

# The Volunteer's Guide



**CALL** for **VOLUNTEERS**



# Why Volunteer ?

This is you



And what you may know, is that thousands of people around you benefit from volunteer work,



big picture

But what you may not know, is that those volunteer hours do much more than lend a hand or help a neighbour. Those volunteer hours - they give hope. They help people at their worst moments. And you - you have the power to **CREATE** the change in your community that will inspire others to do the same. We are stronger together.



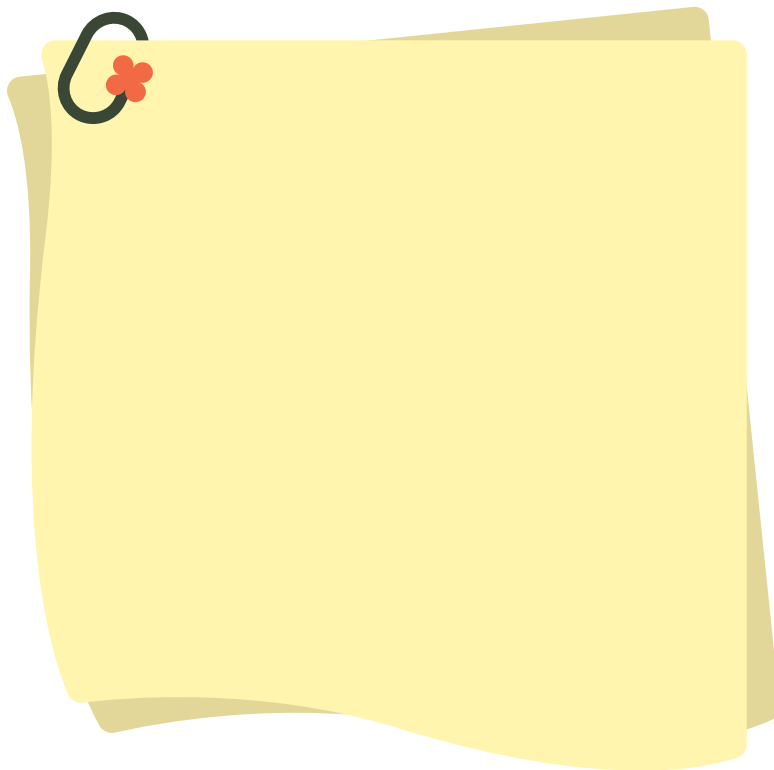
# Okay! But what ?

We get it! It can be really intimidating to start. That's why we, the We Believe Team, wrote this simple guide to planning volunteer events. We are giving you the structure - but it's up to you to put in the love and time in to make it the reality. And we want to hear from you - tell us about your progress, let us know the impact you are making in your community and in your world.



## Step 1: Research

Write down a list of issues or concerns in your community of your world. What do you see that bothers you ? That make's life hard for others ?



### now... why ?

Brainstorm WHY some of these issues are happening to your community. Then, as a team, pick one that is close to your hearts but also that you know you can help change.

# How to Brainstorm



**Here is a list of areas that my community or my world is struggling with :**



**This is the issue we are choosing:**

**These are our idea's to what is causing this issue:**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## *NEED INSPIRATION?*

Available on the We Believe website are Social Impact Topic presentations - full of crucial areas our world needs help with ! Check this out at <https://www.webelieve.ca/education>

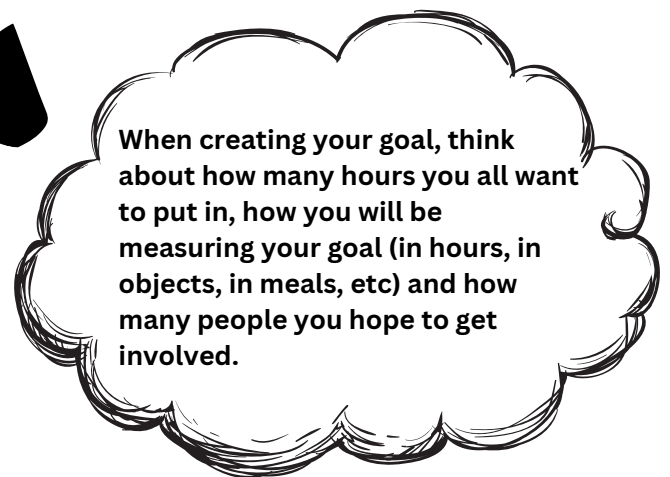
# Plan your goal



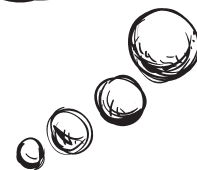
This is the issue we identified:



This is the goal we have:



When creating your goal, think about how many hours you all want to put in, how you will be measuring your goal (in hours, in objects, in meals, etc) and how many people you hope to get involved.



These are the things we should keep in mind when planning our goal :



# Okay! But how ?

## Step 2: Plan

Now that you have your goal, it is time for you and your team to decide HOW you are going to get your goal accomplished. In order to do this, you need to plan out WHO will do WHAT and WHEN.



