

PASSION TO PURPOSE COMMUNITY SERVICE GRANT

COMMUNITY ACTION GUIDE

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COMMUNITY ACTION GUIDE

FINDING PURPOSE IN YOUR PASSIONS

Are you a passionate community voice and want to effect change within your communities, but you are not sure where to start? This guide is for you! Our team created this guide to be used by young people who know they want to do something, but they need a little extra support in preparing their action plan. This guide can be used by young people who are in different stages of their community action plans.

Our goal is to offer you the support and guidance you need to go out to generate change and positive impact in your community – your way.

WHAT KIND OF CHANGE MAKER ARE YOU?

Each section is designed to help support young people who are in different phases. You can use it in full or use the sections that make the most sense for your community action plan.

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ENTHUSIAST

First, give yourself a pat on the back! It's amazing to see that you are enthusiastic about creating change in your community. You are full of passion and see many things that could benefit your community, but you're not sure which issue you should and could focus on. Everything seems equally urgent and important! If you feel this way, you are not alone. We all have moments like this. We want to help everyone all at once, and then feel stuck because we're not sure where to begin. We are here to help you focus your passion - use the **UNCOVER** section to help zero in on more concentrated ideas that you can develop further.

VISIONARY

You are remarkable; you have a vision for your community and want to be one of the leaders who help make it real. There is a specific community issue that you know you want to tackle, and you have so many ideas about how to make your vision a reality. Often, we see an issue, and we are pulled towards doing something about it, but we're not sure of the best way to go about making that change. The **CONCEPTUALIZE** section will help you map out all your ideas, and then help you find ways to focus on the one that you can put forth to action, sooner.

CREATOR

Your passion is infectious and your dedication to change is inspiring! You know what you want to do, and how you want to do it. Now it's time to put pen to paper. You have identified the issue that would benefit the most from your passion, and you know the solution that will work for you and your team. You can use the **REINVENT** section to map out your project to see the finer details of your initiative. How much time do you need to spend developing this plan? How many people need to be a part of it? How can you consider what funding options are available to you?

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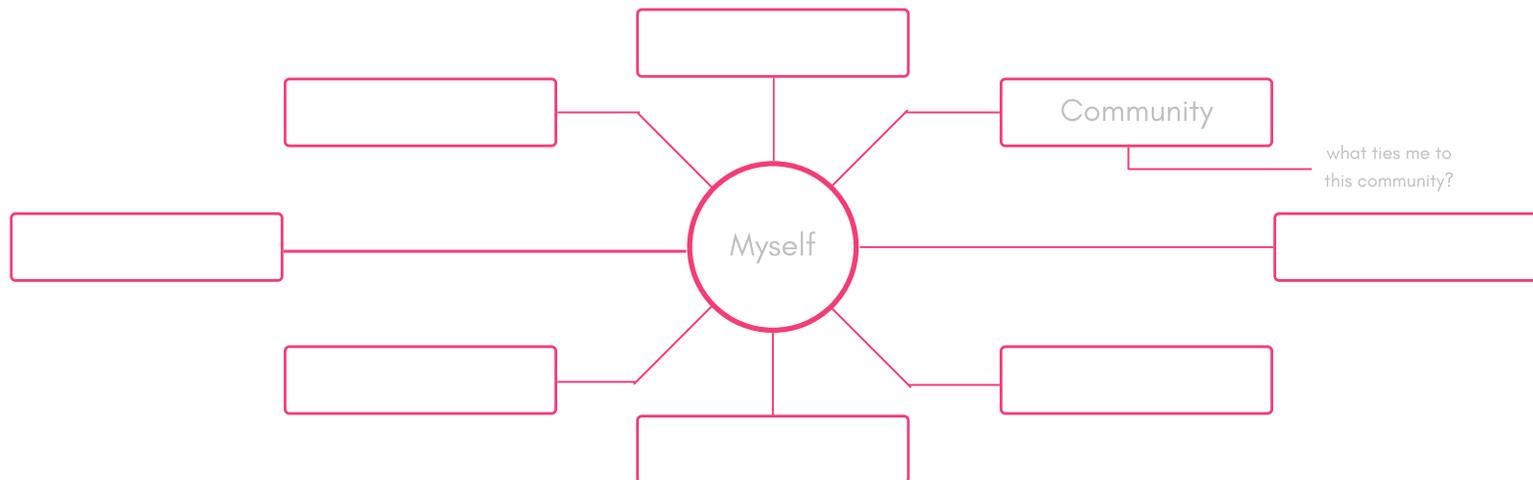
UNCOVER

Let's start with your passions and the community issues that you have been taking note of. This section will work through reflecting on what drives you and which communities might benefit from your passions.

