



 Giveback is more than corporate social responsibility. Every company and its associates are presented with opportunities to give; but it's what we do with those opportunities that define us. Giveback is the result of opportunities taken by GEAR FOR SPORTS employees to fill a need, show concern & lend a hand.

Our effOrts

hOw DO we Make a DiffereNCe?

PUPPIES BEHIND BARS

The associates of GEAR FOR SPORTS have begun a unique journey to honor our country's military men and women. We have raised funds to sponsor 6 puppies that will be trained as service dogs for post-9/11 disabled veterans. These puppies are bred, placed for training, and monitored by the non-profit organization, "Puppies Behind Bars" (PBB). PBB trains service dogs for many disabled individuals, but their "Dog Tags" program is focused on placing service dogs with disabled veterans. Prisoners in maximum-security prisons perform the training. Training these puppies gives the prisoners an opportunity to repay society for their crimes. The dogs, in turn, play a critical role in the vets' recovery from disabling physical and emotional injuries of war. The company continues raising funds to sponsor as many puppies as possible.

HARVESTERS BACKSNACK PROGRAM

GEAR FOR SPORTS is a proud community sponsor with Harvesters food bank. GEAR has adopted four local elementary schools that benefit from the Harvester's BackSnak program. Associates volunteer their time to fill and deliver 140 back packs every week with non perishable food and drink items for kids to take home over the weekends. Feedback from the schools has been extremely positive. The children and the teachers greatly appreciate everything GEAR volunteers contribute to the program.
<http://www.harvesters.org>

"I would recommend volunteering at Harvesters to everyone. The Production Art Department volunteered at Harvesters on four different occasions in the months of December and January. It was a great opportunity to see the impact Harvesters makes on the community and for my departments it was chance to work together as a team outside the work environment."

-Dana Christian, Director of Art Production & Art Support Services

COMMUNITY NEEDS

Community Needs is a year long, company-wide fundraising effort that seeks to make emergency funds available to GEAR FOR SPORTS employees' family and friends. Funds are raised throughout the year by employee donations from company breakfasts, bake sales, sample sales and competitions.

RELAY FOR LIFE

The American Cancer Society Relay For Life is a life-changing event that gives everyone in communities across the globe a chance to celebrate the lives of people who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost, and fight back against the disease.

In 2008, GEAR FOR SPORTS began participating in the Lenexa Relay for Life. Each June GEAR employees devote their talents to creating team themes, fundraising and walking for the event. To date, GEAR FOR SPORTS has raised \$23,272.09 for cancer research and awareness.
<http://www.relayforlife.org>

GEAR FOR SPORTS SCHOLARSHIPS

Since 1996 Pam Kasberger (GEAR associate) has opened her heart and her garage to prepare for the GEAR FOR SPORTS Scholarship Sale, which is held twice a year in April and October. With donations of sample and non-sellable garments from GEAR, proceeds of the Scholarship Sale have raised a total of \$250,000. All funds are donated to GEAR scholarships for high school graduates selected from applications of employee families. This year the funds raised will support approximately 20 scholarships to well deserving students.

ADOPT-A-FAMILY

Each holiday season, GEAR FOR SPORTS departments adopt a family. The chosen families usually come from within the company or are associated with a GEAR employee. Families are given gifts to meet their specific needs. Past gifts range from toys, art supplies, clothing, gift certificates, and more. Associates enjoy shopping for their family as teams with funds provided by Community Needs.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Through volunteer labor and donations of money and materials, Habitat builds and rehabilitates simple, decent houses along side homeowner (partner) families. This year, GEAR FOR SPORTS has formed 5 teams totaling 55 associates who will alternate volunteer work for 20 weeks. <http://www.habitat.org>