

Christiansburg Kiwanis Teams with the Montgomery County DSS

As the Kiwanis Club of Christiansburg was looking for additional ways to support the youth of the local community, a Club decision was made to contact the Montgomery County Department of Social Services (DSS) and offer assistance.

After a meeting with two of the Kiwanis members, Kelley Edmonson, Director of Montgomery County Social Services, agreed to come and speak to the Club. During the visit she made a presentation on how the two organization could partner to meet the needs of children under their care and during her presentation, she expressed a similar need for the elderly in Montgomery County. Even though the Club's primary focus is youth, the Club agreed to work with DSS to donate supplies needed for both the children and elderly. Also, the cub will be supplying labor where appropriate.

Once the two organizations agreed to work together, DSS supplied Kiwanis a list of immediate needs. The Club voted to fund the requirements and purchase the requirements every three months and deliver the needed supplies to the DSS office in Christiansburg.



Shopping carts filled with the supplies.

Individuals in the photo, from left to right are: Kathryn Francis, from DSS; and Christiansburg Kiwanis; Jim Vanhoozier, and Ernie Wade.

The first three month's supply which was delivered to DSS for the children included: Diapers, 2 sizes, 30 packages, 25 count; Baby wipes, 60 boxes, 80 count; Pull-ups for girls, 15 packages, 74 count; Pull-ups for boys, 15 packages 66 count; Children's Tylenol, 18 bottles; Children's Motrin 18 bottles; and Pack n Plays 3. Items delivered for the elderly included: Ensure, healthy snack packs; Tums; pill boxes and flashlights. Every 3 months a similar delivery will be made. The quarterly cost of the supplied items totals almost \$2,000.

Initial delivery to the DSS building in Christiansburg after the supplies were delivered. Individuals in the photo are: on the left Kelly Edmonson, Director of DSS; on the right, Kathryn Francis, DSS; along with Christiansburg Kiwanis members; Jim Vanhoozier, and Ernie Wade.



Kelley Edmonson reported that the DSS staff was overwhelmed with the amount of stuff donated to serve the needs of families in the community. She stated “It is a blessing, now we can support so many families in the next coming months with this generosity. Thank you, Kiwanis. We look forward to the work we will do together for our families in need.”

Since 1949, the Kiwanis Club of Christiansburg has provided support to the local community. Funds for

Service projects are raised by the club with various fund raisers, grants and donations. The largest fund raiser is the Kiwanis Wilderness trail Festival which will take place on September 18 of this year.

Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world, one child and one community at a time.