



Points of Light's Civic Circle helps individuals connect to opportunities and understand that doing good comes in many forms. It represents your power to lead, lend support and take action for causes you care about.

How can you effectively support what matters most to you and lead a more civic life? Use this guide to develop your own Civic Circle Action Plan! By going through each question, you'll discover opportunities that match your interests and values, identifying up to three action steps.

VALUES | A person's principles or standard of behavior; one's judgement of what is important in life.

STEP 1: CHECK YOUR TOP 10 VALUES.

- COMMUNITY:** Feeling connected to a group of people
- COMPASSION:** Concern for the well-being of others
- COURAGE:** Facing difficult things, despite adversity or fear
- EQUITY:** Appreciating diversity and seeking fairness without bias
- FAMILY:** Fostering relationships with loved ones
- FREEDOM:** The ability to choose your actions
- INNOVATION:** Creating a new way to do something
- INTEGRITY:** Acting according to your values
- JUSTICE:** Striving for what is morally or ethically right
- LEADERSHIP:** Guiding others towards a common goal
- LOYALTY:** Staying committed to a person or cause
- OPPORTUNITY:** The chance to advance or succeed
- PERSONAL GROWTH:** Developing self-awareness and learning new skills
- PLEASURE:** Personal enjoyment or delight
- POWER:** The ability to affect change
- RECOGNITION:** Being known for your contributions
- RESILIENCE:** The ability to recover from adversity
- RESPONSIBILITY:** Being reliable and trusted to perform
- RISK:** Taking chances to explore unknowns, with possibility of failure
- SPIRITUAL GROWTH:** Connecting to something greater than the self
- STEWARDSHIP:** Preserving and protecting natural and financial resources
- TRADITION:** Honoring customs from a previous generation

STEP 2: NARROW THE LIST TO 3. LIST THEM BELOW AND THEN DESCRIBE WHY EACH VALUE IS IMPORTANT TO YOU.

VALUE 1	VALUE 2	VALUE 3

INTERESTS | What are the issues and causes that you are most passionate about?

STEP 1: SELECT YOUR TOP THREE ISSUE AREAS.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adult or Youth Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Hunger |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Animal Welfare | <input type="checkbox"/> Immigrant or Refugee Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arts & Culture | <input type="checkbox"/> LGBTQ+ Rights |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Civil & Human Rights | <input type="checkbox"/> Racial & Social Justice |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disaster Response | <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environment/Climate Change | <input type="checkbox"/> Veterans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fair Wages & Labor Practices | <input type="checkbox"/> Women & Girls |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health & Wellness | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Homelessness & Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Human Trafficking | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

STEP 2: HOW ARE YOUR VALUES AND ISSUE AREAS CONNECTED?

STEP 3: NARROW DOWN TO THE ISSUE AREA THAT IS MOST ALIGNED WITH YOUR VALUES.

ISSUE AREA:

ACTIONS | How can you activate the Civic Circle to support the issues and causes you care about?

STEP 1: BRAINSTORM IDEAS & ACTIONS OF ACTIONS YOU COULD TAKE TO SUPPORT THE CAUSE YOUR MOST CARE ABOUT?

Get creative and make sure your action steps align with what is needed by the causes and organizations you are interested in supporting. And remember, it may be as simple as talking to your friends and family.

 <p>LISTEN & LEARN Staying informed, thinking critically and educating yourself before acting. This should always be the first step to taking action.</p>	 <p>DONATE Sharing personal resources such as money, goods or services to advance a cause.</p>	 <p>VOTE Engaging in the political process, from participating in elections to supporting efforts that increase engagement in these elections.</p>
 <p>VOLUNTEER Sharing time and talent to advance a cause or support resolution for a societal issue without personal gain.</p>	 <p>WORK Making choices about employment based on the values and purpose of the place you work or how you can leverage workplace giving programs to support a cause.</p>	 <p>SOCIAL ENTREPRENEUR Identifying a need that has not been met by traditional institutions, structures and systems, and using an entrepreneurial spirit to drive change.</p>
 <p>SERVICE Committing time, energy and talent to public, national or military service.</p>	 <p>VOICE Influencing your network to raise awareness, promote, protest, advocate or advance a cause or social issue.</p>	 <p>PURCHASE POWER Making spending decisions that reflect your values or advance a cause you care about.</p>

STEP 2: WHAT COULD PREVENT YOU FROM TAKING ACTION?

BARRIERS	SOLUTIONS

STEP 3: WHAT ARE MY NEXT STEPS?

For each section, identify up to three action steps. Your action steps can include different civic circles or you can focus on just one. And remember, incorporating listening & learning into your plans is a meaningful action to take.

THIS WEEK I WILL...	THIS QUARTER I WILL...	THIS YEAR I WILL...

Take what you've learned from completing this exercise to spark conversations with your family, friends, colleagues and neighbors. And you can learn even more about Points of Light's Civic Circle by visiting pointsoflight.org/civiclife.