



COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT TO BOARD

DATE: October 30, 2015

COMMITTEE: Service

HIGHLIGHTS:

Birthing Kits:

- The Service Committee continues to work with organizations operating within Canada and the US that will ship the kits and distribute them appropriately in the destination country.
- Recently success has been achieved with contacts with Medical Women International Association (MWIA) both in the US and in Canada.
 - Zonta recently made a presentation to the MWIA international board at their annual board meeting. There was discussion on the difficulties some members of MWIA have with transporting the kits in their luggage. The MWIA members recommended working through diplomatic channels to ship the kits. The Service chairs will investigate the diplomatic/UN channels.
- Through the Oakville club, Zonta has an opportunity to ship and distribute kits through World Vision Canada. The current plan is to deliver the first group of kits to the World Vision warehouse in November.
- Many clubs send kits with medical volunteer and church/school mission groups.

ZI Service Recognition Awards for 2014 – 2016 Biennium

The application procedure for the service recognition awards presentation was made at the District Conference. The presentation has been issued to the club Presidents to encourage them to apply.

The criteria and nomination forms have been simplified and are available on the www.zonta.org website.

Service Updates from clubs in the District:

In September the clubs were requested to provide an update on their service and advocacy activities.

The response was excellent and the input received has been summarized and attached; however, the input is not a complete summary from all clubs. The service co-chairs wonder if this is duplicates club reporting. Please advise. The reports received have been attached for the record.

SERVICE/ADVOCACY PROJECT

Several clubs reported their progress at the District Conference. Clubs are at different stages ranging from identifying a partner agency, customizing the poster to contacting businesses and organizations to hang posters. We were happy to see this project moving forward.

CHALLENGES:

1. Communication:

We have received more names for the club service chairs and will continue to update our contact list; however, some clubs, and we understand reporting overload, do not always respond, but we would like to have their input and be able to contact them.

2. Birthing Kits

Shipping:

We are continuing to work with clubs to identify sources to take or ship kits to third world countries. In the recent meeting with MWIA they suggested Canadians approaching our MPs to discuss utilizing the diplomatic pouch to ship. Then we would need to have a connection in the country, perhaps an MWIA doctor?, to receive and distribute.

Club Participation:

Encouraging clubs to notify us of number of kits assembled, shipped and location, and kits available for shipping to ensure accurate reporting. A tracking spreadsheet has been developed to document the number of kits available and shipped.

3. Support for the advocacy project

The clubs seem to be gaining a clearer understanding of how to implement an advocacy project in their clubs. It has been a gradual beginning but the decision to continue the project into the next biennium will allow better implementation at the club level.

Respectfully submitted:

Judy Powers

Holly Anderson