

Encouraging Children's Generosity

- 1) Talk about giving, volunteering and service with your children. Set standards for giving and volunteering early on.

- 2) Teach responsible budgeting and planning about money.

- 3) Set up a giving account for contributions, seed it with money and give age appropriate guidance.

- 4) Balance needs and wants with global understanding and consideration. Help your children understand where your family is on the economic spectrum.

- 5) Create a family giving plan that includes your children's values and priority issues and concerns.

- 6) Volunteer in the community as a family.

- 7) Model the behavior you wish your children to adapt.

- 8) Consider giving a three-part allowance, with one part to spend, one to save, and one to donate.

- 9) Develop family giving rituals, perhaps around the holidays, in which children can participate. For example, you might allot each child a small sum of money to give to the charity of his or her choice, or to pick out gifts for children in need.

- 10) Volunteer with children in ways that stimulate their interests. You might even consider taking them on site visits and asking them to write a brief report on the work of current or potential grantees.