



Community Project:  
Play to Give

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# What is Play to Give?

Play to Give is a 3 v. 3 soccer tournament held at Avery Trace in the summer allowing boys and girls soccer teams in Putnam County an opportunity to play soccer with fellow soccer-loving players. All proceeds go to “Soccer Without Borders,” a charity organization that sends soccer equipment and academic advancement to kids in third-world countries. This year, SWB is visiting Nicaragua and Uganda in hopes to spread the love of soccer to Ugandan and Nigerian kids. Our hopes for Play to Give is to help support SWB the most we can one tournament a time. For a 3-person team, P2G is asking \$20.



# What is Soccer Without Borders' Mission?

SWB **5** ACTIVITIES

The infographic is a horizontal row of five white icons on a dark blue background. From left to right: a soccer ball and a hand holding a cleat, an open book with a pencil, two interlocking gears, a white t-shirt with the number 11, and a globe. Below each icon is a title and a paragraph of text.

 <p><b>Soccer</b></p> <p><i>We provide the equipment, coaching, and transportation needed to help participants of all skill levels pass, dribble, score, sweat, win, lose, learn, and celebrate together in organized practices and games.</i></p>	 <p><b>Educational Support</b></p> <p><i>We provide academic and language development support, high school and college preparation, as well as workshops on nutrition, wellness, mindfulness, healthy relationships and any other topics that are most important to them.</i></p>	 <p><b>Civic Engagement</b></p> <p><i>We connect our programs and participants to the local and global community through themed events and team service projects, creating key leadership opportunities off the field.</i></p>	 <p><b>Team Building</b></p> <p><i>With the team unit as the centerpiece of our program model, we prioritize low adult-to-participant ratios and utilize deliberate team and program-building strategies to create an inclusive community that transcends differences.</i></p>	 <p><b>Cultural Exchange</b></p> <p><i>We emphasize dialogue, understanding, and friendship across cultures through intentional activities including the use of grouping strategies, themed events, and opportunities for meaningful exchange.</i></p>
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P2G participates in two service learning categories: Individually, P2G provides direct service to soccer players in Putnam County. However, proceeds are donated to SWB, supply an indirect service for P2G by helping third-world countries receive soccer equipment.

# Investigating P2G's Goal and Need

Our goal is to participate actively in the community to bring a positive atmosphere to soccer-loving students. We chose this goal because of our need of social acceptance. Doing so allows a safe haven to the students and provides a way to make friends. Our society promotes changing yourself to “fit in.” Although challenging, at P2G we are striving for a tournament where middle school kids can be themselves and play the wonderful sport of soccer. Knowing prior knowledge of soccer rules, business start up, and medical knowledge greatly helped Play to Give.



# Planning for P2G- Why?

In order to fulfil our need of social acceptance, we decided to create a soccer tournament schools can enter to play soccer in the summer. A sports theme appealed to us because between basketball, volleyball, and soccer, all of us play a sport. Using this love of sports, we chose soccer due to its outside nature; What's better than an outdoor sport on a hot summer day? Providing a tournament where everyone is accepted for who they are, soccer players. Not stereotypes, bullying, and society's unpleasant hand affecting all students in one way or another.



# Planning for P2G - How?

In order to do this, we first needed to get the word out; this is when our mentor, Mr. White, greatly helped. Mr. White coaches the ATMS boys team and provided athletic connections with the other schools in the district. He has called the coaches to see if their teams will come out and play for P2G. With teams forming, we asked Avery Trace to use their field one day in the summer. Next up - gathering supplies for the tournament. We will borrow 6x4 foot goals from Upper Cumberland United Soccer Complex; balls were donated to us by the Birdwell family. After we have all the supplies, we then created brackets and rules.

Finally, we wait for the day to come when we get to play for P2G.

# Taking Action - Play to Give 2016

P2G's was a community project active in the Putnam County community. We had to communicate with the soccer community, Avery Trace officials, and the newspaper. Being active in multiple communities hold us responsible for high-order thinking: What do we need to achieve our goal? How will we complete this task to produce the best result? These questions among others helped us think through tough situations preparing Play to Give and taking action because of them. By analyzing how we took action, produced the best organized Play to Give.

# P2G Thoughts?

2017 Play to Give has not yet occurred, however we can reflect on last year's P2G tournament. Last year we raised over \$400 to send to "Give a Kick", the organization we used last year to send soccer balls to Third-World Countries. Raising \$400 greatly overseeded our goals for P2G giving wise, adding on to our goal for social acceptance. Our need starting the community project was for every soccer player at P2G to feel accepted the way they are; social acceptance. A player from Avery Trace commented, "Playing in Play to Give was so much fun! I got to play with my friends, play soccer, and have fun in a safe community with other soccer players" (Emily Donnelly, 8th grade). Completing P2G extended our knowledge and understanding of service learning. Before, we thought service was simply buying recycling bins for a business. However, we learned that service is MUCH more. For Play to Give, we had to learn how receive and transfer money, rent fields, and organize a bracket. Service is complex, difficult; but worth it. Service may not provide physical wealth, but the feeling you get when you know you did something for others is the greatest wealth.

## Past Accomplishments of Play To Give?

Last year (2016), Play to Give had their first tournament at the Upper Cumberland Sports Complex and raised over \$400 to ship soccer balls over seas for kids in Third-World Countries. Herald Citizen covered Play To Give in an article written by Thomas CorHern.



# Learner Profile Traits used in P2G?



<b>Inquirers</b>	We were brainstorming ways students could come together for a fun sports event out of school. With this curiosity led onto researching 3v3 soccer tournaments and creating one ourselves.
<b>Knowledgeable</b>	In order to pull off P2G, we had to learn new standards and issues over soccer rules, tournament sponsors, and money transfers. Exploring these ideas let us gain in depth knowledge on our community project.
<b>Thinkers</b>	Once again, we applied thinking skills to creatively approach social acceptance, and reasoned our decisions to help the sports community.
<b>Communicators</b>	We had to express our ideas and information confidently throughout P2G by collaborating with other schools, players, and adults.
<b>Principled</b>	We acted with integrity and honesty by taking the money the teams and giving it all to Nicaragua and Uganda with a strong sense of fairness, justice, and respect for the dignity of the individual, groups and communities.
<b>Open Minded</b>	We understood and appreciated P2G's cultures and personal histories by opening our perspectives, values, and traditions; we were trying to create a safe haven for ALL cultures, no bullying accepted.
<b>Caring</b>	We showed empathy, compassion and respect towards the needs and feelings of others by listening to players, sponsors, and adults concerns about P2G. Everyone does not have the same opinion, and expressing these to us helped develop P2G. Play to Give created a personal commitment to service, and acted to make a positive difference to the lives of others soccer players.
<b>Risk-takers</b>	We were brave to approach unfamiliar situations and uncertainty with courage and forethought during P2G. Although this was our second annual tournament, new conflicts arose and we had to conquer them for the best tournament. P2G let us explore new roles, ideas and strategies for next P2G's to come.
<b>Balanced</b>	We understood the importance of intellectual, physical, and emotional balance to achieve personal well-being for ourselves by balancing school, sports, and after-school activities while developing P2G.
<b>Reflective</b>	We gave thoughtful consideration to our own learning and experience. We were able to assess and understand our strengths and limitations in order to support our learning and personal development show independence in learning. We actively enjoyed learning and this love of learning will be sustained throughout our lives by