

# **WE SHARE FOUNDATION DISADVANTAGED WOMEN AND CHILDREN COMMITTEE**

## **REPORT TO MEMBERS JULY 2006**

Members of Quota International continue to support programs that provide much-needed assistance to disadvantaged women and children.

According to our club president's annual reports, this year more than U.S.\$300,000 was donated to projects dedicated to helping women and children in need, with 57 percent of Quota clubs reporting.

Once again, this year's Excellence in Service-Disadvantaged Women and Children Awards provided us with an insight into the kinds of programs that clubs are initiating or sponsoring in their local neighborhoods. Some of the many beneficial projects included:

- East Liverpool, United States: Quotarians brought Christmas cheer to children living with their mothers recovering from drug addiction in a group home. In addition to giving the children Christmas gifts, the club provided gifts the children could give to their mothers.
- Forster-Tuncurry, Australia: Club members decided to help disadvantaged women living out in the bush who had been suffering under a drought for four years. After partnering with other Quota clubs and obtaining a huge outpouring of support from the local community, club members were able to send over 280 large parcels out to the women on the land.
- Aruba: Quotarians organized a special seminar just for teens for the first time. The club brought in motivational speaker Stedman Graham to speak to nearly 1,000 local teens and give them guidance about the many

complicated issues they face. Thanks to profits from the club's annual adult seminar, the club was able to offer the seminar for teens free of charge.

- Batemans Bay, Australia: After a presentation at a dinner sponsored by Quota, the club forged a partnership with Life Without Barriers, a home for people aged 21-30 with disabilities. Club members donated many supplies for the home's new facility as well as volunteered once a week to help the residents with craft projects.
- Canton, United States: Creative club members are redecorating the lounge in the local YWCA homeless shelter, providing a safe and comfortable socialization and play space for women and children. The club is also donating funds and books to the Stark Social Workers Network which provides many needed services for local women and children.
- Orillia, Canada: The club held a Spa Day for 19 Little Sisters. Club members were able to give these girls a needed boost to their self-esteem, and a photo to remember the experience. Quotarians and Little Sisters alike benefited from the experience.
- Port Huron, United States: The club joined with the local community for help in filling the area food bank. Located in the county with one of the highest unemployment rates in the state, the food bank is vital to helping many community members. Quotarians were proud to organize a community-wide effort and fill the food bank.
- Collingwood, Canada: Quotarians donated time and money as well as ran a stand selling

drinks at a children's costume carnival. The carnival was held as a fundraiser to assist a local family whose daughter was born with a rare congenital condition and help to cover her medical expenses.

Internationally, Quota's programs funded by the We Share Foundation to further our women and children service mission include The "Quota Cares" Teddy Bears program — 1,000 bears were ordered this year from the Quota International office to give to children in times of crisis.

In addition, Quota International has continued to offer a resource packet called "Your Time – Their Future," that details the importance of mentoring the young and the benefits for both the participating mentors and youth alike.

I'm happy to report that the Cops 'n' Kids literacy program undertaken by a few clubs in past years, has become a very popular club service project across the Quota world. Because of its opportunities for hands-on service, publicity, fellowship, and strengthened connections with the community, I encourage all Quota clubs in all Quota countries to consider adopting this program and adapting it to their communities' needs.

Cops 'n' Kids promotes literacy and a positive image of the police force through book distribution and literacy programming for children.

A club may initiate a Cops 'n' Kids program in its area, collect books for an existing one, read in classrooms, or get involved in the program in one of many other ways. It is an opportunity to do hands-on work that makes a difference you can see.

Please log onto the We Share Foundation Web Site [www.wesharefoundation.org](http://www.wesharefoundation.org) to read all about this exciting program including steps for getting your club started!

Also this year Quota International has shared club service projects helping disadvantaged women and children on the We Share Foundation Web site and in the *Quotarian*. In fact, we will add full entries from club Excellence Award winners in the women and

children service category to the web site in the coming weeks.

Due to the decline of financial markets and the impact of volatile markets on the Foundation's endowment, the We Share Foundation Board of Trustees voted to continue the temporary suspension of the Foundation's Youth Outreach Grants and Fellowship Partners programs. The suspension took place in late November 2002 and will continue through the 2006-2007 Quota year.

Finally, I would like to thank the members of the Disadvantaged Women and Children Committee for their time this year, President Carolyn Rice for giving us the opportunity to serve, Executive Director Kathleen Treiber as well as the staff at QI Headquarters, particularly We Share Foundation Manager Christy Herz and Deputy Executive Director Nancy Fitzpatrick for their kind assistance in facilitating the task of the committee. We are proud of Quotarians' accomplishments — helping make the world a better place for our disadvantaged neighbors.

- *Ma. Lourdes Del Rosario, Chair  
Disadvantaged Women and  
Children Committee  
Past Governor, District 41  
Quota International of Manila South  
Philippines*

#### **Disadvantaged Women and Children Committee, 2005-2007:**

- June Remmich, *Quota International of Bismarck Mandan, North Dakota, U.S.A.*
- Susanna Mays, *Quota International of Wilmington, Delaware U.S.A.*
- Jannette Powter, *Quota International of Parkes, New South Wales, Australia*
- Yvonne Pique, *Quota International of Curacao, Netherlands Antilles*
- Beverly Bradley, *Quota International of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.*