

Our volunteering ideas

53rd High School of Athens

We want to:

- help as many people as we can
- involve as many students and other people may be interested
- keep providing our help even after the project is finished

We want to focus on:

- young children
- refugees and immigrants
- homeless people
- people in need

What we have done:

Step 1 Brainstorming

- Students gathered and shared ideas

Step 2 Decision

- Students decided who and how they want to help

Step 3 Contact

- Teachers contacted people in charge of volunteering and discussed the options

We decided that we want to help with:

- food collection
- collection of other items needed (clothes, shoes, books, toys...)
- preparation of meals and supporting activities (distribution, cleaning etc)
- any other way we can

So...

-
- We called charity organizations
 - We expressed our interest

Constraints:

- Our age
 - Most organizations don't accept volunteers under 18 years old
- School hours
 - We had to combine our availability and the needs of the organizations

But finally!

- Two charities gladly accepted our ideas:
 - The charity foundation of the Municipality of Athens
 - The local church

What they do – Municipality of Athens:

- The charity foundation depends on donations and volunteer work
- They organize lunch and dinner (everyday) for homeless and poor people
- They collect and distribute food to poor people
- They manage hostels for homeless people
- They organize help to the refugees and immigrants at the Open Reception Centres

What they do – Local church:

- The local church depends on donations and volunteer work
- They organize lunch (everyday) for homeless and people people
- Every Christmas and Easter they collect and distribute food to poor people

Our scheduled activities:

Action 1

- Cooperate with the local Church
- Collect food
- Package food
- Organize teams of students and distribute the packages **themselves** to poor families (appointed by the Church) on a specific day the week before Easter (**Tuesday 26th April or Wednesday 27th April**)

Our scheduled activities:

Action 2

- Cooperate with the Municipality of Athens
- Organize teams of students to help with the lunch and dinner served to poor and homeless people
- Students can participate during evenings (Mon - Fri) and weekends so that they don't miss classes

Our scheduled activities:

Action 3

- Cooperate with the Municipality of Athens
- Organize teams of students to help with the warehouse where all donations are collected
- Students help other volunteers organize the warehouse and make the arrangements for the next distribution
- They can participate after school

Our scheduled activities:

Action 4

- Cooperate with the Municipality of Athens and the Open Reception Centre of Elaionas for refugees and immigrants
- Organize teams of students to visit the centers, play with children and give toys to the children
- Students participate after school

Preparation

- We have prepared posters so that as many students as possible are informed about the need to collect food
- Students from other schools will be informed as well
- Arrangements with the charities have been done

What's next...

- We will present you the results of our activities
- We will show you photos
- We will discuss with all of you our experiences