



LEAD THE WAY

Advisor Handbook

CRS Clubs



crs.org/leadtheway

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GROW:

A Letter from Bill O'Keefe

VICE PRESIDENT OF MISSION AND MOBILIZATION

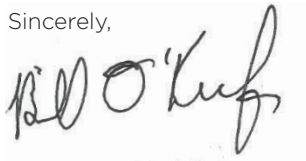
Dear CRS Club Advisor,

We are facing a pivotal moment in history that will impact the future for our young people. Global poverty, hunger, conflict and other humanitarian issues plague our world and threaten the lives of millions of our sisters and brothers here in the United States and around the world. The enormity of these problems can at times feel overwhelming, but as Catholics we know that we are called to lead the way toward a more just and peaceful world that more closely resembles the Kingdom of God. This is our mission as the Church. When we come together, we can address the root causes of these issues, support the needs of our global family and make transformational change to create a better, more just world for all.

Your school's CRS Club is an integral part of this movement to build a better world. Young people have the power, energy and passion to drive real change, and their actions are essential to achieve our vision—God's vision—of a world free of hunger, violence and injustice. CRS Clubs across the country are taking meaningful action to make this vision a reality. By learning about issues of global injustice and involving your school community in impactful actions such as advocacy and fundraising, your students will contribute in a tangible way to help lift millions of people out of poverty while developing leadership skills they can use to continue to be changemakers into the future.

Thank you for accompanying and empowering your students to live out their call as missionary disciples, for being a part of the CRS community and for believing that a more just world is possible.

Sincerely,



Bill O'Keefe





GROW:

About Catholic Relief Services

Faith. Action. Results.

Faith: Faith is our foundation. We have faith in the people we serve and our shared ability to build a more just and peaceful world.

Action: The desire to serve is not enough. We must act collaboratively to bring about real improvements in peoples' quality of life and genuine engagement in building peace and justice.

Results: Demonstrated through measurable outcomes, our actions must be effective in alleviating human suffering, removing root causes and empowering people to achieve their full potential.

WHAT IS CRS?

Catholic Relief Services is the official international humanitarian agency of the Catholic community in the United States and a member of Caritas Internationalis. CRS eases suffering and provides assistance to people in need in more than 100 countries, without regard to race, religion or nationality.

MISSION STATEMENT

Catholic Relief Services carries out the commitment of the Bishops of the United States to assist the poor and vulnerable overseas. We are motivated by the Gospel of Jesus Christ to cherish, preserve and uphold the sacredness and dignity of all human life, foster charity and justice, and embody Catholic social and moral teaching as we act to:

- **PROMOTE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT** by responding to major emergencies, fighting disease and poverty, and nurturing peaceful and just societies; and,
- **SERVE CATHOLICS IN THE UNITED STATES** as they live their faith in solidarity with their sisters and brothers around the world.

As part of the universal mission of the Catholic Church, we work with local, national and international Catholic institutions and structures, as well as other organizations, to assist people on the basis of need, not creed, race or nationality.

INTEGRAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT APPROACH

If CRS and its partners:

- Protect human life and dignity by caring for poor and vulnerable people;
- Increase individuals', families' and communities' ability to recover and grow by protecting, building and maximizing family and community, human, social, political, physical, financial, natural and spiritual assets;
- Promote just relationships between all people, within and across families, communities and nations; and
- Ensure people have the ability to make the decisions that impact their lives...

Then people can reach their full human potential in an atmosphere of peace, social justice and human dignity,

Because:

- People use their assets to develop strategies to manage risk, build resilience and improve their lives,
- People use their assets to influence structures and systems, and
- Social equity and inclusion are essential to creating an atmosphere of peace, social justice and human dignity.





GROW: Lead the Way on Migration

THE WORLD TODAY

In 2018, the number of migrants worldwide reached 272 million. Nearly 80 million people have been forcibly displaced, including nearly 26 million refugees, 41 million internally displaced persons and 3.5 million asylum-seekers.

WHEN DID WE SEE YOU A STRANGER AND WELCOME YOU?

The Church believes that people have the right to find opportunities in their home countries and that they have the right to migrate when conditions in their country of origin preclude them from providing for the safety and well-being of their families. For more than 75 years, CRS has led the way in supporting the needs of migrants and refugees. Our agriculture, health, education, peacebuilding and livelihoods work assists refugees worldwide to address the root causes of forced migration.

