

# WHO embraces Brookwood in Georgetown

At their April meeting, the Women Helping Others ladies welcomed Brookwood in Georgetown Board Member Tim Curtis, who gave the membership an update on what has been happening at BiG recently.

BiG's mission is to provide a God-centered, innovative vocational and residential community for adults with disabilities and to change the way the world views this population.

The program launched in 2011 with eight adults in the program, who are called "Citizens," using free church space. Today, there are 80 Citizens with special needs, including autism, spread across three campuses. There is a main campus and one satellite campus in Georgetown. Additionally, there is a satellite location in Austin.

During the past 10 years, the WHO Ladies have supported

## WOMEN HELPING OTHERS

Anne Marshall

BiG with \$12,000 in donations over that period of time. So much has happened since the beginning.

As a result of the incredible support BiG receives, not only from WHO but

from many other supporters in our community, they were able to purchase 127 acres of land in Weir to build out Grace Place, a neighborhood for adults with disabilities. The community currently houses 80 Citizens and the second phase will build two more homes which will serve 82 more Citizens and a staff home.

The greatest fear of parents of special needs adults is what will happen to their child when they are no longer able to provide care. To help meet this need, Grace Place by BiG will provide a permanent home for the Citizens.

Their Citizens are viewed and treated as gifted individuals made in the image of God. They are empowered to reach their full



PHOTO COURTESY WOMEN HELPING OTHERS

BiG Board Member Tim Curtis accepts a check from WHO President Terry Fierle.

potential and enabled to contribute to the world. Citizens interact with the community in ways that change the perceptions others might have of this population.

The BiG gift shop in Georgetown — which sells the beautiful

creations they have made — has been voted the Best Boutique in Georgetown the past three years. The BiG cafe, where Citizens work, has a 5-star rating on Yelp. There is also a lovely greenhouse on the property.

## Meals on Wheels Fundraiser

WHO is kicking off its 13th Annual Opportunity Meals on Wheels Fundraiser benefiting Sun City and Georgetown clients served by Madella Hilliard Senior Center in Georgetown.

Area Meals on Wheels programs are organized by nonprofit Opportunities for Williamson and Burnet Counties.

The kick off event will be held at Mulligan's in Sun City on Tuesday, May 21, from 5-7 p.m. throughout the whole restaurant. During that time there will be a \$10 entry charge, which will be collected by the Opportunities for Williamson and Burnet Counties staff members. The public is invited to attend.

St. David's Foundation is matching up to \$50,000 this year. Donations may be made directly to [www.owbc-tx.org](http://www.owbc-tx.org) and click on WHO Fundraiser. The WHO ladies send you their thank yous in advance.