organizations that provide goods and services to the general public at little or no cost. By developing specific strategies to donate to nonprofits, we can reduce our personal income taxes — and more importantly, benefit our community.

**Purpose**

This lesson will help students understand the importance of giving. Students will apply their analytical skills to develop a survey, compile results and examine their findings.

**Procedure**

1. Ask students if they are familiar with any nonprofit organizations. Make a list of the organizations and identify what goods or services they provide. Determine if the local, state or federal government would provide these services if the nonprofits did not exist. Discuss the personal satisfaction derived from volunteering or belonging to nonprofits, civic clubs and other similar groups.

2. Help students develop a survey to learn what organizations people in their school, family and/or neighborhood support. Students may ask about the types of organizations, the amount given to nonprofits and/or the number of hours volunteered with nonprofits or other charitable groups. Have students compile the results of their class survey and write a report on their findings.

3. Ask students to create an annotated list of organizations in their community or neighborhood where they could volunteer. Use the newspaper, telephone directory, Internet and other available resources to help students find ways to be involved in their community.

**Mission Possible**

CONGRATULATIONS! You have been given a large financial gift and asked to establish a new nonprofit organization. Develop a mission statement for the organization and a brief description of this organization and its goals.

___________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________

What is the name of your new organization? ________________________________

Who will your organization serve? ______________________________________

What needs do they have? ______________________________________________

What kinds of goods and/or services will it provide? _______________________

Describe one special project your organization would like to offer (such as an after-school program, a seasonal project or a yearly community beautification project).

___________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________

Why should others care about this organization and its mission?

___________________________________________________________________________

How will others benefit from it? _________________________________________

How can others get involved? ________________________________

Write a motto or slogan for your organization ______________________________

Newspapers for this educational program provided by:

- University of Central Oklahoma Center for Economic Education
- Oklahoma Council on Economics Education