We use the word community a lot. What do we mean by that? YOU get to decide what community means to you. We are not here to define it for you. Your community could be those that share the same spaces as you - where you live, or where you go to school. It could be the community you identify with in race, class, gender, sexual orientation, or those who share common barriers to success. Fellow students, activists, senior citizens, or a group of individuals with a shared history or trait can also be your community.

PAUSE FOR THOUGHTS - ACTIVITY

Think about some of the communities you belong to. Which are those? What ties you to them?



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LET'S PICK 3 OF THE COMMUNITIES THAT YOU HOLD CLOSEST TO YOU. WHAT ARE THE ISSUES THAT THESE COMMUNITIES FACE? WHAT FEELINGS DO THESE ISSUES INVOKE IN YOU?

Community	What is the issue this community is facing?	What does the community need to help with this issue?	How does it make me feel when I think about this issue?
My high school	We do not have enough school events or opportunities to learn more about being an ally to the LGBTQ2+ community	More events that give them a platform to share their experiences	Upset, confused, excited for change

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The #PassionToPurpose grant program focusses on a few areas that your issues might fall into and that your solution might help:

Arts & Culture: Would your community benefit from enhancing arts programs or cultural learnings?

Education: How can you tackle issues that surround access to education? Or look at ways in which our educations can adapt to changes in society?

Environment: How can you help your community focus on sustainable living or work on solutions to environmental issues?

Food & Health: Can you raise awareness about food security and promote health education?

Housing & Safety: What are barriers to safe spaces and access to livable conditions or homes?

Social Justice: How can you raise awareness for discrimination against racialized groups?

Sports & Recreation: What are ways to promote active lifestyles?

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CONCEPTUALIZE

WHAT CAN I CHANGE - ACTIVITY

What community do you feel would benefit the most from your community action? _____

What are the specific issues this community is facing?

LGBTQ2+ Awareness

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Look at your list - what is the one thing that you feel is urgent and gives you the strongest sense of need? _____

This is the issue that we will focus on building out to help develop your project.

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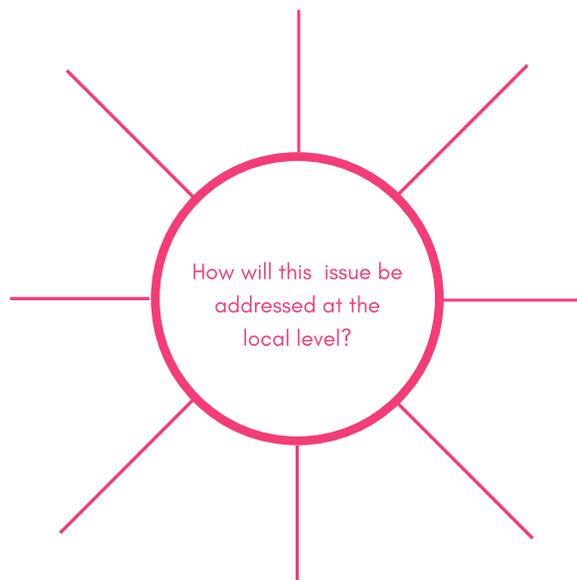
WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

Let's focus on your issue..

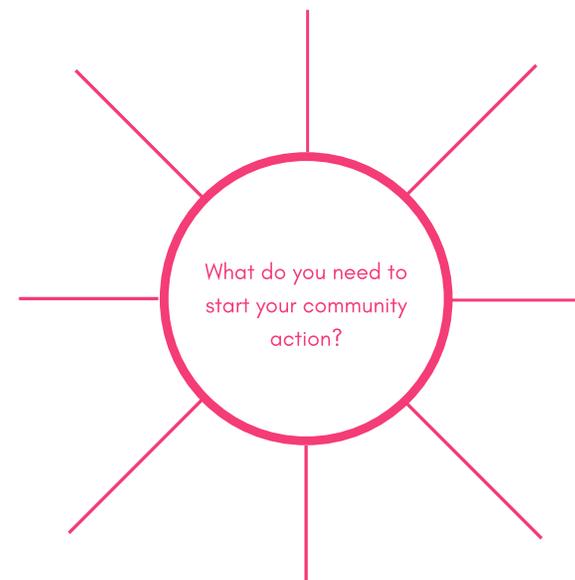
How passionate are you about bringing a solution to this issue?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Self reflect – if you chose a number higher on the scale, it can be believed that the chances of you carrying through with your project and getting things done are higher. If you selected a number on the lower end of the scale, pause. Why aren't you enthusiastic about this solution? Do you have the motivation, drive, and support that you need to get this done? Should you take a moment to rethink your possible solutions and find one that is better aligned to your enthusiasm?



a team of 4 friends



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WHY ARE WE FACING THIS ISSUE?

