activity.</p> <p>It is important that young people get some recognition/ reward for their commitment and contribution. They may want to include promotional actions into their plan.</p> | <p>60 minutes</p> |



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| Overcoming Potential Challenges | <p>Resources: Overcoming potential challenges worksheet Pens</p> <p>This activity is important to do at this stage to help participants prepare for potential challenges or barriers to their project, before they arise. It will help participants to put the necessary steps in place to minimize challenges/ barriers from occurring.</p> <p>Ask participants to brainstorm what challenges they think may occur or what barriers they might face. These could be things like access to buildings, needing permission for certain events/ activities, lack of a budget etc. Now ask participants to brainstorm possible solutions to these challenges/ ways in which they could overcome these barriers. This could be things like changing timeframes, fundraising, seeking support from youth workers, etc.</p> <p>Allow some time for participants to revise/ re-visit their action plan if they need to.</p> | 30 minutes |
| Step 3 – Act! | <p>Participants should now be ready and organized to implement their social action plan. It must be noted here that some groups may have picked very small-scale social action projects, and others may have planned more detailed social action projects lasting a number of weeks.</p> <p>It is up to the discretion, resources, and risk management of the club, to determine the level of support club leaders will offer participants outside of core programme hours.</p> <p>Remind participants to consult their action plan regularly to ensure they are achieving what they set out to achieve. This will help keep them motivated and help to keep them on track.</p> | Dependent on social action |
| Check-Out/ Evaluation | <p>Resources: Informal evaluation ideas</p> <p>Choose an activity from the list provided.</p> | 10 minutes |



Action Plan Template

Overall Vision:

| What needs to be done? | Who is doing it? | When will it be complete? | What resources are needed? | Who else can help/ support? | What will this achieve? |
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Overcoming Challenges Worksheet –

For every challenge write at least one possible solution.

CHALLENGES

SOLUTIONS

