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THINK

Young people are creative, innovative powerhouses. And nothing will stop us from fighting for the causes in which we believe — not even a global pandemic.

CHALLENGE

If you could lead a world-changing, locally-based organization, what would that look like? Picture yourself as the head of a regional or school club or chapter. If you are already part of a similar effort, feel free to use it for this challenge. Ask yourself:

Addie and I are founders and co-presidents of our school's environmental conservation club this year

- What is your organization's mission? (Clear and short!)

We aim to promote current and future environmental awareness by educating ourselves and others on a broad range of climate and environmental issues. We strive to be a part of the solution and take direct action to combat climate change, pollution, and loss of biodiversity.

- How are you adapting to continue to make changes during the pandemic?

To keep our club covid-friendly and follow our state's guidelines, we meet outside in our school's environmental learning area or ELC while the weather is nice. (unfortunately, it just snowed in Minnesota yesterday so we will have to transition to meeting inside and socially distanced.) We wear masks and make sure to stay far apart. We basically follow all of the guidelines that our school follows.

- How has your mission or strategy shifted due to Covid?

We are not able to collaborate as much with each other in person, and some of our project ideas, such as hosting an empty parking lot day where everyone carpools or

takes the bus, are not COVID friendly. We still strive to fulfill our mission statement, just through different means. This activity was started while COVID was affecting things, so from the beginning, we have been cautious. Though this might not be obvious one of the hardest things is not the social distancing we have to consider, but rather that it's hard to spread the word about it. Everyone has greatly reduced the amount and variety of people they interact with regularly so it's hard to gain new members. There also aren't the typical events that we could promote ourselves at which has been challenging. Despite this, we are working to grow, inspire, and act to improve our community and the environment.

- What is one key program you are proud to keep running?

We are a very new club so I don't think we have any programs yet aside from the main club and weekly meetings and projects, but one thing I am proud to be working on now is our projects to bring solar energy to the school.

- Who are your partners and allies in this work?

Our school's AP Bio and AP Environmental Science teacher Mr. Weaver has been very helpful with our club. He is our club advisor, we meet in his room, and he is in charge of many of the Environmental projects at our school, such as the raptor propagation lab, the ELC, raising quails, etc. He also does prairie restoration projects which we are honored to be able to help with. We have partnered with a local church for funding and business to try and put solar panels either on our school or another community building. We are so thankful for all of our contributors and mentors who guide us.

- What does success look like to you?

As long as we are making a difference in nature, even if it is small, progress in the right direction constitutes success. One of our main goals is to inspire students to start learning about the environment and getting involved in community service and taking action in their personal lives by carefully choosing what they consume. I think as long as we keep on having these meetings and working on projects we will be successful.

Other Thoughts: We're still in high school, but we've been astounded by how much support there is for things like this. We want to make this club well established so it can exist for a long time after I leave school. This is something we want to dedicate

ourselves to leading until we finish high school. We really believe that anyone can make a difference and high school is a great time to start because there are a framework and support systems in place for **everyone**. We want to really have an impact on these projects and we're optimistic that that's something we as students can make happen together.



Craft a response to answer these questions. Feel free to add other thoughts, if they arise.

Now share your ideas for this movement and its mission in a creative format of your choice! Post on Instagram tagging @TurningGreenOrg and #PGC2020.

DELIVERABLES

Upload a PDF Document with your response, including a screenshot of your social media post. Include your name (or team name), username, email address, and school.

Submission Guidelines

- Submit all entries as PDFs; no Word or Pages documents
- Be sure to include all content for your submission in one document

- Save filenames using the following format:
firstname_lastname_challengeday_challengelevel_year.pdf (ex:
kasie_shils_day1_greener_2020.pdf)
- Do not include # or spaces in filenames
- Do not upload a file larger than 5 MB
- You will see a confirmation in green that your submission uploaded correctly;
if you do not see this confirmation, please try again
- If your total points do not change, your submission did not load correctly,
please try again
- Send any questions to info@turninggreen.org
- Don't forget to post about the challenge and your learnings/doings on social
media and tag us on Facebook @TurningGreen, on Twitter
@TurningGreenOrg, and on Instagram @TurningGreenOrg and use
#PGC2020