



**ATTITUDE IS EVERYTHING.**

As Henry Ford once said,  
“Whether you think you can or think you can’t - you are right.”

## **FIVE WAYS TO TURN ATTITUDES AROUND!**

### **1. So you LET kids participate once before and it was not everything you expected.**

Family involvement provides built in supervision of children, which makes it easier for activity/event organizers. You will be amazed what kids can accomplish – and what great ideas they can offer – when given an opportunity. You can certainly give the family guidelines on appropriate and inappropriate behavior, the same as you would any member. Perhaps you could consider limiting the number of children for each opportunity or setting a minimum age limit. (Be flexible though. A 2-month-old baby is virtually hassle free).

### **2. The club is busy with its projects: why should we add families?**

We are not asking you to do more than you already do. But there are probably ways you could consider adding family activities to your existing programs. Maybe you could involve families in your next fundraiser or service project. It helps to show people how your club cares about families.

### **3. Not a child friendly environment.**

Okay, so your major fundraiser is candy day drive where club members work in a busy street. You’re right that this isn’t the most appropriate thing for children. But, maybe there are ways that families could help that wouldn’t involve being in a busy street. Like helping at a local grocery store, or stuffing envelopes for donations or making thank you cards to send to your donors, volunteers etc. There are a lot of ways to involve families in your club.

### **4. What do you do with kids?**

There are lots of activities you can do with families, that allows kids to be included. Take a look at the activities/events you already do, and see if there are specific tasks that would be appropriate for certain ages. For example, if you are doing a food drive, maybe kids could count or sort cans while adults loaded the bags. Or during a fundraising walk, kids could help hand out water and t-shirts. There are probably lots of ways you can involve families.

### **5. You don’t think kids will like your activities.**

Service projects, events and fundraisers are not about keeping kids entertained; they’re about getting kids involved in helping their communities. By letting parents teach their children about what your agency does, you are letting kids know why your work is important. Service projects, events and fundraisers are not always glamorous or exciting, and kids understand that. But, keep in mind that kids like to have responsibility, and often the things that adults don’t want to do are kids favorite tasks!