



# **Environmental Club Action Plan**

# *Mission Statement*

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AALKAB U MAN MEYAH K'AAX PAAL's Environmental Club takes the social responsibility to increase awareness on the need in keeping an environmental friendly community through use of the social media, innovative educational programs and collaborative partnership with NGO's. Through this initiative we will create young leaders in society who will have knowledge, passion and skills to work towards and environmentally clean Yo Creek.

# *Vision Statement*

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To involve as many stakeholders in the sensitization and education of our community; through the use of signs, clean-up campaigns and other innovative educational programs and encourage the active participation of all.

## *Rationale*

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To build strong partnership and create a sense of ownership among teachers, students, parents, community and businesses by working together and creating a Nature Park by carrying out several community outreach programs. It seeks to address the need for development in the village of Yo Creek in the Orange Walk District, a community rich in natural resources.

## *History*

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Over the past three years, our school has been involved in different competitions conducted by the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Department of the Environment. We have won for three consecutive years. These competitions have really impacted students in our school. We really believe in maintaining their environment clean. As such, our students felt that they could do much more for their community. When the idea of creating an environmental club was presented by the Department of the Environment, students at our school embraced it and expressed a deep interest. In light of the latter, the students took the initiative and met with the staff of the school to form the environmental club on Wednesday May 28, 2014. All students interested were invited to be part of the club. This strategy was used simply because children must be willing to work to mark a difference and must love dealing with nature. Upon the formation of our club, an executive body was formed and a decision was made for naming the Environmental Club. An active Maya – Mestizo leader in our community Mr. Ismael Cal, wholeheartedly accepted to help us come up with a name for our Environmental Club as well as the park that the group wants to adopt. Teachers along with club members visited the site for an inspection prior to creating the Action Plan. A logo was also created for our Environmental Club. After recruiting students, an action plan was drafted with all students' input.. The Action Plan Clearly states the Environmental Club Programs and goals and planned methods of execution.

# Environmental Club Members



## Coaches:

Mr. Manuel Rejon, Ms. Daiannie Cal, Mr. Otilio Munoz, Mrs. Anabel Martinez and Shermadine Carrillo

## Executive Members:

President: Reynaldo Carrillo

Vice presidents: Canid Mendez and Joel Gongora

Secretary: Jose Garcia

Treasurer: Jennifer Chi

Councilors: Edgar Gongora, Kelly Gongora, Janeli Carrillo and Menalio Novelo

Public Relation Officers: Elisha Cal and Marsha Lopez

## Other Club Members:

Alejandra Carrillo  
Ruby Figueroa  
Ali Valencia  
Jeffrey Perez  
Rangel Correa  
Osiel Cal  
Luis Castellanos  
Kenny Novelo  
Stepahnie Ical  
Andy Ical  
Brizeidy Hernandez  
Braian Hernandez  
Owen Novelo

# Summary of Club's Programs



| Program                      | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Date                                         |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Save water and electricity   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participate in Earth day activities, World Water Day activities and other competitions that will bring across awareness.</li> <li>• Be vigilant that water is conserved at school and not wasted and that energy is conserved throughout school and ensure lights and fans are turned on only when needed.</li> <li>• Recommend to principal to change and install energy saving light bulbs in the entire school.</li> <li>• Recommend that boys have a urinal block in the bathroom at school to save the wasting of water with the flush toilets.</li> </ul> | September, 2014                              |
| Cleaning campaigns in school | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clean school compound everyday to keep it always clean.</li> <li>• Put signs near dirt drums</li> <li>• Form a group that will supervise during break time to ensure students don't litter the school compound</li> <li>• Chop the grass to alleviate school from that expense on a monthly basis.</li> <li>• Educate younger students not to throw garbage and maintain a clean healthy school</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                      | From the day the club is created and ongoing |

|                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
|                                                                   | environment.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                            |
| Promote our initiatives through the use of technology (Eco Share) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open a face book page to educate our friends and students of Yo Creek.</li> <li>• Invite other organizations to assist us with ideas for the club.</li> <li>• Encourage students to share articles, photos, films, blogs, forums on the social media (facebook, twitter and you-tube.)</li> </ul>                                         | September 2014             |
| Educational Trips                                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have educational trips to learn about conservation and preservation of our flora and fauna in Belize. (at least one per academic year)</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                         | May 2015                   |
| Resource Personnel                                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have resource personnel from PACT, Ministry of The Environment to provide us with valuable information on various important issues.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                            | Twice per academic year    |
| Recycle and Reuse                                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Start recycling program at school where school will separate all paper and make arrangement with Paper Company to collect paper once a month at school.</li> <li>• Reuse plastic material at school or from cleanup campaign for arts and craft lessons or for planting seeds and then selling seedlings (financial literacy.)</li> </ul> | September 2014             |
| Projects                                                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beautification of school compound (Use old tires to plant flowers in school and plant ornamental plants by the newly constructed fence.)</li> <li>• Reforestation in nature</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                    | September 2014 and onwards |