THERE'S MORE WORK TO BE DONE.

Visit crs.org/leadtheway to learn more about how CRS works to ensure that all people can move freely and thrive where they are and how your actions can make an impact in the lives of people around the world.

Understanding Migration

“The movement of persons away from their place of usual residence, either across an international border or within a state.”

—International Organization for Migration

The term migration can apply to many different types of movements. Here are some common terms as defined by the IOM that you will see and hear when discussing migration:

- **Asylum Seeker:** An individual who is seeking international protection.
- **Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs):** Persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized state border.



Photo by Asad Zaidi for CRS

- **Refugee:** A person who, owing to a well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country; or who, not having a nationality and being outside the country of his former habitual residence as a result of such events, is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return to it.
- **Vulnerability:** Within a migration context, vulnerability is the limited capacity to avoid, resist, cope with or recover from harm. This limited capacity is the result of the unique interaction of individual, household, community and structural characteristics and conditions.



GROW: Lead the Way on Hunger

THE WORLD TODAY

Food is a necessity. Its scarcity shortens lives, hampers development and causes immeasurable loss of human potential. The numbers are staggering. One in nine people worldwide do not have enough to eat and many lack access to enough nutritious food. Each year, nearly 3 million malnourished children under age 5 die from illnesses from which healthier kids recover. One in four undernourished children do not grow or develop as they should. Globally, the number of children who face a lifetime of developmental challenges caused by malnutrition exceeds 149 million—that is more than twice the number of all children in the United States.

Food security is defined as...

“All people at all times having access to sufficient safe, nutritious food to maintain a healthy and active life.”

—World Health Organization

Let's break that down:

- **“All people at all times...”**: No one is excluded from this need.
- **“...having access...”**: If food is available, but it is unsafe for someone to obtain; if food is at too great a distance; if someone cannot afford the food with their wages; or if someone who is differently abled isn't able to get to the food, then that food is not accessible to all people.
- **“...to sufficient safe, nutritious food...”**: The food available to people must be enough to fulfill caloric need. It must be safe to consume, and it must be nutritiously complete—meaning a person does not have “food security” if the only food he or she can afford, or access is junk food.
- **“...to maintain a healthy and active life.”**: The food available to people must support a healthy life, meaning that it should not break the body down or have a negative impact on health, and it should give the ability to thrive, not just survive.

WHEN DID WE SEE YOU HUNGRY?

As a Church, we believe that all people have the right to regular access to healthy food. As missionary disciples, we are compelled to respond to the needs of the hungry. We are reminded in the Gospel of Matthew that whatever we do for the least of our sisters and brothers, we do for the Lord (Matthew 25:40).



Photo by Georgina Goodwin for CRS

For more than 75 years through CRS, Catholics in the United States have led the way in supporting short- and long-term solutions to hunger. Together, we respond to immediate emergencies that keep people from accessing food. We prevent hunger and malnutrition from developing in the first place. Land management and conservation programs transform barren hillsides into productive farmland. Nutrition is delivered to children in their critical first thousand days of life. Agricultural training increases food production and income. CRS programs help prevent and end hunger.

THERE'S MORE WORK TO BE DONE.

For every *cause of* food insecurity, there are *proven solutions that can alleviate suffering or prevent the crisis from ever occurring.*

Visit crs.org/leadtheway to learn more about how CRS works to ensure food security for all people and how your actions can make an impact in the lives of people around the world.



ENGAGE:

CRS Club Basics

INTEGRATING A CRS CLUB INTO YOUR SCHOOL STRUCTURE

The best way to make sure your whole school is on board is by sharing your successes and getting others involved. CRS Clubs are multi-faceted and can use the support of all types of faculty, staff and administration. Encourage faculty to be involved by integrating the Impact Issues into their lessons—these are global issues that touch almost every aspect of life! Staff can help with events and community outreach and the administration can play a key role by supporting the students actively and publicly.

CRS Club Values

CRS Clubs work passionately to contribute to a more just, peaceful and prosperous world.

CRS Clubs contribute to innovative approaches to address the world's most critical humanitarian problems.

CRS Clubs are committed to the pursuit of the common good and focused on delivering sustainable solutions that create lasting impact.

CRS Clubs serve those people in greatest need and are inspired by the potential and opportunities of those communities.

