

Pennsylvania District of Circle K District Convention 2020 District Service Project Selection

We need YOUR help in selecting next year's District Service Project (DSP)!

Each year, the Pennsylvania District participates in a statewide District Service Project (DSP) where all Pennsylvania Circle K Clubs participate in an initiative together for the administrative year.

Before the District Convention, Pennsylvania District Circle K members have the ability to vote on the next year's DSP from a list of pre-selected possible initiatives from the Pennsylvania District Board. The initiative with the most votes will win and be presented at the District Convention! More information will be distributed to clubs in February 2020 on how to vote.

If you have any questions, please e-mail convention@pacirclek.org.

This year's options are...

- Early Childhood Learning
- Homelessness & Hunger
- Environmental Protection
- Opioid Crisis
- Animal Welfare

Program Details:

Early Childhood Learning:

Early childhood learning is one of the major Kiwanis programs for the state of Pennsylvania. Kiwanis is a strategic partner of the Pennsylvania Early Learning Investment Commission. Kiwanis and Circle K members continue to actively emphasize the importance of early childhood education in Pennsylvania through the Early Learning Investment Commission. The purpose of the commission is to increase availability of quality education to young learners. The commission advocates for smart early learning policies and public investments to help meet their goal of ensuring that young at-risk children get early learning opportunities vital to their long-term development.

Potential projects include:

- Advocating and educating on early childhood education
- Distribution of Pennsylvania Kiwanis Early Learning Guides
- Bullying prevention
- School supplies
- Pen Pal Programs
- Fundraise

Homelessness & Hunger:

Pennsylvania Circle K members may continue to focus on helping those who are suffering from homelessness and/or hunger. Members can help those who are within these circumstances by providing food, clothing, and shelter.

Potential projects include:

- Food Drives (STUFH)
- Clothing Drives
- Habitat for Humanity
- Salvation Army
- Toys for Tots
- Toiletry Drives
- Fundraise

Environmental Protection:

Activism and a strong push for a greener economy has been emphasized in the past few years by young people across the globe. Pennsylvania Circle K members can volunteer, donate, and spend time educating themselves and others about their environment and learn ways to make a positive impact on the natural world.

Potential projects include:

- Planting trees
- Highway cleanups
- Creating a community garden
- Park/river cleanups
- Reusable cups/straw sales
- Educating children in elementary schools
- Fundraise

Opioid Crisis:

The opioid crisis has become a widespread epidemic in the United States for the past decade. In February of 2019, over 32,000 deaths were due to overdosing on synthetic opioids other than methadone in a 12-month period. Students can address these issues and intervene in order to mitigate the risk factors both on and off campus, especially in impoverished areas. This starts with nonprofit organizations like Circle K International, and together, we can end the addiction stigma.

Potential projects include:

- Start a Drug Take Back Day
- Get involved in naloxone training
- Educate others

• Fundraise

Animal Welfare:

This program is focused on animal welfare and giving support to organizations that help abandoned or neglected animals. Approximately 7.6 million companion animals enter animal shelters nationwide every year. Of this number, approximately 3.9 million are dogs and 3.4 million are cats. Although it is impossible to determine how many stray dogs and cats currently live in the United States, estimates for cats alone range up to 70 million. In addition, shelter overpopulation is only one of the many issues that also can be addressed.

Potential projects include:

- Volunteering with shelters
- Host adoption fairs on campus
- Foster animals (if your apartment/ housing allows for that)
- Making dog toys or cat toys
- Doing an animal food supply drive
- Honoring active-duty dogs
- Fundraise