Everyone's plan will look differently, but here are some key things to keep in mind:

- WHERE are you donating your product or time to ? WHO do you have to contact to organize this and who will be responsible for communications ?
- WHAT funding or resources will your team need to accomplish the goal ? WHERE can you get these from ?
- WHAT permission will your team need to get your goal accomplished ?
- WHO does your team know that could help you accomplish your goal ?

A good plan also includes delegating who will be responsible for different areas of the plan, depending on their skill sets and interests. Every plan is different, but here are some general rolls:



- MANAGER ( have one person who communicates with each member of the team and who has experience fostering teamwork)
- COMMUNICATIONS (within the team and also with other organizations)
- ADMINISTRATION (of meetings and other events, as well as note keeping or finance tracking)

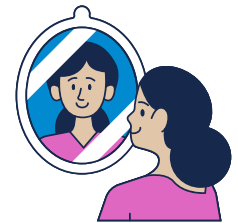
# Okay! But how ?

## Step 3: Action



This is when you and your team execute your plan. Depending on your goal, this may be a few hours, a few months, or a few years! It may also happen that your team makes changes to your plan as it goes on. Here are some things to keep in mind during the ACTION phase:

- Decide how your team will TRACK the results of your goal.
- Determine a regular time for members of your team to discuss progress or concerns and to proactively solve any issues.
- Reflect during and after the event and TRACK your team's reflections.



Here are some self-reflection questions to ask your team :

- Why is this goal important to us?
- How does this goal align with our values and long-term goals?
- What challenges or obstacles have we encountered, and how have we addressed them?
- Is our timeline for achieving this goal realistic? Should we adjust it?
- What impact do we see in our community ?
- What have we learned about ourselves through this process?
- What skills or knowledge have we gained so far?
- What mistakes have we made, and what lessons have we learned from them?

Remember: Every plan and goal is different. Focus on what YOUR TEAM can accomplish and what is realistic.

# We are doing it! Now what ?

## Step 4: Celebrate



Here at We Believe, we want to help you and your team celebrate. We have helped many different people get involved in their communities and help others. And we want to hear from you, too ! Reach out to us with the following information:

What was your goal and why was this important to your team ?

How many people were involved ?

Where and who did your team help out ?

What has your team learned from this experience ?

What are any statistics you can give us about your impact (hours, items) ?

Contact us:



<https://www.facebook.com/WEBelieveSJ>



<https://www.webelieve.ca/>



[we.believe.nb.2020@gmail.com](mailto:we.believe.nb.2020@gmail.com)





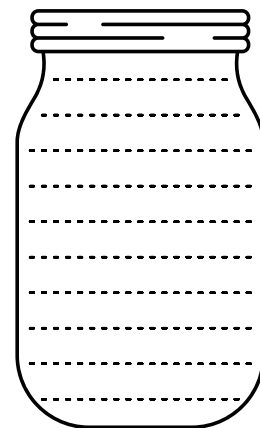
# Some things to keep in mind...

## Make a difference volunteer cards

On the We Believe website, there are Make a Difference Volunteer cards that are available in English and in French. You (or a member of your team!) can quickly fill these out - helping you track your success ! Bonus - you can also add photos to visually track your progress. How exciting!  
<https://www.webelieve.ca/education>

## Visual trackers

Another strategy you can use to keep your team motivated is a large, visual tracker to symbolize your impact - like a mason jar you colour in ! Remember, it does not have to be money or items that you are tracking, it could also be hours volunteered or the amount of people that you worked with !



## Other resources

We Believe has SO many tools available to help you and your team learn and grow. Check out our website at <https://www.webelieve.ca/> for more information ! We have everything from The Leader's Guide to a cook book !



# Get Volunteering with We Believe



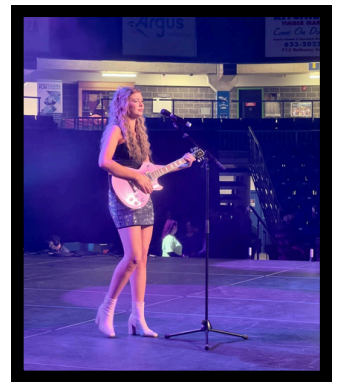
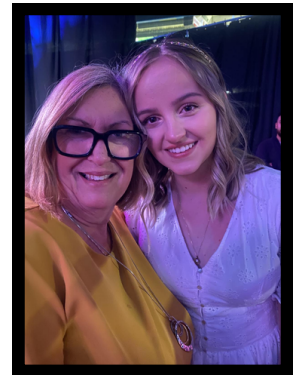
## Empowered to Ride

Helping youth find their passions in life and keep active through mountain biking



## We Believe Saint John

Bringing together over 8000 youth and educators and promoting literacy, having open conversations about tough topics and creating a sense of empowerment and drive.



## Come volunteer with us!

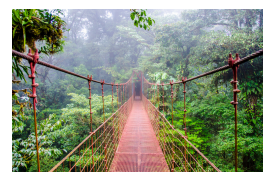
We at We Believe would love to work with you ! If you are looking for an exciting volunteer opportunity, whether it be in your own community or around the world, contact us or fill out the form on our website :

<https://www.webelieve.ca/volunteer>

## Service Learning Trips

We Believe organizes a variety of service learning trips around the world - volunteers come together to help those in need and discover new cultures. Check them out:

<https://www.webelieve.ca/costa-rica-trip>



#volunteer