

# Wholly Hitachi

*Now including all HTA CACs AND office news...*

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## EXPANDING OUR HEARTS DURING HEART HEALTH MONTH

By: Summer Henderson

February is Heart Health month. It's a time for us to think about not only our own heart health, but to expand our hearts and think about ways we can help others. We all know about the awesome American Heart Association and fantastic efforts on their part to raise heart health awareness through programs such as Jump Rope for Heart. Here are a few equally fantastic charities that you may be interested to learn more about:



### The Children's Heart Foundation

Motivated by the needs of children, the goal of The Children's Heart Foundation is to bring health, hope and happiness to children impacted by congenital heart defects, the number one birth defect in the United States. They accomplish this goal by funding the most promising research to advance the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of congenital heart defects. CHF's 2013 Hearts at Play Family Benefit will take place on Saturday, February 23, 2013 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. at The Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago, IL. It will be a special evening to celebrate, enjoy and raise funds to support congenital heart research. For more information about The Children's Heart Foundation, go to [www.childrensheartfoundation.org](http://www.childrensheartfoundation.org).

### Texas Heart Institute



The Texas Heart Institute was founded in 1962 and its mission was to reduce the devastating toll of cardiovascular disease through innovative programs in research, education, and improved patient care. The Texas Heart Institute has been the scene of many amazing developments in learning more about the causes, prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of cardiovascular disease. Among these are the first successful heart transplantation in the U.S., the first implantation of an artificial heart in man in the world, breakthroughs in the treatment of infants born with congenital defects, and effective methods of preventing heart attacks by reducing the formation of blockages in the arteries. To learn more about Texas Heart Institute and how you can help, please visit [www.texasheartinstitute.org](http://www.texasheartinstitute.org).



### Children's HeartLink

HEALING HEARTS WORLDWIDE

For more than four decades, Children's HeartLink has been dedicated to the prevention and treatment of heart disease in the developing world. Started during the Vietnam War, Children's

HeartLink has evolved through the years in an effort to have the greatest impact on children with heart disease. In the early 1990's Children's HeartLink decided that it could make more of an impact on the lives of children at risk from heart disease by changing its approach. Instead of continuing to bring children to the U.S. for treatment, Children's HeartLink focused on assisting existing cardiac programs to improve the quality and quantity of their services. This new commitment involved assisting cardiac programs with on and off site education, technical assistance and donated resources (funding, medical supplies and equipment). To learn how you can help, visit [www.childrensheartlink.org](http://www.childrensheartlink.org).

Heart disease is the #1 killer of women in the United States. WomenHeart: The National Coalition for Women with Heart Disease was founded in 1999 by three women, Nancy Loving, Jackie Markham, and Judy Mingram who had heart attacks while in their 40s and faced many obstacles, including misdiagnosis and social isolation. These women each shared a common experience about how little information or services were available for women with heart disease.

WomenHeart's mission is to improve the health and quality of life in women living with or at risk of heart disease, and to advocate for their benefit. To learn more, visit [www.womenheart.org](http://www.womenheart.org).

### WomenHeart



## Holiday Adopt a Family

By: Summer Henderson

For the second year, DLO CAC has adopted two families from our Partner in Education school, Sam Houston Middle School in Irving, TX. Two very needy families provide their lists of holiday needs and wishes. Each item is printed on a tag and placed on a tree in the Main Breakroom. Employees can pick any tag they wish and bring the items in for the CAC to wrap and take to the family. The CAC also provides food for the family to make their own holiday dinner. The wrapped presents and food are taken to the school and presented to the families by Hitachi employees.

This year, when one of the families came to the school to collect their gifts, a child from the adopted family told his principal that now he knew "angels really do exist!"



### HITACHI COOKBOOKS ARE ON SALE!

You may purchase cookbooks from any CAC member for just \$9!  
All proceeds are donated to charity!