CLUB LAUNCH

Work with your Leadership Team to set up your Club Launch with a local CRS staff member. Ideally, possible dates for the Launch should be identified as part of your discussions with CRS staff in the preceding year. The Club Launch will be about 40 minutes and will introduce the Club members and community to CRS and how they can be an important part of the life-saving work that is being done around the world. The Club Launch can be online or in-person (depending on school preference and CRS staff availability) and can include solely your interested Club Members or the whole school!

CLUB TRAININGS

The initial Club Trainings will take place in two, 40-minute parts. Work with your Leadership Team and local CRS staff to schedule times and dates that will work best for your Club Members. Consider doing the trainings over lunch or after school. Every Club will work differently, so take the time to find the best opportunity for training.

■ Training Part 1: Issue Deep-Dive

- The Club will learn about the Impact Issues they will focus on throughout the academic year.

■ Training Part 2: How to Take Action

- This training will focus on the two ways Clubs are encouraged to create real impact: Advocacy and Fundraising.



Photo by Lauren Carroll for CRS

INITIAL CLUB MEETINGS

Encourage the Leadership Team to include the following as part of the first few Club Meetings:

- 1. Choosing Club Leaders:** Part of being a CRS Club is growing the leadership skills of your community. Each Club is encouraged to identify four members to fill key leadership roles: president, vice president, secretary and treasurer. If these roles have not been filled yet, use one or two of your first meetings to nominate candidates and select your Club Leadership Team.
- 2. Learn About the Members of Congress:** Clubs should take time early in the school year to learn about their state's Senators and determine what Congressional District the school is in to determine what Representative covers that District.
- 3. Thinking Ahead:** Use the **Yearly Action Calendar** and **Club Action Plan Template** to plan out your year. Encourage the Club to take some time early in the school year to discuss what actions your campus would like to take. Use this planning to set some **Club Goals** for what you want to accomplish this school year.



CRS CLUB GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Sacredness and Dignity of the Human Person

Created in the image of God, all human life is sacred and possesses a dignity that comes directly from our creation and not from any action of our own.

Rights and Responsibilities

Every person has basic rights and responsibilities that flow from our human dignity and that belong to us as human beings regardless of any social or political structures. The rights are numerous and include those things that make life truly human. Corresponding to our rights are duties and responsibilities to respect the rights of others and to work for the common good of all.

Social Nature of Humanity

All of us are social by nature and are called to live in community with others—our full human potential isn't realized in solitude, but in community with others. How we organize our families, societies and communities directly affects human dignity and our ability to achieve our full human potential.

The Common Good

In order for all of us to have an opportunity to grow and develop fully, a certain social fabric must exist within society. This is the common good. Numerous social conditions—economic, political, material and cultural—impact our ability to realize our human dignity and reach our full potential.

Subsidiarity

A higher level of government—or organization—should not perform any function or duty that can be handled more effectively at a lower level by people who are closer to the problem and have a better understanding of the issue.

Solidarity

We are all part of one human family—whatever our national, racial, religious, economic or ideological differences—and in an increasingly interconnected world, loving our neighbor has global dimensions.

Option for the Poor

In every economic, political and social decision, a weighted concern must be given to the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable. When we do this, we strengthen the entire community, because the powerlessness of any member wounds the rest of society.

Stewardship

There is inherent integrity to all of creation and it requires careful stewardship of all our resources, ensuring that we use and distribute them justly and equitably—as well as planning for future generations.

ENGAGE:

Student Leadership and Committees

There are several leadership roles in CRS Clubs. These roles all work together, alongside active and engaged committees, to engage and motivate your campus and larger community to pray, learn, give and act together.

“True leadership is fruitful, and each one of you has the seed of leadership inside you. Make it grow. Be leaders wherever it behooves you to be. Leaders of thought, leaders of action, leaders of joy, leaders of hope, leaders of the construction of a better world. This is your path, the seed is within.”

—POPE FRANCIS

STUDENT LEADERSHIP ROLES:

President:

The president of your CRS Club should be a dedicated and passionate person who is willing to take the lead on major events and projects. This person should be a good communicator and be ready to interface with members of the community, media and congressional offices. The president will lead both the Leadership and Member Meetings as well as act as the Chair of the Advocacy Committee.

Vice President:


The Club's vice president should have a similar array of skills to those of the president and may be in a place of growth in approaching those skills. The vice president fills in for the Club president temporarily during meetings and engagements for which the president is unavailable. The vice president takes the lead as the Chair of the Education and Outreach committee and directs the planning of large-scale campus and community actions. This role also includes a significant amount of public interaction.

