



Program & Speaking Points

By starting out your Kit build with a program, your participants will have a greater understanding of the impact they are making. Your program may be as brief or elaborate as you wish. The standard format we recommend includes 1) Showing a video, 2) Speaking about why this event is important (speaking points provided below), 3) Giving basic instructions on how to build the Kits (i.e. where to get in line, where to write notes and where to put the completed Kits) then 4) Dismissing people to start building! Please also encourage your participants to take their time writing their notes. Each note is cherished by the person who receives the Kit and they are kept long after the supplies are gone as a reminder that someone cares about them.

The Challenge

- Just like children in the United States, children in developing countries dream of what they want to be when they grow up, such as a doctor, teacher, lawyer or an entrepreneur. They dream of a better life where the day to day is less of a struggle. They dream of having a career they enjoy, providing for loved ones and being looked up to in their communities.
- Yet, too often the harsh realities of poverty set in and dreams become distant. The cost of school supplies that would allow a child to attend school and get an education can be an unsurmountable financial burden for a family in the developing world.
- Approximately 57 million children of primary school age and another 69 million children of lower secondary school age are out of school (UNICEF, 2011).
- Despite their hopes and abilities, these children become victimized by a life they did not choose, falling short of their full potential and repeating the cycle of poverty passed down to them by the many generations that came before.
- There are also health barriers that prevent children from reaching their full potential. Every 60 seconds a child dies from malaria (UNICEF, 2013).

The Opportunity

- Promise Packs are designed to empower and encourage the God given potential that each child holds.
- The school supplies found in a Promise Pack often times enable a child in poverty to continue in his or her education.
- The personal hygiene items keep the child clean and healthy.
- The insect repelling blanket keeps the child warm and protected from deadly insects like malaria carrying mosquitos.
- By assembling Promise Packs, you are investing in the promise that each child holds. The supplies bring comfort and protection while opening the doors to a brighter future. Your notes of inspiration are cherished reminders that they are capable of reaching for the stars.



TIPS:

- Create questions that event participants can reflect on individually or in small groups after watching the Promise Packs video.
- Invite your group to think about what a child attending school who lives in a daily struggle of how their family is going to provide basic necessities of food, clean water and shelter would want to hear as encouragement.
- Read a sample note of encouragement to give participants an idea of what to write.

Sample Note:

I hope this backpack filled with supplies brings you joy and encouragement to do well in school! There is someone who cares for you and believes in you. No matter what, keep reaching for the stars!

— Joan Anders, Tacoma, WA