## Inspire the Next Big Idea

The Inspire the Next Big Idea Team continues to work hard to review all entries for the Inspire the Next Big Idea program and to make sure that approved ideas for the Dallas office are implemented! We have posted a list of ALL ideas that have been submitted on the bulletin board in the main breakroom along with an updated list for qualifying ideas. All ideas that are approved and implemented receive a \$50 gift certificate. Remember...even if your idea isn't approved (and is a valid Inspire idea), you are eligible for the \$50 monthly drawing. Winners are announced and the monthly drawing is held at the Inspire Gathering on the 2nd Friday of each month at 2 p.m. in the Main Breakroom. Here are the winners for Q3:

### Q3 Winners

- 10/03/12—Mark O'Hare—Plastic sleeves in each stall in the bathroom to hold newsletters/signs
- 10/03/12—Zach Jeffrey—Move smoker's station / provide new disposal method
- 10/22/12—Dean Gregson—Put a garbage disposal in the upstairs breakroom
- 10/24/12—John Angelides—Sign for Main Lobby in the parking lot
- 11/13/12—Jason Haro—Convex safety mirror 1st floor mailroom and the cubes
- 12/03/12—Zach Jeffrey—Downstairs fruit fly and gnat problem

### Q3 Drawing Winners

- October—Brandon Openshaw
- November—Eric Thompson
- December—Shigeaki Meguro

## UPCOMING DLO ACTIVITIES

### February

2/22—16th Annual Chili Cook-off and 6th Annual Bake-off

### March

3/15— Snacks with Charities—American Red Cross

3/26—American Red Cross Blood Drive

### April

4/21—Food Truck Earth Day Volunteer Event

4/25—Bring Your Child to Work Day

Interested in learning more about the CAC and how you can help decide volunteer and matching grant opportunities?

Send an email to [CAC-Dallas@hitachi-hta.com](mailto:CAC-Dallas@hitachi-hta.com) or speak to any CAC member.



## CHARITY SPOTLIGHT

By: CJ Penley

Each newsletter we will introduce you to a charity you might not normally hear about. Each will be well established and either be Texas, local or national.

This edition instead of spotlighting one particular charity, I am introducing you to DonorBridge <http://www.cftexas.org/donorbridge>



Charitable giving is down and people are being more discriminating with their donated dollars. DonorBridge enables you to search by area of charitable interest or location, review the details on the specific charities, and donate on-line immediately to your chosen organization.

DonorBridge is a searchable online database with detailed information about nonprofits within the Dallas and Fort Worth region, as well as general information about every nonprofit in the United States. For donors, and others interested in supporting nonprofits, DonorBridge provides donors with the ability to make informed decisions about their charitable giving.

*What information can I find on a nonprofit's profile?*

DonorBridge contains detailed information about the nonprofit in the following sections:

- **General** - Contact information, year incorporated and organizational classifications
- **Statements** – Includes statements such as the Mission Statement, Impact Statement, Needs Statement, Background and opening comments from the Executive Director and Board Chair
- **Management** – Details on the number of staff, consultants and volunteers, the Strategic and Fundraising Plans along with other management policies and procedures
- **Staff** – Details on the senior management team of the organization
- **Board** - Outlines the capacity and involvement of the organization's board
- **Programs** – Description on the programs and activities of the nonprofit
- **Documents** – Documentation uploaded by the nonprofit. Can be copies of tax returns, video clips, pictures, brochures, annual reports, etc.
- **Financial** – Provides detailed financial information as reported on the latest three years of IRS tax return form 990

# HTA DALLAS COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEE

## TEAM MEMBERS

Moti Arad  
Marilou Canon  
Mark Delgado  
Paul Galantay  
Dean Gregson  
Zack Haskins  
Summer Henderson  
Edward Kimmelman  
Carly Maddoux  
Shigeaki Meguro  
Kayla Odom  
Mark O'Hare  
CJ Penley  
Kai Peters  
Kristin Reusser  
Tiffany Saladana

Contact us at:  
CAC-Dallas@hitachi-hta.com

We're on the Web!  
[cac-dallas.hitachi-hta.com](http://cac-dallas.hitachi-hta.com)

**Got an idea for  
a great  
Volunteer  
Program  
activity?**

**Email it to**

**[summer.henderson@  
hitachi-hta.com!](mailto:summer.henderson@hitachi-hta.com)**

## VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

By: Summer Henderson

Hitachi High Technologies America, Inc. has started a new Volunteer Program. All regular, full-time employees with satisfactory job performance are eligible to participate in Company-sponsored, community volunteer programs during normal working hours, for a period of up to eight (8) hours during each business term (April-September and October-March), and will be paid their regular pay for absences from work for such volunteer time.

