

ASID Community Service Project

Written by Laura Bordeaux, ASID, Covenant to Care project Chairwoman

The ASID Design committee has completed the schematic design for the new office interiors for Covenant to Care in Bloomfield, CT. We have set a goal to begin construction the first quarter of 2004.

We were at a stand still at one point this fall, unable to move forward to develop the project finish pallet because we didn't have a commitment from a carpet manufacture to donate their goods to the project. Many ASID members gave generously to the BUY a YARD of CARPET fund, and for that we thank you! However, that fund would have purchased promotional goods only, limiting our carpet choices and quality.

We wanted the best for the staff at Covenant to Care who currently utilize 1950's -60's cast off furniture in a disheveled, cluttered environment. As we began to develop the project, we realized all who worked or volunteered for Covenant to Care always gave their best to Connecticut's abused and neglected children. Therefore, we wanted to do the same for them. Then, Furry Sabato stepped forward to donate any Bentley carpet the design team of Diane Pritt and Donna Auclair of Jung Brannen saw that met our design criteria. The carpet fund will now go towards general construction cost.

That was a turning point for the project and from then on, donations of goods and services began to come in. Wolf Gordon donated the ultra suede wall covering for the reception area, and then Atlantic Plywood and Johnsonite donated surface materials for millwork. Home Depot of Bloomfield will be donating goods and services as well. I approached Commercial Flooring Concepts to donate the labor to install all flooring and Harry committed to whatever we needed! Alex Lanuk not only donated money for the carpet fund, but also a beautiful set of conference chairs. The students at the Universities of Bridgeport and New Haven will be creating original artwork that will be displayed in their new reception area.

We were on a roll, but we were still missing many office suites of furniture. We were seeking commitments from furniture manufacturers and or dealers to donate complete office suites for each of the planned spaces. Office Resources, a Knoll dealer, did agree to supply product for one small office, but the rest remained empty! **Then an amazing thing occurred at the ASID/ IIDA Christmas party.** While I stood in the buffet line, Stanford Office Furniture offered to donate furniture for one office. Then I was asked to speak to all present at the party and explain our need for furniture donations. After I finished, I was approached by many of you expressing interest in the project. **Well the floodgates opened that evening and we received commitments from enough dealers and manufacturers to fill every office with furniture.** First, Office Resources donated a second suite of wood furniture. Following them was Pat McKenzie from Fixtures Furniture who selected another space. Gary Lemire of Gunlock opted for the conference room, while John Charett, from Business Invirons, committed to the resource library room.

What a great industry we are a part of; where our generosity extends not only to the gifts we give to needy children, but also to the ones who make the wish list possible. All those who have stepped forward to bless the Covenant to Care children and staff with they're giving I trust will receive double in return.

If anyone is interested in donating additional goods or services please e-mail me at Bordeaux@ziplink.net