Secretary:

The secretary of your CRS Club directs club communications. He or she will take notes for each Leadership and Member Meeting and work together with the president to devise meeting agendas. The secretary works closely with the faculty advisor to keep Club members informed with news from CRS. In addition, the secretary participates as the Chair of the Media Committee and directs club actions related to written congressional correspondence and media outreach such as letters to the editor and op-eds. The Club secretary should be a great communicator with strong attention to detail and a passion and skill for writing.

Treasurer:

The Club treasurer leads Club actions concerning fundraising and works closely with the faculty advisor to ensure that funds are donated to CRS in an appropriate and



timely manner. In addition, the treasurer is in charge of fiscal education for the Club members as it relates CRS' work, including the congressional budgeting process, called "appropriations," and CRS funding sources. The treasurer also chairs the Fundraising committee. The person who fills this role should have a passion for the ways that charitable works help us to serve our sisters and brothers around the world and be motivated to learn more about the ways that both direct fundraising and the congressional appropriations process can help people to escape the cycle of poverty.

Committees:

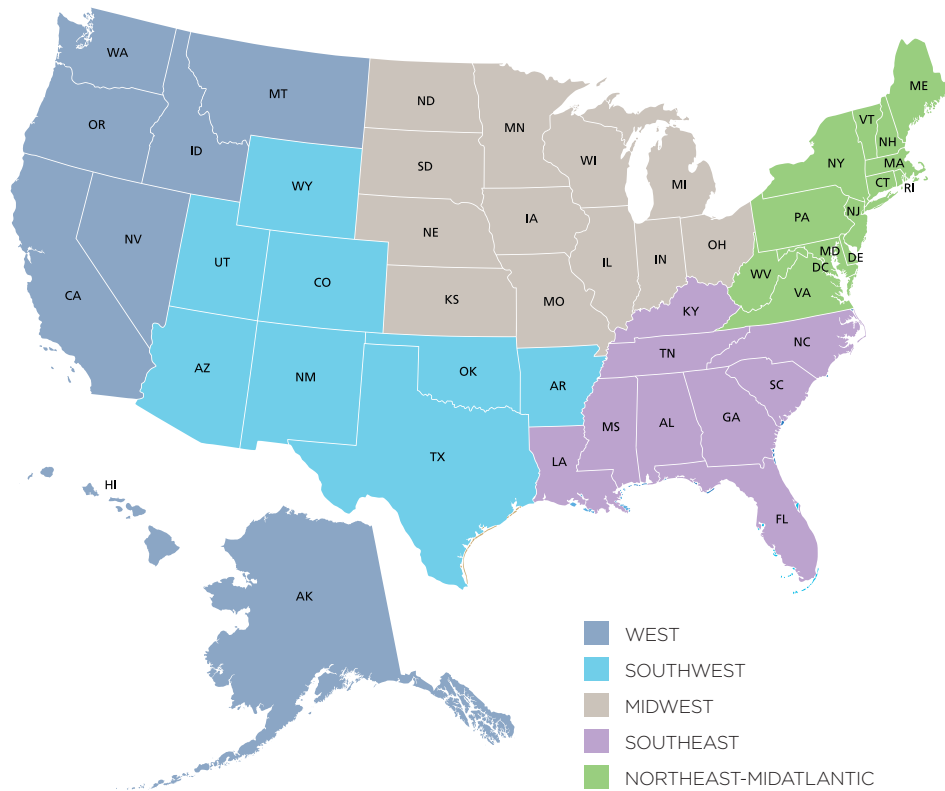
Committees are the driving force to get things done in your CRS Club. Teamwork and collaboration will help you achieve your Club goals and make the biggest impact. The following committees are recommended, but feel free to set up whatever committees and sub-committees will help you be successful throughout the school year.

- **Advocacy:** The Advocacy Committee is responsible for connecting with congressional offices in partnership with the Club secretary. The committee also plans meetings with congressional staff or members. This committee is chaired by the Club president unless the Club decides otherwise.
- **Education and Outreach:** The Education and Outreach Committee plans and executes community education and recruitment events on campus or within the larger community. The committee works closely with other committees to include advocacy and/or fundraising actions in events and to leverage media attention for events. This committee is chaired by the Club vice president unless the Club decides otherwise.
- **Media and Communications:** The Media and Communications Committee manages communications with media, the school and congressional offices in collaboration with Advocacy Committee. The committee ensures proper media coverage for events and advertises upcoming events in the community. This committee is chaired by the Club secretary unless the Club decides otherwise.
- **Fundraising:** The Fundraising Committee directs all fundraising activities within the club, school and community. The committee oversees managing CRS Rice Bowl and any other fundraising actions. It works with the Education and Outreach Committee to engage the entire community in giving opportunities. This committee is chaired by the Club treasurer unless the Club decides otherwise.

