

Service Committee Projects:  
A Busy Spring, a Busier Summer/Fall

Dream Code Book Drive:

This project stretched from March through June. Our goal was collecting 100 books from several lists provided by Mercy Anih as well as WIL members. Clare Kahn was the coordinator with lots of help from committee members including Sandee Mandel and Lynn McMahon. We collected over 200 books, and many WIL members participated by donating books, contacting libraries for donations and packing. This project is finished.

Leah's Dream:

We filled containers with Shea Butter in July for a project that is essential for fund raising for Leah's Dream.

Welcome the Stranger:

Members provided needed organization and clarity to WTS's vast library of teaching materials. Louise Strawbridge kindly coordinated this hands-on project.

Hygiene Bags for Nationalities Service Center (NSC) and African Family Health Organization (AFAHO)

Bags will be filled in September. Chris Stanley is the coordinator for this. The date is Sept 7th at NSC. The bags are specified for women and children at NSC and women at AFAHO. A WILmail went out during the second week in August with information regarding the supplies. This is a HUGE project and all help is appreciated! Members can participate by contributing supplies and/or filling the bags Sept. 7.

Coalition of African Communities (AFRICOM):

Eric Edi has requested a robust advocacy response from WIL when a bill comes up in the PA Legislature to eliminate the requirements of a cosmetology license for natural hair braiding. We are awaiting his notification, most likely sometime in the fall. Stay tuned. Lynn McMahon is the coordinator for this.

Urban Promise International:

We have had 8 WIL volunteers for mentoring young women from Africa who come to Urban Promise for 1-2 years for education and experience in organizational management, conflict resolution, empowerment, etc. Meryle Melnicoff is still accepting volunteers and will be glad to chat with anyone interested.

Women's Campaign International (WCI):

Lynn Cutler is investigating a project with WCI to expand their board, and renew commitment to their mission from the board and membership. Stay tuned.

As you, the members can see, we have many ways to be involved with Service to Organizations in the community that serve women in the third world, or immigrants and refugee women in Phila. Please check your WIL mails frequently, there is lots to do.