Issues are like onions – there are so many layers! Peeling back the outer layers helps us understand root causes and the multilayer approach to designing solutions. Sometimes, and unfortunately, what you see is not all that it is. There can be underlying systemic barriers or other sub-issues that influence the problem. Understanding the cause of an issue or further layers to it, will help you think about a solution that focuses on the causes of the issue.

Think about when you cut yourself. Our first instinct is to get a band-aid or a cover for it then go about our day. How often though do we take the time to think about what additional things can prevent you from cutting yourself again or help you heal safer? What might support better healing is first treating the wound, cleaning it up and then putting on the band aid. What would help prevent a future cut is to evaluate your environment – what are the aspects of the environment that pose a reoccurrence of the cut? How can you switch up the environment to help keep yourself safe from future cuts?

The underlayers of an issue affecting your community are not always easily apparent. Addressing the underlying issues might help to provide a more sustainable, long term solution to the issue. You are laying the foundation for starting and continuing the healing.

Asking yourself *BUT WHY?* can help look at what are the causes for the issues we want to address.

For example – if we are focusing on raising awareness and allyship for the LGBTQ2+ community because there is a lack of such opportunities – ask yourself, *BUT WHY?*

Is it because people don't understand the plights of this community?

BUT WHY?

Is that because media is overly representative of only one type of person, gender or relationship?

BUT WHY?

Is that because seeing difference makes people uncomfortable?

BUT WHY?

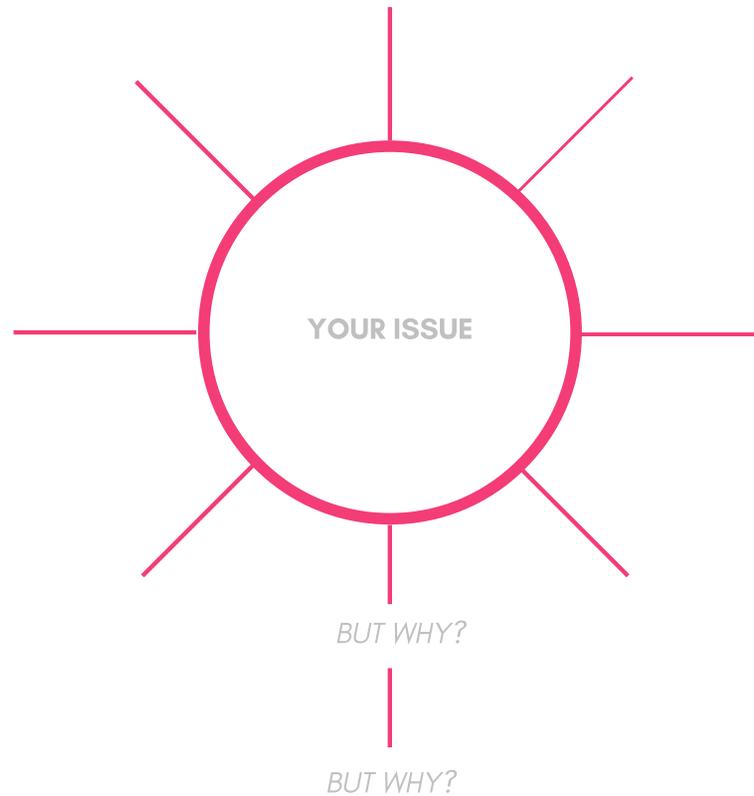
Is that because there was a lack of exposure during people's formative years?

BUT WHY?

You can keep going!

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NOW LET'S DISSECT YOUR TARGET ISSUE. EACH TIME YOU THINK OF A CAUSE, ASK YOURSELF, BUT WHY? BREAK DOWN THE CAUSES AS MUCH AS YOU CAN.



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WHY ME?

YOU have so much to offer – so much potential! We hear this a lot but we continue to underestimate how much we can do for others. Nothing is ever too little or insignificant for those who need it.

You have offerings, **genii**, that can benefit many relationships in your life. **Genii** are your unique combination of the skills you've learned, the talents you developed, the abilities you improved, the smarts you've gained, the knowledge you acquired, your lived experiences, your knacks and handiness.. it goes on!

What do you enjoy doing? What are the activities that make you feel happy and keep you engaged? What makes you feel comfortable and allows you to showcase your true self? Some people enjoy being around others, while others prefer quiet time for self reflection.

What do people say you're really good at? Every so often we have hidden talents that we don't realize until someone else points it out to us. While we are juggling life, we can take for granted some of the skills that we use in passing without realizing what affect it is having on others. It takes someone else to say, *"hey that's amazing - you are really talented"* to realize that we are doing something well never gave it much attention. When did that happen for you?

