



Photo above:  
Residents in Mali, West Africa  
hold Luci lights distributed  
by Medicine for Mali from the  
Foundation's Disaster Relief Aid

## Make an impact this #GivingTuesday

Volume 7 | November 2021

The Altrusa International  
Foundation, Inc.  
newsletter supporting  
Altrusans in service  
and leadership to their  
communities

Donate Now



Support your Foundation  
with a tax-deductible gift today.

Thanks to you the Altrusa International Foundation, Inc. increased distribution across all programs below from \$455,681 in 2017-2019 to \$671,768 in 2019-2021.

- Altrusa Club's Grants Program
- Club 21 Program
- Disaster Relief Aid
- ASTRA Scholarships
- Mamie L. Bass, Letha H. Brown Literacy, Dr. Nina Fay Calhoun International Relations, and ASTRA Service Awards
- Anna H. Settle Community Leadership Award

### WAYS TO GIVE TO THE FOUNDATION

This holiday season, don't forget to make your tax-deductible gift to the Altrusa International Foundation, Inc.

You may want to consider:

### IRA Required Minimum Distributions/ Qualified Charitable Distributions

You may choose to give from required annual withdrawals from traditional IRA and employer-sponsored programs.

### Planned Estate Giving

Consider including the Foundation in your estate plans and become part of the Donor Round Table.

### End-of-Year Tax Deductions

Don't miss end-of-year tax deductions by giving to the Foundation, a 501c3 organization.

### Corporate Matching Gifts

Ask your employer about when matching gifts are due to the Foundation.

### General Text to Donate

Text **AltrusaFdn to 41-444** and select a Foundation program of your choice.

# We're hiring a Foundation Coordinator

The Foundation office is looking for a new staff member. The position is for a full-time Foundation Coordinator who is located in Chicago or the surrounding areas.

The primary responsibilities of the Foundation Coordinator will be focused on managing the Foundation's QuickBooks records, which includes data entry and assisting the annual audit process. Additional duties include marketing, social media, and fundraising support that develops with the Board of Trustees annual campaign plans.

The Foundation Coordinator position requires a bachelor's degree in finance, communication, marketing, or a related field with 2-3 years experience. A candidate who is fluent in Spanish is preferred. The salary range is \$40,000-\$50,000 based on experience.

[Click here for more information](#) on the Foundation Coordinator position. Cover letters and resumes may be sent to Executive Director Shawna Veldhuizen at [foundation@altrusa.org](mailto:foundation@altrusa.org)

## Increase in Convention Awards' Amounts

The Board of Trustees agreed to increase the amounts of the Mamie L. Bass Service, Letha H. Brown Literacy, and Dr. Nina Fay Calhoun International Relations Awards given by the Association at the Altrusa International Conventions.

The first place awards were \$300 each, then second and third place awards were \$75.

Now - the first place winners will receive \$500. Second and third place winners will each receive \$100.

In addition, the Altrusa International Foundation's Anna H. Settle Community Leadership Award amount is increased from \$2,000 to \$4,000.

Nominations for the CLA may be sent to [foundation@altrusa.org](mailto:foundation@altrusa.org). The deadline is May 15, 2023.

# Update your Lucente pin finish

The Board of Trustees approved a new look for the Lucente Lamplighter pin. The original pin design will now reflect a polish/sandblast finish, with a Sunburst Center.



For members that were awarded the original Lucente Lamplighter pin, and would like to have the new finish, please mail your Lucente pin to Doc Morgan. The cost is \$24.84. Please insure the pin's package for \$100 when shipping.

The address is 108 S. 2nd Street, St. Charles, IL 60174

## Congratulations to those awarded a grant in cycle one

This cycle, the Grants Committee expedited its review process to ensure Altrusa Clubs receive project funding a full month ahead of schedule. The Board of Trustees approved funding for two new international organizations under the Club 21 Program.

The next grants deadline is March 15, 2022. The Club 21 Program will support children's camps in Cycle Two.

Please share the Club 21 Program information with international organizations or children's camps eligible in the guidelines.

The application must come from the organization to the Foundation office. But the Grants Committee does like to see Altrusa Club connections to the organizations supported by Club 21.

Be sure to email applications to [foundation@altrusa.org](mailto:foundation@altrusa.org)  
DO NOT MAIL APPLICATIONS TO THE CHICAGO OFFICE.



# Spotlight an Altrusa Club

*Altrusa International of Reno/Sparks, Nevada | District Eleven*

In each issue of The Impact the Foundation highlights the great work of Altrusa Clubs through the Grants Program. The spotlight in this issue is on “Motel/Hotel Outreach (targeted to the low income)”, a service project adopted by Altrusa International of Reno/Sparks, Nevada.

