

# **District Twelve Altrusa International Conference Awards Saturday, May 22, 2010**

## **2010 Mamie L. Bass Service Awards**

### **1<sup>st</sup> Place**

**Altrusa International of Yaquina Bay**

#### **“Something to Smile About” Dental Program 2009-2010 School Year**

Investing in the future of Lincoln County’s youth is the focus of the Yaquina Bay Altrusa. Begun 5 years ago, their “Something to Smile About” Dental Program design is improved upon annually. This program served 2,600 K-6 students with dental kits, made dental supplies available for middle and high school students of need, procured community sponsors for the Medical Teams Interactional Dental Van 4 day visits for treatment of 60 children, paid dental hygienists to present short classroom lessons on oral health care, made ADA posters in English and Spanish for National Children’s Dental Health Month in February, funded urgent dental care for children from financially needy families, and sought grants, donations and did fundraising to cover the \$25,000 budget. Altrusa project was a partnership program with schools, in one of the poorest counties in Oregon.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Place:**

**Altrusa International of Longview-Kelso**

#### **Backpack Buddies, “Because Hunger doesn’t take the weekend off”**

“Make a Difference Day” was adjusted by Longview-Kelso Altrusa to “Make a Difference Week” as they launched a new project on World Hunger Day, October 16, 2009. After learning of the need, Altrusa member jumped in to provide six meals each weekend to children at Kessler Elementary School who otherwise couldn’t count on having any meals during the weekends. Children served by the 1,000 backpacks that were funded, shopped for, filled and handed out by Longview-Kelso members have shown marked improvements in behavior and learning, according to their teachers. The success of this project has reached beyond the Kessler School and is now helping Northlake School reach the need of that school as well. “Hooray, It’s Backpack day!” has been heard as some of the children run up and hug members who are passing out the bags.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Place**

**Altrusa International of Eugene**

#### **“Project Homeless Connect”**

Two books per member per month. That is what it took to gather 562 books for Eugene Altrusa’s book booth at the Project Homeless Connect in 2010. During the one day, mega event for homeless adults and families that is put on by 80 non-profits, government and business entities each year, Altrusa was invited to fill a need not otherwise met; providing reading material for adults (children’s books were already available from another non-profit). With knowledge of often requested books that Altrusa provides to a day center for homeless adults, members collected, organized by category, alphabetized fiction by author, transported and manned the booth. They were given a perfect spot for connection with guests. Every member of the club was involved and are already making plans for next year.

# Letha H. Brown Literacy Awards

## **1<sup>st</sup> Place**

**Altrusa International of Roseburg**

### **“Book, Books, Books”**

The Roseburg club organized, cleaned, repaired and recycled over 14,783 books, which were distributed to food pantries, reading programs and the local hospital. Over 68% of the club devoted 838 hours of service to the project. In 2009-2010 13,032 books were distributed to children and 5,410 were delivered to the local food pantry for a library that the club maintains. Each book is stamped with the Altrusa name to promote awareness of Altrusa in the community.

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Place**

**Altrusa International of Eugene**

### **“Warm Springs Elementary**

The Eugene Altrusa club answered a 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher request for help and supplied literature on important Native American figures, and a variety of additional books to add to the students reading program so that children could take books home. The club also donated additional furniture to make the library more inviting and comfortable for the students. They also provided writing paper, folders, and snacks for the students. The project helped over 120 students and promoted awareness of Altrusa in the community and on the Warm Springs Reservation.

## **3<sup>rd</sup> Place**

**Altrusa International of Nanaimo**

### **“A-B-C Readers”**

The Nanaimo Altrusa Club’s ongoing project helps support local schools with traditionally low literacy levels. The club provided over 50 dozen muffins for the Feed the Reader program to help children who arrive at school with no breakfast. Over 95 percent of the members participated and gave 100 hours of personal time helping over 700 children. Community support was strong and the local television station ran advertisements for one of the fundraisers events the “Beer and Burger Evening”

# Dr. Nina Fay Calhoun International Relations Award

## **1<sup>st</sup> Place**

**Altrusa International of South Pierce County**

An Altrusan, belonging to an International Dive Club, presented detailed information regarding a medical clinic in Roaton, Honduras, that give aid to new babies but was in need of basic over-the-counter medicines and medical supplies. Altrusans collected medical supplies and sent three deliveries to the Clinic during the year. Transportation was arranged through the Dive Club, a nurse, and Second Harvest. Two cribs for at-risk newborns were donated by a Missouri doctor. Working through a New York medical facility and a private citizen in Georgia, the Club arranged and paid the transportation of the cribs to Honduras. Cribs and medical supplies were all received. Through a yard sale to raise funds for the project, medical supply donations, and hours involved in

the project, the Club had 100percent participation and support of their members totaling 500 hours of service. They learned about the government and people of Honduras and networking with other organizations in getting aid to other countries.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Place**

#### **Altrusa International of Longview-Kelso**

Longview-Kelso actively participates in the China Orphanages project to improve the conditions for children in 24 orphanages in China. Working alongside the Amity Foundation, the Club organizes sponsors, tracks progress, and collects support to fund foster care programs, school sponsorships, medical care, and donations of food, clothing, toys, and equipment. Altrusa contributors are currently sponsoring 279 children in foster care, 180 school tuitions for orphans, and 53 “Hugging Grannies” who give extra attention to the children remaining in the orphanages. During the 2009-2010 Altrusa year, the Club performed 640 hours of service and donated approximately \$140,000 to the China Orphanage project.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Place**

#### **Altrusa International of Hermiston**

The Club has several existing and expanding international projects. Ongoing support (financial \$350.00 and member attendance) for a local dentist who leads groups to Honduras to provide dental treatment. Continued sponsorship of four children through the Dove Uganda Children’s Fund (\$750.00 and support of the Heifer Project (\$250.00). A purchase of \$100.00 worth of solar cookers through Jewish World Watch to be distributed to African women and a microloan of \$100.00 to Elizabeth in Ghana to develop and promote her bakery. Approximately 55% of Club members participated in one or more of the internationally related activities. The Club’s on fundraising project (auction/dinner) provided the needed resources for the projects.