How can your privilege be a gift to someone else? Privilege comes in all forms. It allows us to access spaces, sometimes easily without second thought. However your peers that do not have the same privileges have a harder time accessing those spaces and opportunities. Some of us have multiple levels of privilege – our gender, race, class, access to education, sexual orientation, immigration status amongst many others. It is important to not only recognize what these privileges are, but also explore how your privilege and access can be beneficial to someone who does not have your platform. Maybe it's the home you were born in to, the people you have developed relationships with or your know how in navigating public spaces. Think about how your privileges and platforms can be used towards your community action.

What are the genii you hold within yourself and your circles?

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TAKE A LOOK AT THIS GENII CHECLIST. CHECK OFF THE SKILLS YOU HAVE AND FILL IN SOME OF YOUR OWN.

MY VERBS - WHAT CAN I DO?

Transferable skills: actions that you can take to perform a task that can be transferred to various experiences

- I can organize
- I can promote
- I analyze
- I can engage
- I write
- I can motivate
- I can research
- I can listen
- I can initiate
- I adapt
- I can code
- I can develop
- I can problem solve
- I can communicate
- I can ideate

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

MY ADJECTIVES - WHAT DO I GIVE?

Personality characteristics that influence the work you do and how you do it that are developed throughout your lived experiences

- I am accessible
- I am resourceful
- I am intuitive
- I am charming
- I am clever
- I am reflective
- I am empathetic
- I am dynamic
- I am fair
- I am efficient
- I am persuasive
- I am imaginative
- I am innovative
- I am logical
- I am kind

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

MY NOUNS - WHAT DO I HOLD?

This is the understanding of subjects, procedures, and information through formal and nonformal education, trainings and work experiences

- I know budgets
- I know planning
- I know management
- I know policies
- I know laws
- I know multiple languages
- I know contracts
- I know programming
- I know MS Office
- I know formatting
- I know events management
- I know reporting
- I know big data
- I know statistics
- I know documentation

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

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REINVENT

SOLUTION MAPPING

Fill in this sentence: _____ needs a way to _____
(community) (issue)

Now that we know WHO we want to help and WHAT they need, let's think more deeply about HOW we can help.
Let's take some time to map out 4 solutions that are SMART: specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and timely.



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NOW YOU HAVE YOUR POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS. HOW WILL OTHERS FEEL ABOUT THIS?

Talk to those in your circles - tell them about what you hope to do. How do they FEEL? What do they LIKE? What do they want to EXPAND? What do they think you can ADAPT?

Write some of the feedback down.

Consider some of this feedback. Which solution seems the most doable right now? How can you use the feedback to ENHANCE your idea? Write down your value-added solution here.

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DESIGNING YOUR ACTION

LET'S DESIGN YOUR PROJECT!

Project Description

What are the activities you want to do? How are you going to bring about this community action and change? What are the specific things your project will offer to the community?

Timeline

When will these activities take place? When does it make the most sense to do this project? Think about your timelines, your team's timelines and the needs of the community. Does it need to be immediate or can you plan for a future date? Will it be the single activity or will it be ongoing?

Location

Where will your activities take place? Will it be inside the community or do you want to invite them to a different space? Is it outside space or inside a venue? What are your space requirements?

Beneficiaries

Who will benefit from your activities? Which members of the community are getting the most value from your project? What is it offering them? How are they being bettered? Are there specific members of your community that these activities are for or will it help everyone?

Needs & Resources

What do you need to make this project happen? How many people will need to help you plan? How much money do you need to budget for? How long do you need for planning?

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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

TIMELINE

LOCATION

BENEFICIARIES

NEEDS & RESOURCES

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WRAPPING IT UP

You can use this checklist to help you identify human, physical, and financial resources that can turn your plan into action.

HUMAN

Human resources are the people who will join you in your project. Who will be organizing your project with you? What are their roles within the project?

- Mentor
 - Core team members
 - _____
- _____
 - _____
 - _____

PHYSICAL

Physical resources include things like materials, supplies, equipment, or the spaces you need.

- Materials (markers, paper, notebooks, etc.)
 - Equipment (laptops, speakers, etc.)
 - Space (meeting room, café, etc.)
- _____
 - _____
 - _____

FINANCIAL

Financial resources are all about the money – the funds that are available to you for your project for spending.

- #PassionToPurpose Grant
 - Fundraising
- Donations
 - _____

YOU DID AMAZING! BY THINKING THROUGH THE STEPS AND PLANNING OUT YOUR IDEA – YOU NOW HAVE YOUR PROJECT PLAN IN PLACE! WHAT'S NEXT?

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TIME TO APPLY FOR YOUR PASSION TO PURPOSE GRANT!

Visit

www.passiontopurpose.ca

to submit your application.



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