ENGAGE: Communication


YOUR LOCAL CRS TEAM

CRS has five different teams across the U.S. that we call “Regional Teams.” These regions are broken up into West, Southwest, Midwest, Southeast, and Northeast-MidAtlantic.



There are several roles within each Regional Team. The two that you will interact with most are the **Community Engagement Manager (CEM)** and the **Volunteer Manager (VM)**. The local CEM will carry out your Club’s Launch and Trainings, as well as interact with you at different CRS events and activities throughout the year. The Volunteer Manager will be your go-to contact for assistance and support throughout the year. As a reference, the Volunteer Manager for each region is listed here:

- **West:** Jesus Huerta (jesus.huerta@crs.org)
- **Southwest:** Terrill Kucera (Terrill.kucera@crs.org)
- **Midwest:** Alysson Riutta (alysson.riutta@crs.org)
- **Southeast:** Evelyn Cruz (evelyn.cruz@crs.org)
- **Northeast-MidAtlantic:** Mari Barboza (mari.barboza@crs.org)



Feel free to reach out to the Volunteer Manager from your CRS Region with any questions as well as with successes that you would like to lift up so that CRS can celebrate the hard work of your Club!

EMAIL COMMUNICATIONS

Each month, each Club Advisor will receive an email with information about the upcoming **National Conference Call**. In addition, this email will include the **Monthly Action Sheet** that guides the actions of all CRS Chapters across the U.S. CRS Clubs are invited to engage in the indicated actions every month. Training for how to successfully carry out these actions will be a part of the **National Conference Calls**.

In addition to the monthly national emails, you will receive regular communications from the volunteer manager in your region about additional opportunities to connect through calls and regional gatherings.

CRS CHAPTER NETWORK

All CRS Club Advisors are invited and encouraged to attend regular calls with other CRS Chapters across the United States. There are currently two monthly calls that will be beneficial to the success of your CRS Club when you attend:

- **National Conference Call:** Once a month, members and leaders from Clubs and Chapters across the U.S. come together to listen to outstanding speakers, learn new skills, celebrate victories, network and grow in community. For CRS Clubs, Club Advisors are encouraged to attend each month and then select sections from the available recordings to educate and inspire your Club members. Student leaders are not currently able to attend.
- **Monthly Leader Call:** Chapter and Club leaders will gather virtually by region to learn and network. CRS Club Advisors are invited to meet other leaders from high schools, parishes, universities and others. Exchange best practices, learn new skills and build community in your CRS Region.

ACT: Expectations

As a Church and as people of good will, we are called to stand up and with people who are vulnerable during the world's most challenging moments.

CRS works in difficult environments and through trying times, offering hope and supporting the dignity of our sisters and brothers facing poverty, disaster and conflict. Not only should we be proud of this hard work, but we can be a part of this transformative work!

WE ARE ALL PART OF CRS!

CRS Clubs have a special role in being a part of the transformational work of CRS and the Church around the world. As young people with passion and motivation to build a more just world, your students can make an impact.

CRS has identified a variety of ways that your school can move us closer to a more just, thriving world. These actions fall into two categories: Fundraising and Advocacy. To be recognized as a CRS Club, your school will need to participate in four campus-wide actions each academic year, as well as monthly individual member actions that will help your club members grow in their advocacy skills and build relationships with their members of Congress.

CAMPUS-WIDE ACTIONS

Your CRS Club should use your creativity and passion to determine how you will mobilize your campus community through those four actions to create positive change in our world. Your school's advocacy and fundraising actions should be carried out throughout your school year with the following guidance:

■ **Fall:**

- **Fundraising:** Hold one fundraising event each fall to involve your community in the lifesaving work of CRS. Resources and toolkits are available to help you be successful. See the [Act: Advocacy and Fundraising](#) section of this manual for more ideas on how to involve your community.
- **Advocacy:** A fall advocacy action should teach your campus community about CRS' Impact Issues and start moving them to make a difference. Advocacy can take many forms from educating your community about an issue to flying to Capitol Hill to build relationships with your members of Congress. Every action can make an impact. See the [Act: Advocacy and Fundraising](#) section of this manual for ideas on different ways your community can advocate and visit crs.org/crsclubs for resources on suggested fall advocacy actions to get your school started.



