

Community Service vs. TAKE ACTION PROJECTS

The difference between a community service project and a Take Action project is best explained by defining, in this context, a “need” and an “issue”.

Need - a condition requiring supply or relief

Issue - an important topic or problem that must be addressed on a larger scale

Community service projects are projects that help solve an immediate need, but don't necessarily impact the root cause of an issue. Community service projects are still worthwhile, amazing ways to give back, but when a Girl Scout takes action, she seeks to eliminate the need altogether. Both make the world a better place, just in different ways!

Example:

A troop is thinking about earning their Bronze Award Project. The girls reach out to their local homeless shelter and ask what they could donate. The homeless shelter says they could really use more blankets because they can't wash and reuse the one's they already have.

What's the need?

Clean, warm blankets

What's the Community Service solution?

Girls collect and donate as many blankets as they can.

What's the issue?

The shelter doesn't have a washer and dryer to clean and reuse blankets.

What's the Take Action solution?

Girls use their leadership skills to come up with a plan to petition local appliance stores and/or community members to donate new or gently used washers and dryers to the shelter.

