

# Women Helping Others recaps busy 2023

As we embark on a new year, the Woman Helping Others ladies kicked off their first meeting of 2024 by celebrating the club's accomplishments for the previous year.

In 2023, WHO, in conjunction with other organizations, raised a grand total of \$160,000 through their efforts in fundraising, product drives, donations and club dues. WHO is very proud of their accomplishments. The grand total benefits Williamson County nonprofit organizations, our veterans and occasionally, natural disaster recovery.

As in previous years, WHO invites the upcoming 2024 speakers to attend meetings. This is an opportunity for the membership to talk and preview the organizations the club will be supporting for the year: Hope House, Wilco Bluestar Mothers, We Are Not Broken, Isaiah 117 House, Neighbors Serving Neighbors, Habitat for Humanity, Georgetown Backpack Buddies, Sleep in Heavenly Peace, Wilco Animal Shelter and Hero's Night Out were in attendance. These organizations brought their literature/handouts to promote their organization and solicit volunteers for their nonprofit.

How does WHO raise so much money? A majority of the money raised is the results of their third-party fundraisers and product drives. A third-party fundraiser is where WHO takes responsibility for the fundrais-

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Anne Marshall

ing task while collaborating with the assigned nonprofit to support their programs. All funds raised at the event and/or events go directly to the nonprofit and not into the WHO treasury. However, these organizations graciously give credit to WHO for the total earned. For example, WHO partnered with Ride on Center for Kids as the silent auction/raffle sponsor for the ROCK's Cowgirl Bruncheon. WHO donated 25 silent auction baskets to ROCK who was able to auction them off for approximately \$20,000. WHO received credit for this amount. As you can see, this adds up very quickly.

Product drives are another way that contributes to the total. Throughout the year, many drives are initiated; i.e. books, toiletries, school supplies, fans and gift cards, etc. for various nonprofits the club supports. For example, they supported the Holiday Meals Delivered Christmas Day Program by donating 365 gallon bags of toiletries worth \$3,650; 460 dozen cookies worth \$4,600; gift cards worth \$5,975 and drivers for Christmas morning. It is amazing to see the outputting of such generosity from WHO's membership as well as Sun City and Georgetown support. Again, these amounts are added to WHO's overall total.

WHO not only raises money but has a very active Outreach Program which has grown significantly in 2023. Their weekly

and monthly volunteering efforts supported Big Friends, The Caring Place, Helping Hands, Georgetown Project, Key2Free, Meals on Wheels, Head Start, ROCK, Salvation Army, Holiday Meals Delivered and several nursing homes. A monthly field trip is scheduled to the facility before each of their nonprofit speakers. WHO will continue to promote volunteering in 2024.

WHO President Terry Fierle and the membership are excited about 2024 and the plans that WHO has to serve the Williamson County community. One of their most challenging plans for 2024 is to sponsor a special third party Car Show Fundraiser benefiting the Dog Alliance/Hounds for Heroes. Watch for more details on this fall event.

Happy new year! And special thanks to the *Williamson County Star* for their continued support of this club.



WHO Vice President Maria Tolleson holds a poster displaying WHO's successful efforts over the past year.