|                  |                                                                                                                                                                                               |                |
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|                  | <p>park that club will adopt.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Placing of important signs in public areas</li> <li>• Do a welcome sign at school that has flowers.</li> </ul>     |                |
| Proposal writing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Write proposals to get assistance from national and international NGO's to get necessary assistance in our projects and planned programs.</li> </ul> | September 2014 |

# Action Plan



## Goal #1: Making environmental sustainability part of our club's focus.

| Action                                                           | How                                                            | Who                       | Resources                                                                                                                                           | Status                                             | Completion Date                                                                                 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Make a formal commitment to environmental sustainability.</b> | Make a pledge<br><br>Carry out cleanup campaigns in community. | President and entire club | Partnership with other environmental clubs and youth groups.<br><br>Develop and use wording of motto on signs, banners and t-shirt of club members. | Checking if mission of club is being accomplished. | Will be ongoing throughout the year.<br><br>One clean-up campaign per term (Sept. Feb. and May) |

## Goal #2: Reduce the wasting of water and energy at school and our homes.

| Action                                                                                                                                                                                  | How                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Who                                                                                                                                                     | Resources                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Status                                                                                 | Completion Date |
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| <b>Ensure that water at school is not wasted.</b><br><br><b>Recommend that light energy saving bulbs be installed in all classrooms.</b><br><br><b>Participate in Earth Hour event.</b> | Patrol school compound during break time to ensure students are not wasting water at school and garbage not thrown in compound.<br><br>Write letter to principal and as students request that light saving energy bulbs be installed in all classrooms this will benefit both school and the environment.<br><br>Participate and share the information | All club member on a rotation basis to observe water not being wasted at school.<br><br>President and all members to dialogue with principal and staff. | Fluorescent colored vests to be used by club members as patrol officers ensuring that water is not wasted nor the school littered.<br><br>Public relation officers from environmental club and good persuasive skills. | Checking in by principal, staff and all members to ensure there is a change at school. |                 |



|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | about the Earth Hour and encourage entire school to participate.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                 |                                                                                                                                       |                                                                         |                                                               |
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| <b>Goal #3: Reduce, reuse and recycle materials in our environment.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                 |                                                                                                                                       |                                                                         |                                                               |
| Action                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | How                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Who                                             | Resources                                                                                                                             | Status                                                                  | Completion Date                                               |
| <p><b>Recycle paper collected at school and in community and work in partnership with Belize recycling Company.</b></p> <p><b>Reuse certain materials such as plastic bottles for arts and craft in class.</b></p> <p><b>Reduce the use of plastic material and encourage the use of eco-bags in community.</b></p> | <p>Separate paper in the classroom garbage during the week and store them in a room.</p> <p>Write letter to manager of Belize recycling company and arrange the collection of paper at our school once a month and in return lobby for the provision of toilet paper for the school to use made of recycled materials and notebooks.</p> <p>Use plastic bottles for arts and craft sessions or even use them for agricultural purposes.</p> <p>Club members will go on media TV to share about their initiative and encourage all</p> | Entire school with supervision of club members. | <p>CTV 3</p> <p>Environmental officers</p> <p>NGO's</p> <p>Ministry of the Environment</p> <p>Internet source</p> <p>Social media</p> | School principal will oversee along with president of club and coaches. | September 2014 and will run through the academic school year. |



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|  | community members to reduce the use of plastic after carefully collecting information from the internet. |  |  |  |  |
|  |                                                                                                          |  |  |  |  |

**Goal #4: Work on projects that would make an impact in our community.**

| Action                                                                                                                                                                                                               | How                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Who                                                                                                                            | Resources                                                                                        | Status                                                 | Completion Time   |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Adopt a Nature Park in Yo Creek and work to make it a clean and healthy recreational place for all.</b><br><br><b>Put signs in public areas.</b><br><br><b>Beatify School with ornamental plants and flowers.</b> | <p>Write proposals to seek funding of project from NGO's</p> <p>Seek the involvement of parents and community.</p> <p>Work along with village council to put important signs in bus stops and central park to remind citizens to put garbage in its proper place.</p> | <p>Entire club with guidance of coaches at all times to ensure safety of club members.</p> <p>Village council</p> <p>NGO's</p> | <p>Ministry of the Environment</p> <p>Village council</p> <p>Teachers and community members.</p> | <p>President and principal of school with coaches.</p> | <p>June, 2016</p> |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                  |                                                        |                   |

