

Good Works

Compiled by
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Calling all do-gooders. We know you don't do good stuff just to get attention, but we think you deserve it. And we'll give it to you on this page. Send photos and news for consideration to Good Works via mail to Washington Business Journal, 1555 Wilson Blvd., Suite 400, Arlington, Va. 22209, fax to (703) 875-2231 or e-mail to washingtonbusinessleads@bizjournals.com. Photos cannot be returned.



THINK PINK: Women in Retail Real Estate members get wrapped up in supporting Country Goes Pink, a nonprofit organization dedicated to raising funds for underserved women with cancer. Victoria Tebo, left, of Scheer Partners; Stephanie Gallagher of Banner and Associates; Sebastien Aubouin of the Orchid Group; Marilyn Coolidge of Petrie Ross Ventures; Claire Coolidge of Victor Stanley; and Ginger Remian of Lowe Enterprises.

WHO'S GIVING: Women in Retail Real Estate (WIRRE)

WHO'S RECEIVING: Country Goes Pink

WHAT'S BEING GIVEN: About \$200

BACKGROUND: In April, WIRRE collected funds from its members to support Country Goes Pink, which raises money for financially needy women who suffer from cancer. Country Goes Pink benefactors can direct their contributions to a variety of programs, such as wig purchases, mammogram screenings and the publication of educational material. WIRRE, which will celebrate its 20th anniversary this June, has demonstrated support for many causes. The real estate group's philanthropic efforts include raising donations for the Sister to Sister organization, which promotes women's heart-disease prevention and screening. WIRRE also collects old cell phones for a women and children's shelter.

A FEW WORDS FROM THE SPONSOR: "We chose

Country Goes Pink because it targets the under-resourced women who have cancer and need our funds the most, whereas everybody knows about Komen — which is a great organization — and a lot of money goes towards that one," says Claire Coolidge, regional sales associate for Victor Stanley and chair of the community service committee for WIRRE.

WHO'S GIVING: Choice Hotels International Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Silver Spring-based Choice Hotels International

WHO'S RECEIVING: D.C.-based The Good Samaritan Foundation

WHAT'S BEING GIVEN: \$16,000

BACKGROUND: The Good Samaritan Foundation champions community involvement and academic excellence among inner-city D.C. youth. Executed primarily through its student training opportunity program (STOP), the foundation works to ensure that participants have the necessary training and resources to succeed in high school and beyond. The \$16,000 donation will help support the annual spring college tour for high school students enrolled in STOP. Choice Hotels International established the Choice Hotels International Foundation in November 1999. The foundation coordinates the company's contributions to nonprofit charitable and educational organizations throughout the country.

A FEW WORDS FROM THE SPONSOR: "This grant will provide The Good Samaritan Foundation with much needed support and enable the organization to carry out its philanthropic goals," says Chuck Ledsinger, president and CEO of Choice Hotels. "We hope by our example to encourage other organizations and individuals to follow suit."