**News Happenings with the Zonta Club of the Mid Ohio Valley (MOV)**

Our 2024 Delicates for Dignity service project was a huge success.  This project helps underserved women and young girls in our area who are in need of feminine hygiene products, bras, underwear and deodorant.  In 2024, we helped 15 schools, domestic violence shelters, homeless shelters, hurricane relief, Helene, food pantries, nursing homes, mental health agencies, and others with these items.  We distributed 261 bras, 846 pairs of underwear, 4,104 feminine hygiene products, 2,992 tampons, 1,021 adult diapers and 286 deodorants to those in need.  On occasion, we have also purchased underwear and deodorants for men and boys who are also in need. Funds were obtained through fundraising, grants and private donations from businesses and individuals in our area.

 In 2025, our Delicates for Dignity project is underway.  We have currently assisted 13 agencies with these necessities.  We have secured two grants to support the funding of this project for 2025.

Our committee is always seeking deals on these items to stretch our dollars as far as possible, enabling us to help as many people as possible.

Our biggest fundraiser is our well-known **Unique Boutique**, a gently used clothing sale of men's, women's, and children's clothing.  This sale is held in the spring and fall of each year.  Donations of clothing are collected from the community.  We start setting up for our sale on Monday and work each evening to sort clothing.  The sale begins on Friday,, which usually draws a crowd of 100 people waiting to shop.  We offer an incentive to shop earlier, before our normal sale hours, by bringing a feminine hygiene product a half hour before we open our doors to the public.  On Saturday, during the sale we offer clothing at $10 for a 13-gallon trash bag stuffed with as much as you can get it.  All leftover clothing is donated to other agencies that may donate or sell for their fundraisers. Most sales generate between $3,000 and $4000 for our scholarship project and our other service projects.

We are providing five $500 scholarships to Washington State College of Ohio for non-traditional women students.  These women are facing hardships and are seeking to further their education to provide a better life for themselves or their families.

Thank you,

Chris Lisk

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