



Club Overview

What are SAVY Clubs?

SAVY Clubs are designed by Volunteer San Diego as service and leadership clubs for students ages 5-25. As a group, SAVY Club members implement service projects that address real community needs throughout San Diego County. SAVY Clubs empower young people to make a difference and make their voices heard while developing and demonstrating leadership skills.

SAVY Clubs offer students in elementary school through college (including classrooms, youth groups, churches, synagogues, fraternities, existing service clubs, etc.) an opportunity to participate in and plan service projects as a group. All SAVY Clubs receive free resources from Volunteer San Diego on how to create a service project, service project ideas, and how to access possible funding to support their service projects. In addition, individuals in the SAVY Club become registered volunteers with Volunteer San Diego. As such, they receive an online account to track their volunteer hours and can access Volunteer San Diego's calendar of hundreds of monthly service projects and events for all ages.

The SAVY Club model can be used by any youth group interested in service and leadership. The SAVY Club name does not have to be adopted – existing clubs are free to keep their original name and can incorporate the SAVY Club model into their current activities. New service clubs can be created by students specifically interested in getting more involved in their communities. Furthermore, SAVY Clubs do not need to be located in a school setting. Church youth groups, community organizations, and other youth clubs are all welcome to start a SAVY Club of their own.

SAVY Clubs are a program of Volunteer San Diego, a nonprofit that engages individuals and groups in meaningful volunteer opportunities that meet real community needs.

What resources are provided?

SAVY Clubs **serve as a structural model** for more fully engaging youth in service and leadership. The model utilizes programs and resources from Volunteer San Diego such as:

- a calendar of ongoing service opportunities
- service project planning tools
- leadership opportunities
- access to funding and project idea resources



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How does my group register?

Existing or new service clubs must:

1. complete the registration form
2. read, review and comply with the terms and conditions, and
2. keep one copy of the complete packet registration forms and return the signed forms to:

SAVY Clubs
Volunteer San Diego
4699 Murphy Canyon Road
San Diego, CA 92123
OR Fax completed registration forms to SAVY Clubs at 858-492-2016
OR Complete electronically and e-mail to <mailto:savy@volunteersandiego.org>

Upon receipt of signed registration forms, Volunteer San Diego will review and notify the clubs' representatives that the SAVY Club has successfully registered. Volunteer San Diego will send the adult advisor the signed Registration Form; training manual; project reports; and materials for orienting the new SAVY Club members into the program. The SAVY Club will then be official and ready to begin!

Programs and Resources

Service Project Planning Training

All SAVY Clubs receive a *free* training manual** for group participants to learn how to create a service project. This club training manual includes step-by-step processes for groups to plan a successful service project. These project planning processes are broken down into four one-hour planning sessions with an additional optional one-hour pre-planning session. This manual is complete with trainer's notes for adults to facilitate all sessions and student handouts needed to select a social issue and plan a service project. Topics in this training manual include:

- A World of Service* (optional) – addresses the concepts and processes of service
- Community Mapping* – identifies and analyzes community needs and defines and identifies resources
- Community Project Goal Setting* – develops a shared vision for the service project, creates project goals and agrees on one project to plan
- Community Project Planning* – plans the details of the service project
- Insuring Community Project Success* – anticipates possible problems that may arise with the service project and brainstorms possible solutions to anticipated problems

**These materials are adapted from the Points of Light Youth Leadership Institute.



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Access to Volunteer San Diego's Project Calendar

Volunteer San Diego's monthly calendar of hundreds of service projects offers SAVY Club members the opportunity to complete community service hours, develop and demonstrate leadership skills and meet other youth interested in service. Calendar opportunities include: referrals to community events, National Days of Service, and Flexible Volunteer Projects for all ages and groups. Projects include helping to protect the environment, preparing food packages for the hungry, caring for abandoned animals and more. Projects take place at a variety of locations throughout the County. Once registered with Volunteer San Diego, SAVY Club members are eligible to participate in all calendar projects, subject to specific age requirements. Students can sign up individually or as a group (note some projects have limited space and the entire group may not be able to always volunteer together). As an additional SAVY Club benefit, SAVY Club members will receive a Flexible Volunteer orientation in a group meeting and are not required to attend the general program orientation.

Access to Funding and Project Idea Resources

Volunteer San Diego maintains a comprehensive listing of resources for project planning and support in our resource section and student sections of our website at www.volunteersandiego.org. SAVY Clubs can see sample projects successfully planned by students from all over the country. Our website also lists funding opportunities for groups to obtain grants and donations to support their projects.

Leadership Opportunities

The SAVY Club model provides club members, of all ages, with direct leadership opportunities based upon the roles and responsibilities of its members. The sections below display the leadership opportunities available to all SAVY Clubs according to the ages of the members.

All Ages

The SAVY Club model is designed for students to directly demonstrate and develop leadership and professional skills through the hands-on tasks, roles and responsibilities. Examples of such tasks include:

- grant writing
- documenting minutes
- completing project reports
- outreach, marketing and recruiting
- budgeting
- donation requests
- facilitating meetings
- maintaining member data

Additional Leadership Opportunities for High School Students

Membership in a SAVY Club can serve as a gateway to the SAVY Leader program.



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For high school students interested in taking the next step in being a leader and addressing community issues, the SAVY Leader program provides a way for students to identify problems in San Diego County while developing meaningful, effective solutions. Students from high schools all over San Diego County attend an extensive leadership training, create county-wide service projects, educate the public about community issues, create action plans for addressing issues, and learn many professional skills such as project planning, identifying resources and assessing community needs. **(Program fee of \$25 applies. Scholarships are available.)*



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