

## **GEORGETOWN CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER PROGRAM**

### **Brief History**

**Beth Jenkins, President of Pilot's Choice Aviation, Inc. has responsibility for this Program. It was started back in the late nineties by Joann Ford, Principal of the Ford Elementary School. Beth and her father started out as drivers. The program benefits Meals on Wheels and Caring Place families who sign up. The goal is to provide a hot holiday meal (served and provided by Monument Cafe), gifts and holiday goodies to all recipients. HEB, The Caring Place, Monument Cafe, Georgetown school children, local Georgetown residents, Women Helping Others (WHO) and several Sun City neighborhoods donate gift items, food and drivers to make this happen. This is a community effort to make sure homebound seniors and needy families have a wonderful Christmas. The Christmas dinner and gifts bags are delivered to each family on a one-on-one basis by over a hundred volunteers on Christmas morning. It is anticipated that 150-175 families will be served; half are seniors, and half are families.**

### **WHO's Involvement**

**This is one of WHO's oldest traditions. WHO has contributed greatly to making this program a success. Committee Members are Pat Scheuer, Ann Marshall and Nina Stancil. WHO's involvement includes the following:**

- 1) Donate and gather toiletries items. A Sun City wide notice is generated to request that WHO and Sun city people donate toiletry items such as hand soaps, shampoo/conditioner, razors, tooth paste, tooth brushes, shaving creams, and small toiletry items from trips taken. Small toiletry items are donated to Helping Hands and the Caring Place for the homeless in Georgetown. Larger size toiletries will be donated to the Georgetown Christmas Day Dinner Program. WHO will be bagging the toiletries after the November 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. All of the bagged toiletries will be delivered to Helping Hands, The Caring Place and Beth at the Georgetown Airport after the meeting.**
- 2) Cookie baking & packing – WHO membership will bake and package approximately 300 dozen cookies. This includes 30 dozen from Monument Café. This effort will be on Saturday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 9-11am in the Atrium. Packaged cookies will be delivered to Beth that day. Detailed e-mail will be sent in October and signup sheets will be available at November 18 meeting.**

- 3) **Gift Purchase** - Beth Jenkins purchases the Caring Place families gifts. This year, Beth, Pat, Ann and Nina will be working with Blue Santa to help get toys for the children on this program. In the past, WHO has taken on the task of funding the senior gifts. The WHO Program Committee (voted by the membership) normally recommends donating \$750-\$1000 for these gifts during WHO's Christmas give away.
- a. Senior Gift Purchasing at Walmart – ten volunteers are needed for this task. Signup Sheet will be available at the November 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.
  - b. Senior Gift wrapping – the same volunteers for the shopping will wrap the gifts and label them. Wrapped gifts are delivered to Beth.
- 4) **Drivers for the event.** The goal is to have one driver per family. Last year we had 176 families. Beth will have an ad requesting drivers in the Georgetown Sun Newspaper. The response from this notice will normally get enough drivers. However, WHO helps by sending out an e-mail to its membership, NRO eblast and all of Sun City that drivers are needed on Christmas morning. This is coordinated by Pat and she will let Beth know how many drivers from Sun City and WHO there will be. Volunteer drivers needed are over 140. Drivers are requested to bring a dozen of some kind of fruit (per Beth's request).

#### **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

1. Sep-Nov Toiletry Drive– Sun City Wide.
2. Nov 18<sup>th</sup> after WHO meeting – packing toiletries and delivering to nonprofits
3. December email to request drivers for Christmas morning.
4. Dec 20<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>th</sup> – gift purchasing at Walmart & gift wrapping.
5. Dec 23<sup>rd</sup> – cookie packing at the Atrium.
6. Dec 25<sup>th</sup> – drivers at Georgetown Airport

**NOTE:** All events will be published by emails and signup sheet at WHO Meetings.