

SPECIAL EDITION

Kindness Action Ninjas strike again!

By Cindy McIntyre

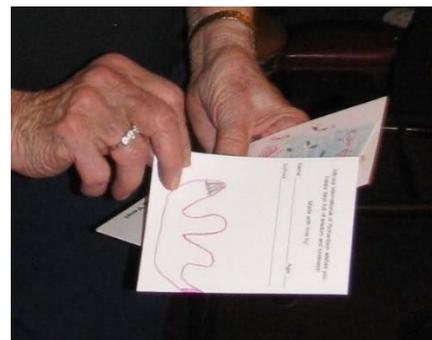
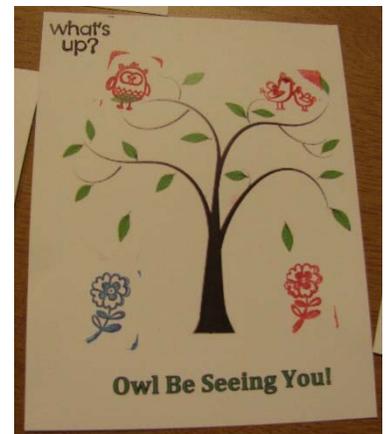
Our 2017 Kindness Action Ninja (KAN) project was held in Richardson, Texas on April 7-9 was a wonderful event.



On behalf of "Altrusans Helping Children Everywhere – Mike's Kids Project", Samantha Slight organized and to accepted donations of underclothes and socks for her late husband's foundation, Mike's Kids, which helps poor children along the Texas Mexico border.



Eight hundred greeting cards were made by elementary children at 4 Choose Kind Library Schools: **Terrace, Northlake, Audelia Creek, and Northrich Elementary.** These schools were the recipients of book donations from Altrusa – books that emphasize finding ways to understand those who may have disabilities or lessons on how to combat bullying. We provided double-sided cards, stamps, and inkpads so the children could send a greeting to senior citizens at **Apple Tree Court, The Remington, Atria, El Dorado, and Twin Rivers Assisted Living Facilities.**



Kindness
Ninjas



Teams of Altrusans and their families delivered the cards. As it turned out, our grandkids were wonderful ambassadors! The smiles they sparked were electric. Faces perked up and people sat straighter in anticipation. Everyone wanted to chat with them. Two-



year-old Maëlle posed for pictures with the residents and delivered her cards with a shy smile. Jacob, Porter and Kiera were fantastic and took their job very seriously. As we left, six year old Porter (pictured left with Cindy McIntyre) said, "That was so totally awesome!"

There were poignant moments, too. An elegant man got up from his hot meal to place his card carefully in his walker chair for safekeeping. Although most messages were general sentiments like "Happy Easter" and "You're special," others were priceless and sweet. For example, one child wrote "I bet you are not old." Another said "I hope you keep your memories always." My favorite was, "We need you!"

Scatter seeds of kindness wherever you go

Yes, we need our older residents and we need our children. We must listen and learn from the seniors, and demonstrate the power and joy of giving to our children. So, with the help of our wonderful city government and the kind members of Altrusa International of Richardson, the Ninjas did their magic, and our community is better for it.



Altrusa Helping Family Crisis Centers During KAN Weekend

By Jane Tucker

On September 1st, 2016, **Hope's Door** and **New Beginning Center** merged to partner efforts to specialize in comprehensive intervention and preventative services for members of our community affected by family violence. Both agencies have been organized and working in the community since the 1980's and in the past, our club has helped each center separately with different types of projects. Since the merger, the community outreach committee has organized bigger events to allow for our club to help both centers at the same time.

As part of the Kindness Action Ninja weekend (KAN) on April 8th, our club members collected toiletries and subsidized these donations with additional products to assemble over 350 hygiene packages for both centers. In addition to this, the Community Outreach Committee purchased over 300 diapers, 80 diaper wipes, 2 boxes of Similac baby formula, 18 different baby sleeper outfits, baby socks, baby towels, baby

wash clothes, and enough detergent for 35 loads of wash. For the ladies, three sets of pajamas, some ladies lounging slacks and three boxes of tampons were donated. All things that are needed in crisis situations when clients come to these centers with nothing but the clothes on their back.



All these donations were accepted by Beth Leos, the Volunteer Coordinator for both centers (pictured left).



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