

Honoring Our Heroes: Service Project Ideas for Optimist Clubs

Teachers/Educators

Adopt-a-Classroom Project - provide supplies or materials for a project for the teacher's classroom that does not fit into the school's budget.

Stock the Classroom - provide basic supplies such as tissues, paper towel, crayons or markers. Ask the teacher what he/she needs!

Read with Children - offer to help a teacher by reading to students at a specific time each week/month. Allow the teacher to choose the student(s) and book.

Award educators with a gift card that they can use to purchase needed school supplies.



Public Safety Officers

Present an outstanding public safety officer with an official Optimist International award.

Honor an outstanding citizen with a Respect for Law commendation.

Organize classroom tours of public safety facilities.

Conduct a community forum where public safety officers can address local issues.

Check with local agencies for volunteer programs in which your Club can participate.

Veterans and Active Duty Military

Offer a veteran or wounded veteran transportation.

Visit wounded veterans in the hospital or rehabilitation facility.

Send a care package to one of the agencies established for this purpose.

Prepare hand-written or email notes thanking veterans for their service.

Adopt the family of an active duty military person who is deployed. Help with lawn care or babysitting occasionally.

Donate food to local food pantries that have large military populations. Many military families struggle to have enough to eat.

Offer to run errands for the family or take kids to practice. Sometimes there are just not enough drivers/vehicles to get everything done.



Honor a teacher, law enforcement or public safety officer, veteran or active duty military personnel as your Optimist Hero. Post a photo or video or write a comment on social media and include the hashtag **#OptimistHero**