

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH WORKPLAN

## APRIL 2018

### MISSION

Through the identification and engagement of worthy social and educational organizations, expand the awareness of the charitable side of the Barbershop Harmony Society.

### VISION

The communities in which we live and sing will recognize the Pioneer District and its members as strong and willing supporters of the community and engage us in not only musical, but socially beneficial activities.

### GOAL

The goal of the Community Outreach is to identify and create positive interactions with charitable, non-profit organizations who share our quest for harmony in both music and society.

### OBJECTIVE

Expand connections through service projects conducted within the communities hosting the semi-annual district conventions. By sharing the resources and experience of the society's members, we will improve the wellbeing of all our citizens and bring them the joy of vocal music.

**RP1:** The 2017 October service project, under the leadership of Battle Creek's Stephen Lewis and Randy Campbell, was the third successful Pioneer Project. The Haven of Rest (The Haven), a 3 facility organization providing shelter for homeless men and families, was the recipient of Pioneer's 2017 Fall efforts. In addition to homeless shelter, Haven provides a long term rehabilitation for men and has a special program for homeless veterans.

Needed items for the Haven including twin sheets, pillow cases, towels and washcloths were donated in abundance by Pioneers. Stephen Lewis noted that another storage bin full of donations, not reflected here, were received in the week following the convention.

- Over 100 bath towels
- Over 100 hand towels
- Over 100 washcloths
- Over 50 twin bed sheet sets
- Pillowcases

In response to concerns over our “no cash” policy, an Amazon Wish List was created. This enabled members to purchase items online from a suggested list and have them shipped to one of the project leaders. Instructions were published on the Pionet. Pontiac/Waterford reported an unforeseen problem regarding shipping cost approaching the cost of the items that were purchased. Pioneers were advised of this issue in the March Pionet message regarding the Service Project. Presentation to The Haven was made during the Saturday night show. The Battle Creek team has pledged ongoing support for The Haven in other areas of need.

**RP2:** The Methodist Children's Home Society of Redford, MI, was selected as the recipient of the April 2018 Service Project. Geoff d'Allemand of DOC co-ordinated the collection and delivery of the donations made by Pioneers to the MCHS. Ms. Kathryn Woodstock, Chief Development Director of MCHS, will be on hand Saturday evening to receive our donations. Ms. Anne Merkel, Development Co-ordinator, will be on hand Saturday morning at the Project collection table to answer questions about MCHS

**RP3:** Service Project Sponsorship policy will change with this Fall's convention in Battle Creek. When a chapter hosts a convention for the first time it may choose a charity to be the recipient of that convention's Service Project. When that chapter (1) hosts another convention, a different chapter that has not/probably will not, host a convention will be offered the opportunity to become the Service Project sponsor. In the event that no other chapter chooses to sponsor the Service Project and its recipient, chapter (1) may choose to identify a second charity or continue with its original charity. In the event of co-hosts, those co-hosts will agree on the Project's sponsor and the recipient.

The guidelines for sponsoring a charity through the Pioneer Service Project program:

A chapter that will:

- provide a team to coordinate, with the selected recipient, the identification of that recipient's needs
- handle the collection and distribution of collected donations
- maintain communication with Outreach Director during the course of the project
- either have engaged or will identify a worthy charity with whom it will engage.
- insure the recipient representative attends the Saturday evening session of the convention and will make the presentation.
- maintain an ongoing relationship with the recipient and provide the Outreach Director with engagement updates each convention

**RP4:** With all that is going on in our country, I thought it a good time to circle the wagons and reinforce the bonds we hold within our society, especially In Pioneer. I am presently working on a mechanism that will enable family members and friends to notify a single point of contact in regard to the death of one of our own. Perhaps include member's wife or significant other. That information will be disseminated to all Pionettes and directly to chapter's presidents and membership VPs, as well as, BHS. I would like to present the idea at

the April House of Delegates meeting, hopefully at the time our departed brothers are remembered. I would, as District Director of Outreach, insure that Pioneer recognizes our deceased brethren appropriately. It is my hope that the families will receive timely condolences from our Pioneer members, chapters and BHS, as well.

Please let me know if I am stepping on another's area of responsibility or creating something that might be detrimental to our hobby and District. I think this effort will reflect Dave Montera's Lasting Friendships & Enduring Music theme.

Respectfully,

Roger Boyer – Pioneer Board Member at Large