

Hands Up With Altruism

Hands Up With Altruism is the theme Governor Linda Robison chose for her biennium of 2007-2009. Most clubs are already doing many of these things but she is asking that the clubs bump it up a step or two to improve the services being provided. It has recently been written in the media that 38% of working people (mostly women) are living below the poverty level. The old adage that if you work, you have all you need is no longer true and continuing to worsen. We must help more those women who are earnestly trying to make it by giving them a hands up. Governor Linda asks that as a club completes a below listed part or task that it be reported to her at gov3linda@windstream.net. You will see your club's progress in the DSB issues to follow.

Goal 1. Check all your sources to locate some women in need. Develop an interview process for those women you are considering for a hands up. Why are these women not making it? What do they need that they don't have? Education?—Are they literate? Health Insurance?—Do they and/or their children need medical care and low cost insurance? Transportation?—Do they need a car or car repairs on their current car or bus line information if it's available? A safer home?—Are they in a location that is dangerous and need to find a safer home or need repairs to their current home? Do they need child care?—Do they need affordable and dependable child care in order to get a better job? Do they need nutrition training in order to be more healthy and do they need groceries? These are just a few ideas on giving a hands up to low income working women.

Goal 2. Acts of Kindness. Normally most of you give a hands up to people without thinking about it. This is just who you are as an Altrusan. Appoint someone in your club to receive from you and report these acts of kindness to Governor Linda on a monthly basis. Please identify your club when emailing, but not the Altrusans' names doing the acts of kindness. When the receiver of your kindness is aware you did this, ask the person to pay it forward – to give a hands up to others so the acts of kindness will continue to multiply in your community. Liberty Mutual currently has an ad on TV showing many people doing acts of kindness. These are great examples of what most of us do on a daily basis. Your governor just asks that you report these.

Goal 3. Member Services. Identify through club meeting discussions what your members need and want to make them better and more knowledgeable Altrusans. In addition, what do your members need and want to make them more capable and proficient professionals. Are you assisting your club members with networking – using the business services of your membership—do you need someone to do a workshop on leadership—a workshop on handling workplace situations—a workshop on improving your already successful appearance – such as updating makeup, hairdos, skirt lengths, etc.

Goal 4. Global Warming. We have seen a great deal in the media lately about global warming. What can you do as a club and what can you do individually to help the environment?

Enjoy all that you do with Altrusa and your fellow Altrusans, and do it with
ALTRUSIASM!