**“In addition to giving items to our community members in need, we also help to connect them with community resources that they can use should they need food, clothing, etc,”** President Courtney Vogt of the newly-chartered Reno/Sparks Nevada Club

Homelessness in the Reno/Sparks area continues to rise. The Mission of the Reno/Sparks Club is to provide outreach to those in low-income housing and to help prevent further homelessness. There are currently twelve homeless shelters in the area, which provide occupants with essential products and services. However, those living in motels or other economical housing units do not receive this type of care. There is no organization addressing simple living needs. The newly chartered club decided that by providing items such as detergent, cleaning supplies, books and snacks, they can lessen the financial worries of these community members about choosing between essentials items for their family and rent thereby keeping a roof over their heads.

The City of Reno estimates there are over 4,000 people living in government subsidized or low-cost motels/hotels, apartments, trailer parks or complexes. This population is surviving paycheck-to-paycheck and often find themselves on the brink of losing their home. There is little left financially to spend on daily personal needs. In addition, mental health services and social workers, who are available at homeless shelters, are not present in these low-income housing facilities.

“Our community members can feel lonely, depressed and abandoned by society,” said President Courtney Vogt. This is where she and her club decided to help.

Altrusa Reno/Sparks NV chartered in October 2020. As a club-in-formation, they had already started several service projects in their community. District Eleven Altrusans were excited to see their constant Facebook events and service projects of this energetic, young club.

The Service Committee brought the need to the members attention and the club unanimously voted to support the project. “We encouraged donations from members, co-workers, family and friends, and were able to purchase additional items with monetary gifts,” said President Courtney Vogt.

They partnered with local non-profits such as Lexie’s Gift, Project 150, Women and Children’s Center of the Sierras, The Community Food Pantry, and Katie Grace Foundation to help supply other needed items.

The project was launched in March of 2021 and they have already sponsored several outreach events. They estimate 50 individuals and/or families have received fundamental supplies.

*Photo right: members of the Reno/Sparks NV Club set up supplies for project “Motel/Hotel Outreach”*



The \$2,000 “New Club” grant that the Reno/Sparks NV Club received from the Altrusa International Foundation, Inc. will help to purchase essential resources, supplies and books to give away to their under-privileged community members.

**“We expect two to three hundred more community members will benefit now that we’ve received the first Foundation “new club” grant,”** President Courtney Vogt of the newly-chartered Reno/Sparks Nevada Club

Each month, the Altrusa Reno/Sparks club selects a location and the Altrusans work with the facility manager to distribute basic necessities. This includes weekly or monthly room rentals in motels and hotels, as well as trailer parks, senior complexes, and low-cost apartments.

On a prearranged date, Altrusans arrive with a table, their Reno/Sparks NV club banner, and supplies. The club members display items such as toiletries, hygiene products, cleaning supplies, new blankets, books, and small toys. The manager notifies residents in advance, so they are prepared to ‘shop’. Items are all free and residents take what they need. These individuals often collect additional supplies for those who are homebound and unable to attend.

The Altrusans distribute flyers to each person with a list of resources in the area. Charities include Meals on Wheels, Senior Citizen Centers, Agency on Aging, Veteran’s Administration, health clinics, food pantries, and clothing outlets.

Grants of \$250 to \$4,000 are available through sponsoring Altrusa Clubs from the Altrusa International Foundation, Inc. to improve the economic well-being and quality of life through the foundation's commitment to community and International service and literacy. The "New Club" grant is a one-time grant offered to newly-chartered Altrusa and ASTRA clubs. The Altrusa or ASTRA club has twelve months from its charter date to request the "New Club" grant. The Grants Program application may be used for the grant. The purpose of the "New Club" grant is to provide newly-chartered clubs money to start working on a service project without having to wait for the next spring or fall grant cycle.

Leslie Johnson  
2021-2023 Foundation Chair

Courtney Vogt  
Club President, Altrusa International of Reno/Sparks NV

Please send nominations for *Spotlight an Altrusan, or Altrusa Club*, to [foundation@altrusa.org](mailto:foundation@altrusa.org)

## Foundation makes commitment to Mamie L. Bass gravesite

Mamie L. Bass, the first Altrusa President, is buried at the Crown Hall Cemetery located in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Recently, the cemetery contacted a Past District Six Governor asking for support to upkeep Mamie's gravesite.

The Board of Trustees agreed a letter will be sent committing to five years of upkeep at \$200 per year.



Mamie L. Bass gravesite, photo above

# Governor's Disaster Relief Spotlight

## Bayou Boeuf Elementary School request from District Four Governor Susie Quillen

Disaster Relief Aid is available from the Foundation as needed. The Altrusa International Foundation, Inc. shall respond to disasters specific to Districts and their surrounding areas. Monies from this fund may go to another relief agency to enhance overall first responders relief efforts. Disbursements from this fund shall be initiated by the District Governor's written request to the International Foundation.