Company-sponsored, community volunteer programs are those whose goals are considered important to the company, and for which the company agrees to provide funding and/or resource support. The company's Director of Human Resources and the division's senior manager will determine which volunteer programs will be Company-sponsored. Employees and Community Action Committees are encouraged to submit their volunteer project proposals. The volunteer project must include a group of at least three (3) employees who will participate as volunteers for the program at the same time. The employees' volunteer time should not conflict with work-related responsibilities, create a need for overtime, or cause conflicts with other employees' schedules. The specific date and time must be pre-approved by the employee's manager.

## Salvation Army Christmas Warehouse Workday

By: Tiffany Saldana

On a warm December Monday afternoon a small group of Hitachi employees took advantage of the volunteer program. Marilou Canon, John Waits and I spent the afternoon sorting packages at the Salvation Army distribution center. It was all a bit overwhelming. Red bags full of gifts for children and the elderly, more than 50 thousand were helped this year. The processes seemed complicated at first. Codes, numbers, names all have to be triple checked. A careful system almost guar-



antees the gifts get to the right

person. The task of sorting gifts is massive. The pile of gifts seemed to go on forever. As soon as you felt like the pile was getting smaller, another truck load would show up. There were over 59,199 Angels with 282,250 gifts worth \$4.8 million. The warehouse was full of volunteers from all over the Dallas area, young



and old. The first volunteer I met was Tom, who has been working at the distribution center for the last 16 years. He would use his vacation time to work in the warehouse. The distribution center is full of stories like Tom's. The Salvation Army's Angel Tree program this year was helped by 6,933 volunteers, I'm happy to have been one of them.

## SpiritHorse Therapeutic Center Workday

By: Marilou Canon

September 19, 2012 marked the second year HTA Dallas volunteers helped out at the SpiritHorse Therapeutic Center and the 1st year we made this activity a Volunteer Program!

Located in Corinth, TX, SpiritHorse is an amazing facility that provides therapeutic horseback riding services to a diverse group of children and adults with mental and physical disabilities as well as victims of abuse/violence, at-risk-youth, battered women, and youth after-drug rehab. SpiritHorse successfully uses horseback riding as a way to heal and treat these disabilities – all at no cost to the client. Any child or adult that walks through the SpiritHorse doors does not pay a dime for their life changing services. Pretty stellar stuff.

On site, we were lucky enough to be greeted by Charles Fletcher, the man behind the idea. At the young age of 62, Charles founded the nonprofit SpiritHorse therapeutic riding center in Corinth, TX specializing in helping children with autism, cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, attention deficit disorder, down syndrome and traumatic brain injury. After speaking with him for only a few minutes, you could definitely feel the sense of love, care and determination this man has in making sure every child in the program gets the time and attention they need.

Fletcher explained to us that the facility works alongside the University of North Texas and the Autism Treatment Center in the study of biofeedback therapy. Any progress seen at the SpiritHorse Center is reported back to the research facility in which they work hard in fully understanding the disease in hopes of ultimately finding a cure.

For example, during his therapy riding sessions with children with autism, Fletcher began to notice that children with autism had difficulty making left turns. This is due to the fact that a child with autism develops certain motor skills slower than normal. Through riding, Fletcher was able to develop a system that focuses to strengthen an autistic child's weakness, all through riding, to the point their mental developments are accelerated. Another trait of an autistic child is they are unable to self-support themselves until later in life. By putting the child on a horse, they are forced to find their center of gravity in order to stabilize themselves, thus giving them the ability to sit up on their own. I'm sure Fletcher could have gone on and on about the multitude of ways horses are an unknown gift into treating autism but at that time the sun was at its peak and there was a lot of work to be done.

