A Path to Growing Lifelong Philanthropists

This illustration highlights important entry points within a young person’s life for introducing philanthropic concepts and opportunities. Three key ideas to remember are:

- Start early and be sticky with examples of caring and sharing.
- Develop philanthropic behaviors and attitudes through giving of time, talent, and treasure.
- Expand opportunities for youth service, leadership, and engagement.

3-5 years

Preschool-age children are beginning to explore the world around them. They learn caring behaviors and attitudes from the examples of others within:

- Families
- Playgroups
- Libraries
- Schools

6-10 years

School-age youth are ready for more independence. They learn to make good choices through character development and decision-making within:

- After-School Programs
- Church Groups
- Summer Activities
- Scouts

11-13 years

Teens express more complex thinking and a deeper capacity for caring and sharing. They begin to define themselves and contemplate their future by participating in:

- Classroom Projects
- Sports
- Summer Camps
- Clubs

14-18 years

19-22 years

Young adults can be change-makers, defining their leadership styles and broadening their sphere of social interaction through:

- Campus Involvement
- Civic Engagement
- Friendships
- Greek Life
- Peer Mentoring

23-30 years

Young professionals can engage others to address community and social issues through active volunteer engagement with friends and colleagues in:

- Alumni Groups
- Career Choices
- Church Groups
- Mentoring Relationships
- Nonprofit Involvement

Adults are assuming their role in the community and influencing others to give of their time, talent, and treasure as a:

- Parent
- Board Member
- Church Member
- Corporate Volunteer
- Family Philanthropist

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