

Report of the Service Committee (Canada)

to the District 4 Board Meeting

May 14, 2011

I regret that I will not be attending the May Board meeting but hope that the following information will provide adequate detail of the matters which are the responsibility of the Service Committee.

1. Zonta International Projects

In February the committee co-chairs sent a memo to club presidents reminding them about the Zonta International Projects urging presentations to their clubs and reminding them of the expectation of financial donations from each club.

2. Zonta International Credit Card

A memo was also sent to the club presidents about the new Zonta International credit card. Unfortunately I was not provided with the correct information about this card. While the information read as if it was available only for USA residents, my contact on the Zonta International Service Committee assured me that it was available for all Zontians. Just two weeks ago I have been informed that I was provided with incorrect information. The card is available only for USA residents. I have provided information for the fifteen Canadian clubs in our district to correct the previous information I provided to them

3. Birthing Kits

The district project has clearly 'caught on' with the Canadian clubs. I am pleased to report that all of the Canadian clubs in our district have been involved in some way with the project. If the club has not held at least one of their own assemblies, they have partnered with another club to do so or have provided members, money or supplies for another club's assembly. To date over 10,300 kits have been assembled by the 15 Canadian clubs since the project was approved in September 2009.

Through Co-chair Marcia's efforts mainly, and with the assistance of Sandra Cronk, more information has been added to the district website. This includes the draft partnership agreement that we have developed for use by clubs.

I give you one example of the importance of these kits. Five of the clubs sent their kits to Haiti with the assistance of the Mennonite Central Committee which has partnered with the Haitian government to provide maternal care programs. The Haitian government has trained 80 midwives, most of whom are assigned to the camps – each midwife may have responsibility with a camp of 10,000 people. But the kits had not yet been released through Haiti customs – they not only wanted the 3400 kits that had been sent but were desperately asking when the next shipment was coming so they could have more kits than they would be getting this first time.

This chart provides an update of the work of the Canadian clubs on birthing kits:

AREA 1	
Cambridge	Partnering with the Zonta Club of Guelph September 2009, march 2010, November 2010 and April 2011 – 3000 kits to Nicaragua through CARE Canada and to Haiti with the Mennonite Central Committee
Guelph	In partnership with Zonta Club of Cambridge as above.
Kitchener-Waterloo	Assemblies in November 2009, November 2010 and March 2011 – 300 kits to Nicaragua through CARE Canada and to Haiti in partnership with the Mennonite Central Committee..
Owen Sound	Assisting other clubs in the area – members participated in the Brampton-Caledon assembly and provided financial assistance. Provided soap for K-W assembly.
Stratford	Assembled in November 2010 and April 2011 – 1000 kits to Haiti in partnership with the Mennonite Central Committee .
Woodstock	Members attended the April assembly in Stratford. Will be partnering with the Stratford club for future assemblies.
Area 2	
Brampton-Caledon	Assembled 1000 kits in October 2010 which were shipped to Haiti in partnership with the Mennonite Central Committee.
Hamilton I	Assembled 1000 kits in September 2010 which were sent to Ghana through partnership with Zonta club in Ghana with assistance of Hamilton II member who is from Ghana. Planning to assemble 1500 kits in fall 2011.
Hamilton II	As above
Mississauga	Planning with Toronto
Oakville	Assembly day in October 2010 with kits to Mali, Africa.
Toronto	Assembly planned for June 4, 2011, in partnership with Mississauga
AREA 3	
Fort Erie	Assembled kits in May 2010 and spring 2011 with Niagara Falls ON and St. Catharines. Kits to go to Haiti through Mennonite Central Committee.
Niagara Falls ON	See above
St Catharines	See above