■ **Spring:**

- **Fundraising:** Hold one fundraising event each spring. CRS recommends fulfilling this requirement through CRS Rice Bowl, which your school might already participate in each year. Visit crsricebowl.org for more resources on holding a successful CRS Rice Bowl fundraiser during Lent. If your school would rather hold a different type of spring fundraiser, there are many other fundraising options to help support the work of CRS. See the [Act: Advocacy and Fundraising](#) section of this manual for more ideas on how to involve your community.
- **Advocacy:** A spring advocacy action should challenge your school community to mobilize in an intentional way. This is your opportunity to build on the work you have done throughout the year. See the [Act: Advocacy and Fundraising](#) section of this manual for ideas on different ways your community can advocate and visit crs.org/crsclubs for resources on suggested spring advocacy actions to mobilize your school.

MONTHLY MEMBER ACTIONS

In addition to the four campus-wide actions that are part of being a CRS Club, your Club members are invited to participate in more individualized actions each month to build relationships with their members of Congress and grow in key skills for effective advocacy. Through their Club Advisors, members will receive a **Monthly Action Sheet**, which will also be posted on crs.org/crsclubs. Club members can also find additional skill building resources to help with writing letters, making calls, educating your community and making a difference.

Individual member advocacy actions will focus on a piece of legislation or policy connected to this year's Impact Issues. CRS Chapter and Club members across the United States will unite in advocating on this piece of legislation each month. More information about the current policy or piece of legislation will be available in the **Monthly Action Sheet** and on crs.org/crsclubs.

ACT:

Advocacy and Fundraising

There are millions of men, women and children who experience poverty, conflict, climate change, emergencies, hunger and other grave problems who cannot wait for the systems and structures of the world to change. Their needs are too urgent and often a matter of life and death.

Part of leading the way means looking at the bigger picture and imagining what can—and should—be. As changemakers, people of faith and builders of a better future, we are challenged to address structural issues in our world that prevent individuals and communities from thriving.

Together, we have a mission to advocate on behalf of our most vulnerable sisters and brothers and to support programs that serve their urgent needs. We do this through social justice and charitable works, or advocacy and fundraising.

WAYS THAT YOUR SCHOOL'S CRS CLUB CAN ADVOCATE

- **TAKE MONTHLY ACTION:** Each month, your club will receive a Monthly Action Sheet with information about a timely and important action that members can take to move forward a piece of legislation.
- **EDUCATE YOUR COMMUNITY:** The issues that affect our world are complex and sometimes misunderstood. There are many ways to increase your community's knowledge and understanding of these pressing global issues. Set up an information table at lunch, integrate information into your morning announcements or hold an event focused on teaching your community—you could even invite your member of Congress!
- **ATTEND AN EVENT:** Members of Congress regularly host town hall meetings and other gatherings in their districts or states to hear from constituents like you. Attending an event is an excellent opportunity to ask questions about your issues and get to know the congressional staff.
- **WRITE YOUR SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES:** Emails and letters on an issue can influence your members of Congress, but it's best to make them personal. Share who you are and why you care about the issue—it will make your message 10 times more effective.
- **SPREAD THE WORD:** Op-ed pieces and letters to the editor in your local press amplify the issues you care about and promote support in your community. Congressional offices monitor local media, so it's a great way to put your issue front and center.

- **USE SOCIAL MEDIA:** Whether it's Twitter or Facebook, the social media platforms you use can be powerful tools to contact the U.S. Congress. Research shows that just 30 posts or comments from constituents on an issue will help get the attention of congressional offices.
- **MEET IN-PERSON:** There is nothing more impactful than in-person meetings with your members of Congress. Whether in Washington, DC, or back home in the local office, your meetings help develop relationships and can shape policy.¹

¹ Fitch, Bradford, Kathy Goldschmidt, and Nicole Folk Cooper. "Citizen-Centric Advocacy: The Untapped Power of Constituent Engagement." congressfoundation.org. Congressional Management Foundation, 2017. congressfoundation.org.



