



## Biggest Heart Application 2017

STAC has continued into 2017 with our commitment to “boots on the ground” community service and grown our participation in outside charities via event participation as well as volunteering and donations. While we were very proud to receive the Biggest Heart Award in the past, STAC is always looking for ways to expand our footprint in the community and to grow philanthropically. Both the board and our membership have gone above and beyond in bringing new ideas on how we can better serve our community. While we are proud of the financial contributions we have made, we pride ourselves on the volunteered time that that our members have taken to better the city of Chicago.

To emphasize our commitment to service, we have maintained our alliance with The Night Ministry, an organization aimed at supporting at risk youth in Chicago with food, health care, shelter, and emotional guidance. We have delivered dinner to ‘The Crib’, the housing complex supported by The Night Ministry, 3 times in the first half of the year, where teens and children rarely get a full meal. Our members also took a Saturday morning to go The Crib to paint the bedrooms for a combined 100+ hours of volunteered time.



*STAC Volunteers painting bedrooms at The Night Ministry shelter for homeless teens nicknamed “The Crib.”*

The STAC board has also continued our partnership with The Ronald McDonald House where we have had the opportunity, on two occasions, to participate in their “Meals from the Heart” program. There, the STAC board members, along with general members, prepare and serve meals to the families who are struggling with a hospitalized child. STAC will commit 80+ volunteer hours as well as covering all costs of the meals in addition to our financial donations to The Ronald McDonald House this year.



*STAC volunteers serve a “Meal from the Heart” at the Ronald McDonald House near Lurie Children’s Hospital in February 2017*

The STAC Women’s Collective has also continued to make strides. The STAC WIF board was proud to participate in our collective efforts to benefit The Foundation for Women Warriors by hosting a raffle at a STAC networking event. The raffle generated \$1,100 for the foundation and helped bring awareness to their efforts.

STAC has also committed to additional community service with Chicago Public Schools. We have arranged and committed to planting flowers and gardening at elementary schools in some of Chicago’s most neglected neighborhoods. All costs will be 100% covered by STAC.

Finally, and most proudly, I would like to update you on the progress of the STAC Fund. As you know, our scholarship fund is funded largely by our two marquee events, the STAC Fund Face Off and the STAC Fund Texas Hold ‘Em Tournament, which were again both hugely successful. We exceeded all growth goals this year and received over 40 applications for scholarships, a 100% increase from 2016, by partnering with several youth organizations to generate awareness around our offering. We awarded 8 individual scholarships totaling \$36,000, a 140% increase from what was given last year. These students will again be honored at this year’s Mid Winter Meeting Conference being held in January.



*STAC Fund Face Off teams get ready for game one.*

Our continued partnership with outside organizations, particularly our pending partnership with The All Stars Project (<https://allstars.org/locations/chicago/>) along with the goals of our very passionate board, will hopefully allow us for continued and greater growth and contributions to our scholarship fund.

STAC greatly appreciates the consideration for this prestigious award, although we assure you our mission of continued community service will grow regardless of recognition.