

# Colleyville Woman's Club

## A History of Fun and Fulfillment

The Colleyville Woman's Club (CWC) was founded in 1978 as a Newcomers Club by six women gathered in a Colleyville bank with \$25 donated by the Colleyville Chamber of Commerce, CWC has evolved into a non-profit volunteer service organization, that has raised over \$2.7 million to make better the lives of hundreds of women, children and families in our community. Although founded as a social group, the Colleyville Woman's Club quickly evolved into a service organization dedicated to philanthropy and education. By the mid 80's, the group began to contribute to Women's Haven of Tarrant County, published its first cookbook, A Taste of Tradition, and held its first Holiday Home Tour (1985) and Fashion Show (1986).

In 1982, the "Circle of Hope" theme was adopted to reflect the club's commitment to philanthropy and community support. To allocate its funds, the club instituted an allocations and grant process for distributing fundraising proceeds. In 1990, CWC was the first recipient of the Star-Telegram Northeast Edition's Club of the Year Award. Numerous awards followed. The decade of the 90's brought growth and change. CWC fundraisers grew in scope and profitability and the list of charities CWC supports increased. Today, CWC fundraisers include the Fashion Show, Holiday Home Tour, Black Tie and Boots Optional (cookbook) and Bridge Marathon. With the funds generated, CWC annually awards grants to a variety of charitable agencies and scholarships to students from five local schools. Some are long-time recipients, some are new, and some are one-time special programs.

Not only does CWC give to agencies who apply for funding, but CWC serves as a Partner in Excellence with the Bridges Accelerated Learning Center of the Grapevine-Colleyville ISD, a special high school for students with extenuating family circumstances. In addition to planning and funding graduation activities, CWC awards the CWC Dick Dennison Memorial Scholarship annually to a graduating senior from Bridges. CWC also awards scholarships to graduating seniors from the other area high schools.

In 1995, CWC established its Youth Volunteer Service Awards, a program designed to recognize the young people who will become the volunteers of the future.

CWC shows its heartfelt appreciation for the many businesses and organizations that make its work possible with an annual Grants and Awards luncheon, an event designed to spotlight its community partners. Its annual awards program recognizes outstanding members as well as businesses and organizations that make the work of CWC possible.

While the bylaws of Colleyville Woman's Club define the organization's purpose as exclusively educational and charitable, the club also nurtures its membership. Most monthly general membership meetings feature programs that may be informational, educational, or just plain fun. CWC members may join interest groups, take excursions, learn about volunteer opportunities, and more.

While the Colleyville Woman's Club has been publicly recognized for its ongoing commitment to service, its proudest accomplishment remains the tireless devotion of its membership combined with the gratitude of the worthy charities and individuals it has come to know. Colleyville Woman's Club is a place where individuals can come and become more. It is an organization in which each contribution has value, regardless of scope. In return for this contribution, CWC gives each member this gift— the opportunity to make a difference!



The annual fashion show fundraiser has long been a tradition for CWC. The first fashion show raised a total of \$781 which was used to purchase a commercial freezer for Women's Haven.