Photo above: Volunteers working to provide fresh food for those in need at Pathways of Hope in Fullerton, California, District Eleven

Volume 3 | June 2020

The Altrusa International Foundation, Inc. newsletter supporting Altrusans in service and leadership to their communities

The Covid-19 epidemic has impacted the Altrusa International Foundation programs by causing the canceling of all District Conferences, except one.

The conferences are the primary fundraisers for the Foundation.

In response, the Board of Trustees declared June 20th to be “ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION DAY of GIVING”.

The great news for Altrusa Clubs?

The board is giving two $1,500 prizes:
» one to the club which gives the largest gift; and
» one to the club that gives the largest gift per capita, which allows our smaller clubs an equal chance at winning!

Contributions received from April 1st to July 4th will be considered

Pick up your phone now, text IMPACT2020 to 91-999 and complete your gift to the Altrusa International Foundation, Inc.

Support your Foundation with a tax-deductible gift today.

Donate Now
The Luci lights were given to families displaced by the earthquakes. They were well received and are very useful.” --Ileana Pacheco Morales, 2019-2021 District Fourteen Governor

GRANTS PROGRAM
EARLY CYCLE ONE DISTRIBUTION
OCTOBER 30TH, 2020

The Foundation Board of Trustees are committed to serving our communities by meeting the needs of those left in the wake of Covid-19.

To best support Altrusans in service, the Grants Committee agreed to distribute the next cycle of funding one month earlier on October 30th, 2020. The purpose is to fund projects without delay.

Through the Grants Program, the Foundation provides vocational assistance to individuals, and helps Altrusa Clubs carry out independent programs of service with funds for literacy, abused and battered women, aged, homeless, handicapped, underprivileged children, underprivileged children requiring medical attention, disadvantaged community members, and active military or veterans.

The deadline for grant applications is September 15th. You may click here for guidelines and applications.

All applications received are confirmed via email to the contact person listed on the application.
Little did the Altrusans of Ohariu, New Zealand know when they formed their club 18 months ago that their first literacy project in the community would go viral in a Facebook post.

“Our club knew our project would focus on literacy as a key principle of Altrusa. We found a need for books in undersourced schools and the local women’s prison. Since we wanted to empower readers, and we’re active in the technology community, we chose to focus on ‘girls who tech,” said Katrina Clokie, of the Ohariu Club.

The 2019 literacy project called Get Set For A Brighter Future received a grant from the Altrusa International Foundation, Inc. The timing couldn’t have been better. The librarian at the women’s prison said they just started a new book club and were in need of book sets. Later, in early 2020, the librarian shared a wish list from inmates that resulted in the viral Facebook post. The Ohariu Club received thousands of books they’re still distributing today.

“The Girls Who Code tech books were distributed to 23 local primary schools. We also were able to give a primary school instructional readers to support early learning,” said Katrina. “It was really cool to fulfill the educators’ wishlists when funding wasn’t going to stretch that far for them.”

Additional funding came from a nonprofit organization called WeTest that was founded by Katrina and a couple local colleagues. When the organization dissolved it distributed $10,000 to the Ohariu Club’s technology education service projects.

The Ohariu Club members spent about 40 hours on the project between stickering books with the Altrusa logo, delivering the books, and organizing book drives.

“A few girls joined me in a photo, then started reading straight away.”
--Kiran Adonda, Altrusa member of Ohariu, New Zealand

The Facebook post asking for book donations to the local women’s prison went viral with 193 shares and over 40,000 views.

“Everything that’s been contributed is being used. We are looking forward to the relationships forged in this project with our local educators and librarians to support the futures of all our readers.” Katrina said.

Please send nominations for Spotlight an Altrusan, or Altrusa Club, to foundation@altrusa.org

LAMPLIGHTER PROGRAM

The Lamplighter Program recognizes donors who contribute $500 to the Foundation in one fiscal, or calendar, year. Lamplighter members receive a gold pendant upon their first contribution and a diamond chip is awarded for each subsequent gift. The gold pendant holds (25) diamonds.

An Altrusa Club may also become a Foundation Lamplighter with a $500 contribution. The Altrusa Club receives a Lamplighter patch for the club banner upon the initial contribution.

All Foundation Lamplighters are acknowledged in the Foundation Annual Report.

Click here to become a Foundation Lamplighter!

The Hofmeister Lamplighter

The 25th Level Lamplighter is named in honor of Martha Hardwick Hofmeister’s longstanding service as Legal Advisor to the Altrusa International Foundation, Inc.

Upon the 25th Lamplighter gift to the Foundation a member will receive the Hofmeister Lamplighter.

We look forward to unveiling the Hofmeister jewelry design to you at the Altrusa International Convention in Quebec City in July 2021.
**WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT**

Our Foundation Director, Shawna Kaiser, is happy to share the news of her upcoming wedding to Jacob Veldhuizen of Grant Park, Illinois. The two will wed in a small ceremony at the Lincoln Park Conservatory in Chicago on Saturday, October 17th.

Shawna and Jacob enjoying time at the Chicago Riverwalk

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**REMEMBRAND: ANNA H. SETTLE COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AWARD**

The purpose of the Anna H. Settle Community Leadership Award is to recognize individuals who've made significant contributions to their communities as volunteer leaders.

Think of someone who:

» Has chaired a specific community service program which provided, or continues to provide, a benefit to the community

» Chaired an Altrusan project or program (not a fundraiser)–they may have chaired a project sponsored in cooperation with another civic or charitable organization

» Lives or works in the community of the nominating Altrusa Club

» Is a true volunteer, not a paid staff member

» Does not have to be an Altrusa member

There may be (1) nomination per Altrusa Club.

The Anna H. Settle Community Leadership Award will be presented at the Altrusa International Convention in Quebec City.

The monetary prize is $2,000 (US) – to be given to the winner’s project, or a service project of their choice.

The deadline for 2021 nominations is May 15th, 2021. Please click here for guidelines.

**HOW TO SERVE ON THE ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION, INC. BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Three new Foundation Trustees will be elected at the Quebec Convention in July 2021. The districts eligible to slate potential Foundation Trustees at this Convention are Districts Two, Three, Four, Five, Seven, Eight, Ten, Twelve, Fourteen, and Fifteen. It is up to each district to determine how its nominee shall be selected.

The candidate for Trustee must be an active member in good standing of an Altrusa Club. They must have current or prior experience with a charitable corporation or foundation, serving in an elected or appointed position with policy-making responsibility. They must have served a full term as president of an Altrusa Club or Local Club Foundation. During all or part of the term for Trustee for which the candidate is standing for election, the candidate must not serve in any capacity for Altrusa International, Inc.

The role of a Trustee is to support the mission of the Foundation. The responsibilities include promoting programs to members of Altrusa and the public by communicating program services, cultivating prospects and potential donors of the Foundation, writing articles, helping to lead Convention workshops, and assisting in the biennial fundraisers, among other things. The Trustee term is four years, except the Immediate Past Foundation Chair and Finance Chair serve an additional two years.

Trustees may choose to serve on any of the following:

» Anna H. Settle Community Leadership Award Committee
» Education, Development & Marketing Committee
» Finance Committee
» Grants Committee

If you’re interested in serving on the Foundation Board of Trustees, please contact your District Governor for your nomination to be submitted to the Foundation office.

The 2021 Foundation nominees are due to the Foundation office by January 8th, 2021

“The reward of serving as a Trustee is in seeing the effect of Foundation programs on people all over the world.”

--Linda Robison, Foundation Chair 2019-2021

Shawna Kaiser
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Donate Now

Thank you for your support.