Photo by Philip Laubner for CRS

WAYS THAT YOUR SCHOOL'S CRS CLUB CAN FUNDRAISE

- **CRS Rice Bowl:** CRS Rice Bowl (crsricebowl.org) is the best way to support CRS' work to battle hunger through your school's Lenten almsgiving. With CRS Rice Bowl, your CRS Club can put faith into action through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Seventy-five percent of your Lenten alms donated through CRS Rice Bowl supports the work of CRS in more than 100 different countries each year. Twenty-five percent of all donations to CRS Rice Bowl stay in the local diocese to support hunger and poverty alleviation efforts. Since its inception in 1975, CRS Rice Bowl has raised nearly \$300 million.
- **Dress-Down Day:** Dress-down days are an easy way to spread information about CRS' Impact Issues and involve your whole school in a fundraiser to support lifesaving work overseas. Work with your school's administration to have a dress-down day where each person donates a small amount to be able to come to school out of uniform. Take it to the next level by having everyone wear a color representing an issue or using posters or the morning announcements to tell people about the issue and pray together.
- **Global Food Drive:** Consider holding a global food drive. Instead of bringing in cans, students can bring in the equivalent in donations. Those donations help fight global poverty. Use CRS' resources at crs.org/leadtheway/fundraise to see how far each donation can go!
- **Ark of Hope:** Race to fill an ark with symbolic animals or special items connected to CRS' work around the world. Use the fun ark printouts to bring it to life and consider making it a competition between homerooms to see who can fill their ark first. Resources are available at crs.org/leadtheway/fundraise to connect your Ark of Hope fundraiser to CRS' Impact Issues through prayers, stories and symbolic gifts.
- **CRS Table of Thanks:** Around the world, people gather to celebrate and share food, fun, culture and love! Make your school's celebrations more impactful by integrating a Feast of Grace fundraiser or start a new tradition around one of the dates related to CRS' Impact Issues. Connect your joy to that of people around the world who can thrive due to the generosity of communities like yours. Go to crs.org/leadtheway/fundraise for prayers, stories and symbolic gifts to make your celebration life-giving in a new way!
- **Create Your Own:** You know your school best! Think about what will inspire and engage your school the most. Your creativity will allow your school to have an impact in a way that only you can! Visit crs.org/leadtheway/fundraise for a toolkit with easy steps to help you plan out the logistics of your creative fundraising ideas.



ACT: Reporting Your Success

CRS wants to hear about the good that you are doing by activating your school and community! To celebrate your hard work and recognize your CRS Club as an active part of the movement to create a better world, CRS needs to know how you have taken action throughout the year.

REPORTING YOUR CLUB'S ACTIONS TO CRS IS EASY!

CRS makes it easy to report your Club's successes. There are two times to report each year: one right before Christmas and one at the end of the school year. For each reporting period, there is a simple form for the Leadership Team to fill out with your help. They will then return it to you to submit online.

Filling out the form helps CRS, but it should also help your current Club and your future members. Encourage your Student Leadership Team to take the time to reflect on the strengths and challenges of your events and outreach. By reviewing what worked and what could have gone better, you can help your Club improve over time.

See crs.org/crsclubs for your **Mid-Year** and **End-of-Year Reports**.

ACT: Yearly Advisor Checklist

Use this checklist to keep your CRS Club on track throughout the year. Pair the checklist with the **Yearly Action Calendar** and the **Club Action Plan** to have the most impact!

- Club Launch (for first-year Clubs)
- Select Club Leadership Team (for first-year Clubs)
- Club Training Part 1
- Club Training Part 2
- Create Club Action Plan (Template included in **Student Leadership Handbook**)
- Fall Fundraising Action
- Fall Advocacy Action
- Submit Mid-Year Reporting Form
- Spring Fundraising Action
- Spring Advocacy Action
- Submit End-of-Year Reporting Form
- Select Next Year's Club Leadership Team
- Monthly National Calls/Actions
 - August [optional— participation encouraged]
 - September
 - October
 - November
 - December
 - January
 - February
 - March
 - April
 - May
 - June [optional— participation encouraged]
 - July [optional— participation encouraged]
- Monthly Leader Calls
 - August [optional call— participation encouraged]
 - September
 - October
 - November
 - December
 - January
 - February
 - March
 - April
 - May
 - June [optional call— participation encouraged]
 - July [optional call— participation encouraged]



**faith.
action.
results.**

Join us

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