As much good as the SpiritHorse Foundation does for children, they do the same amount of good for the horses stabled there. Every horse on site is a retired show horse that was given a second chance at life outside the ring. In their youth, these horses jumped fences and pranced for show but now they spend their days being loved and cared for as they help countless children push through their disabilities.

With a great turn out from the Hitachi office, we were able to clean stables, uproot and remove trees in and around training areas, as well as rake and displace leaves from the majority of the facility grounds. Speaking as a person on the rake team, raking is definitely no joke. We also got to play with some of the horses as well as the center's dog Rocky, but I digress. Over all, it was a solid time bonding with co-workers through a good cause.



In the 4 hours we were able to contribute, it was clear to see the SpiritHorse organization has successfully combined their love for children and horses into an ingenious pairing in which both parties have purpose and hope. It was truly an honor that we were able to help out and do our part to make this organization be the best it can be for countless future clients in the SpiritHorse Center.

***How is a Volunteer Program different from a regular CAC activity?***

***Volunteer Programs occur during the work day!***

***You may be eligible for up to 8 hours of paid volunteer time per term!***

***To learn more about the Volunteer***

***Program , email***

***summer.henderson@hitachi-hta.com!***

# HTA SCHAUMBURG COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEE

## TEAM MEMBERS

Ash Desai  
Cheryl Ericksen  
Barb Fliege  
Allison Hughes  
Margherita Ungaro

Contact us at:  
CAC-Chicago@hitachi-hta.com

***This year, we would like to try and find a volunteer activity that will impact our community. It could be something that is done during the workday (if we are able to get mgmt. approval) or on the weekends. Please keep this in mind, if you come across any volunteer activities that CAC may be able to participate in. Your input is important to us.***

## Helping the Military

By: Cheryl Ericksen



Last year we were able to give a grant of \$3750.00 to Safe Haven in Chicago. This is a new facility that provides housing for up to 2 years for Veterans who are homeless or in need of a more stable environment to live. It opened in November 2011. They immediately had full occupancy as many vets were anxious to find a place to live. Safe Haven also assists the vets with job/skill training to enable them to succeed on their own.

To continue the tradition of supporting the military during the months of January and February we will be giving grants to various organizations that help those in the military and/or their families.

## And the Survey Says...

By: Cheryl Ericksen

Thank you to all the CGO employees that responded to our internal survey. This helps us to know what is important to you. Below is a brief summary of your thoughts and ideas which we will thoughtfully take in consideration as we plan events and activities in the future.

### What do you think that CAC does well?

- Support for those in need ( food and basics needs)
- Gives back to the community
- Offers opportunities for involvement
- Communicates well
- Variety of fundraisers that are fun (CAC rocks)

### What can the CAC do to improve?

- Do more volunteer events
- Provide presentation from different organizations on a regular basis
- Change all CAC positions to a yearly term
- Look carefully at the number of separate events planned so they don't overlap
- Put a list on the bulletin board of funds donated and organization supported
- Consider setting up a separate team for volunteer activities
- Have a different leader for each event/activity and recognize that person
- Vary CAC position end dates
- Ask/poll the office before a grant is approved for an organization

### What charities would you like CAC to support?

- Those that help poor kids
- Support families who can't get help from the government
- Supporting youth programs
- Small local charities
- Help elderly, disabled, women and children, foster care
- Adopt a local school where we can mentor and use STEM
- Autism
- Organizations involved in medical research

If you are familiar with an organization you would like us to consider, please contact one of the Schaumburg CAC people; Barb Fliege, Allison Hughes, Ash Desai, Cheryl Ericksen and Margherita Ungaro

## Hello and Goodbye

By: Cheryl Ericksen

We were sad to say goodbye to Alisa Stolzman who has stepped down to take a break from CAC after many, many years of being on our team. Thank you for all your support. On the happy side, Barb Fliege(GA) and Ash Desai (IT) and Margherita Ungaro(ACT) have joined CAC in the SHIMO term. Margherita will be our Executive Liaison and will help with decision making and bringing a heightened awareness to our Mgmt. team of CAC's activities. It's always great to have new members, as this adds to our creativity and manpower. We now have 5 members. Very Exciting!!