**Goal #5: Communicating our environmental commitments and initiatives.**

| Action | How | Who | Resources | Status | Completion |
|--------|-----|-----|-----------|--------|------------|
|--------|-----|-----|-----------|--------|------------|

|                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                               |                                                                                                   |                                                                                                         | Date            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Establish a regular environment area or brochure on social media where club can share its projects, photos and videos.</b>                                                              | Open a face book page and encourage members to add valuable information to the page to make it informative and at the same time be a site where the clubs' accomplishments can be shared. | President and executive members.              | Internet and computers at school.<br><br>Teachers and coaches<br><br>Ministry of the Environment. | Principal and staff                                                                                     | December 2014   |
| <b>Goal #6: Organize educational seminars and educational trips as a form of fund raiser and for educational purposes.</b>                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                               |                                                                                                   |                                                                                                         |                 |
| Action                                                                                                                                                                                     | How                                                                                                                                                                                       | Who                                           | Resources                                                                                         | Status                                                                                                  | Completion date |
| <b>Have resources personnel coming to our school to share their expertise on the various issues affecting our environment.</b>                                                             | Invite personnel from the Ministry of the Environment once per term to come to give speech on important issues to the club members, student body, and parents.                            | President and coaches and principal of school | Ministry of the Environment<br><br>Internet<br><br>NICH<br><br>National Harvest International     | Principal and president to organize calendar of activities and ensure planned activities are conducted. | June 2015       |
| <b>Organize trip to national parks, sanctuaries or places where club members and members of the community can come to learn more about their country and conservation and preservation</b> | Have one educational trip organized by the club to places such as Shipstern or Jaguar Reserve or Baboon Sanctuary to learn more.<br><br>Download videos to share at weekly meetings       |                                               | Peaceworks International                                                                          |                                                                                                         |                 |

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| of their environment. | held by club. |  |  |  |  |
|                       |               |  |  |  |  |

## *Benefits*



### **Students:**

- Expand their knowledge on conservation and preservation of the environment
- Learn about green technology
- Develop leadership skills
- Create and build upon a vision of a sustainable future

### **Teachers and adults:**

- Work hand in hand with students
- Participate and guide in field trip
- Obtain training from resource personnel or workshop
- Create an environmentally friendly classroom environment

### **Community:**

- Cleaner and healthier environment
- Cleaner school environment

# *Ways to Move Forward*

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The key to making our club work is to have everyone onboard. This will require repeating many messages in different ways and have good communication skills to bring about positive changes in people towards keeping a cleaner Belize. As a club we will need to be role models for others. We will be a unique group first of its kind in our village. We will always have our mission and vision statement in mind so that we have always in mind what our responsibility is.

## *Club Mission (Bylaws)*

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1. Positively impact peers, families and by participating in community service projects.
2. Promote school environment activities and community projects.
3. Participate in field trip to increase knowledge about eco related issues.
4. Participate in World Water day poster Competition every year and on the Chaa Creek Eco Kid Essay competition.
5. Bring noted speakers to school to inspire and educate peers.
6. Participate and plan Earth Day events in school and community.
7. Draft and submit grant proposals to raise funds for the club to be able to do projects.

## *Code of Ethics*

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1. All members will be responsible for their own actions and be respectful of other members.
2. All members will continuously work to improve their knowledge and skills to benefit themselves and club members.
3. Club shall operate in accordance with current school policy.

## *Membership*

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1. Membership is open to any currently enrolled student of Compassion School from grade 4 to grade 8.
2. Membership is also open to principal and staff members who will act as coaches to the club and supervise their work at all times ensuring safety.
3. Members will not be discriminated based upon race, religion, gender and age.
4. Parents of members are also welcome to be part of support group.

## *Officer Positions*

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1. The officers of this club shall be President, vice president, secretary, treasurer, councilors (4) and public relations officers (2)
2. Officers will be elected one year period by members at the beginning of each academic year.
3. If any officer is absent in more than three consecutive meeting his post will be removed on the fourth meeting.

## *Meetings*

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1. The second week of the new academic year first meeting will be held to elect officers.
2. Meeting will be held at least once per month to discuss the activities and accomplishments of the club.

## *Website*

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1. <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Compassion-School/1415620268677188>
2. Youtube video uploads

## *Activities to Educate our Community*



**Resource personnel from Ministry of the Environment, sharing valuable information with the school for our Career Day.**



**Parade to educate our community on Global Hand washing Day**