This spotlight is on "Bayou Boeuf Elementary School", from a request by District Four Governor, Susie Quillen. Bayou Boeuf Elementary School is located in Lafourche Parish, Louisiana. Its original 1904 school building, the "Little Red Schoolhouse" was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2004.

Bayou Boeuf Elementary School, photo right



Bayou Boeuf Elementary School is the oldest working schoolhouse in the State of Louisiana. The school serves over 250 students from Pre-K to K-5.

"The Little Red Schoolhouse" was devastated on August 29, 2021 when Hurricane Ida came to shore. It caused a levee to breach which resulted in the flooding of the school. The teachers and their students lost all school supplies and will have to replace them out of pocket.

According to Lafourche Parish Superintendent Jarod Martin, "the Bayou Boeuf was one of the schools that sustained the heaviest damage in this parish."

Many of the student's homes were flooded along with their school. Teachers and their students are displaced from their homes due to storm related damage.

"How concerned am I? If you pick up a thesaurus, whatever's the word for 'most concerned'. We were brimming with optimism and confident that we were going to defeat COVID, confident we were on a better path. And now we've got another setback," said Jarod Martin, Lafourche Parish Superintendent.

Governor Sue Quillen requested \$2,500 under the Disaster Relief Aid's Governor Disaster Relief Fund. The monies will be used to purchase school supplies such as pencils, crayons, notebooks, binders, glue, scissors, paper,

etc. Monies will also be used to purchase school uniforms, socks, and shoes.

Bayou Boeuf Elementary School Principal, Stacy Adams, approved the list of items and said there weren't any other organizations assisting with their disaster relief efforts.

Lafourche public school officials developed a plan to return students to school on October 5, 2021. With the help of the \$2,500 disaster relief grant, the students and teachers had the school supplies and uniforms they needed.



Special engraved plaque at the historical Bayou Boeuf Elementary School, photo right

Disaster Relief Aid is available year-round as needed. District Governors and Club Presidents may also request disaster relief aid if needs in their community are not being met by other organizations.

[Please click here for the Disaster Relief Aid application and guidelines.](#)

Leslie Johnson, Foundation Chair

#### ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION, INC. 2021-2023 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Leslie J. Johnson**, *Foundation Chair*  
District Eleven | Anaheim, California

**Marie A. Pike**, *Finance & Vice Chair and Marketing Trustee*  
District One | Portland, Maine

**Linda L. Robison**, *2019-2021 Foundation Chair and Marketing Trustee*  
District Three | Spartanburg, South Carolina

**Susan Carpenter**, *2019-2021 Finance & Vice Chair and Marketing Trustee*  
District Eight | St. Louis, Missouri

**Dana Vierck**, *Grants Chair, Marketing and Finance Trustee*  
District Six | Elgin, Illinois

**Kimberly T. Abmeyer**, *Finance Trustee and Education, Development & Marketing Co-Chair*  
District Nine | Downtown Dallas, Texas

# New Foundation Webpage



The Foundation websites now include two login pages and one public page. The image above shows the homepage at [www.altrusa.org](http://www.altrusa.org). The three Foundation webpages appear when the computer mouse hovers above the Foundation dropdown menu.

The two login pages are titled *Foundation Giving Programs* and *Ways to Give to the Foundation*. These webpages require login due to the Altrusa membership-only materials, such as grant applications.

Thank you for your patience as the webpages are being developed. The goal is to have the webpages completed by December 31. You may contact [foundation@altrusa.org](mailto:foundation@altrusa.org) for any Foundation materials.

**Karen Robinson**, *Grants Co-Chair and Marketing Trustee*  
District Three | Tampa Bay, Florida

**Phyllis Corman**, *Finance Trustee and Education, Development & Marketing Co-Chair*  
District Two | Centre County, Pennsylvania

**Jane Hart**, *Anna H. Settle Community Leadership Award Chair, Grants and Marketing Trustee*  
District Eight | Greater Kansas City, Missouri

*Ex-Officio*

**Martha Hardwick-Hofmeister**  
*Legal Advisor*  
District Nine | Downtown Dallas, Texas

**Linda K. Smith**  
*Association Representative*  
District Nine | Temple, Texas

**Shawna R. Veldhuizen**  
*Executive Director*  
Altrusa International Foundation, Inc.

One N LaSalle Street, Suite 1955 | Chicago, IL 60602-4006  
(312) 427-4410 | [foundation@altrusa.org](mailto:foundation@altrusa.org)

[www.altrusa.org/foundation/](http://www.altrusa.org/foundation/)

Foundation Giving Programs & Ways to Give to the Foundation



Thank you for your support.