

# Sustainability

## Sustainability Worksheet

Youth Ventures are able to make a lasting impact on their communities because they are designed to be **ongoing** clubs and businesses rather than one-time projects or events. The following worksheet will help you plan for your Venture's future, which may be beyond the current team's involvement. Write your responses to the questions in the blank spaces. If you need additional space, photocopy or reprint this sheet.

<p><b>Membership.</b> How are you going to recruit new members? How will you keep team members and volunteers interested?</p>	<p><b>Leadership.</b> How will you put new leaders in place when current leaders leave?</p>	<p><b>Fundraising.</b> How will you continue to fund your project once the Youth Venture start-up funds are spent?</p>
<p><b>Examples:</b> <i>SeniorConnect</i> advertises volunteer opportunities on a website they created. <i>A&amp;J Curb Appeal</i> and <i>The Babysitting Club</i> provide earned wages to their members. <i>The Free Ride Park Project</i> provides free skate park passes to kids who volunteer at least twenty hours.</p>	<p><b>Examples:</b> <i>The Vietnamese-American Public Research Institute</i> developed a specific training program that provides hands-on leadership experience. <i>The Interact Club</i> holds yearly elections and leaders are voted into office.</p>	<p><b>Example:</b> <i>Walk in Nature's Dream</i> raises money and awareness for its nature trail by holding fundraisers such as dog shows and birdhouse-building contests. <i>The Babysitting Club</i> earns money by providing low-cost childcare services.</p>
<p><b>Tips:</b> Make members feel needed and encouraged. Tell people how they can help. People lose interest when they are not being used to the best of their abilities.</p>	<p><b>Tips:</b> Give members opportunities to gain more experience and responsibility, look for someone as passionate as your current leader(s), foster creativity, and let members try new ideas.</p>	<p><b>Tips:</b> Sell a product or service, write grants, request in-kind donations, and hold fundraisers. Make sure your team plans a fundraising activity before you run out of funds. Fundraising activities are vital to your Venture and require time.</p>