**ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL, INC.**

**OF**

**DOWNTOWN DALLAS 2023-2024**

**PROSPECTIVE MEMBER INFORMATION AND MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

**About Altrusa International, Inc.**

Altrusa is an international non-profit community service organization dedicated to making our

local communities better through leadership, partnership, and service. We strive to create better

communities worldwide. The membership is a diverse group of men and women in both

background and experience. Through Altrusa membership, you have the opportunity to develop

leadership skills, serve your community, and develop both personal and business networks that

make a difference in the lives of our community. Altrusa International, Inc. currently consists of

392 clubs in 19 countries.

**History of Altrusa Downtown Dallas**

Our Club was chartered on September 28, 1982 and was sponsored by the Dallas Evening Club

with only 30 members. Today, we still have two active founding members and a membership of

more than 50 members. We are taught and support the joy of collectively giving service to

others. Our focus is on helping women and children in the Dallas Metroplex and our inspiration

is *"Educating Families for a Better Future".*

**Our Service**

Since 1982, our club's extremely successful fundraising projects have raised over $1 million and

we have distributed those monies to over 50 organizations. Our Club’s members have given

over 94,000 hours of their time in community service. Our service projects the last few years

have included, Attitudes and Attire, Bar None, Doors, Educational First Steps, Foundation for

the Education of Young Women, Genesis Women’s Shelter, Head Start of Greater Dallas,

Human Rights Initiative, Jonathon’s Place, Make-A-Difference Day, Meals on Wheels, Shared

Housing, Story Line and Winston School. Over the past 37 years we have extended the benefits

of Altrusa by the creation of the DFW and North Dallas Clubs. We have also extended our

Altrusa family even further by creating 5 ASTRA (Ability, Service, Training, Responsibility and

Achievement) clubs which are volunteer organizations for young people sponsored by local

Altrusa clubs. These clubs are currently active at Highland Park High School, Southlake Carroll

High School and Irma Rangel Young Women’s Leadership School.

**Our Impact**

Our Club has made an impact on the lives of our members and our community in many ways.

We have created a family of civic-minded people who mentor each other in Altrusa and support

each other in our careers and personal lives. We have raised over $1 million dollars to fund our

service projects and to support non-profit agencies. We have performed numerous hours of

community service for over 50 organizations throughout the Dallas Metroplex.

**Our Network**

One of the ways Altrusa DTD has brought its members together is to provide stimulating

programs at our meetings. We’ve heard remarks from politicians, executives, journalists, health

care consultants, community activists, and presidents of universities. Another way our Club has

supported its members is by giving them the opportunity to meet and make friends with people

from all types of occupations and backgrounds. In addition to attending membership and

committee meetings and participating in service projects, our members have also been

encouraged to attend social gatherings, including our annual retreat, monthly book club,

Adventures of the Month, club happy hours, as well as events for members and for members

and their families.

**Our Fundraising**

Historically, Dessert First has been one of the Club’s primary fundraising event for our service

projects. The event serves to raise money for one primary beneficiary and many other smaller

service projects. Recently our donations to beneficiaries have been almost $80,000 to

Wednesday’s Child, over $65,000 to CASA, and over $70,000 to Kids U. In April 2016 our

members decided to shake things up again by striking out in a new fundraising direction,

focusing on raising money to finance our hands-on community service projects through smaller,

less labor-intensive methods.

**Altrusa International, Inc. District Nine**

We are proud to be in District Nine which is a part of Altrusa International, Inc. and

encompasses the state of Texas. Founded in 1917, Altrusa is relevant to many civic-minded

people who are interested in creating better communities. Last year, Altrusans proudly gave

over a million volunteer hours around the world, including clubs in the United States, Puerto

Rico, Canada, England, Bermuda, Ireland, India, Scotland, New Zealand and Russia.

Several decades ago, Altrusa decided to institute literacy as an area of focus for the

organization; since then, service areas have expanded to include HIV/AIDS and disaster relief.

During our last biennium, Altrusans assisted in relief efforts for the Port-au-Prince, Haiti and

Christchurch, New Zealand earthquakes, as well as the Tsunami in Japan. Most importantly,

Altrusans give their time and resources in areas that are deemed most important in their local

communities.

District Nine provides guidance in leadership development and direction for membership growth;

promotes club service projects, fundraising, and the strengthening of activities that will enhance

the Altrusa image throughout the district; and encourages new clubs. We find a broader network

of professionals all over the State of Texas.

**We welcome other like-minded people that want to network with professionals, give**

**service to others in our community and find lasting friendships along the way.**

**FACTS ABOUT ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL, INC.**

**OF DOWNTOWN DALLAS**

**MEETINGS**

Altrusa International, Inc. of Downtown Dallas meets on the first Tuesdays of each month at

noon at the The Park City Club, 5956 Sherry Lane, Suite 1700, Dallas, TX 75225 At Club

meetings a program is presented, unless the meeting has been designated for club business.

All members are encouraged to invite guests and prospective members to the program

meetings. Business meetings are open to members only.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS**

Altrusa is first and foremost a service club. It is Club policy to encourage all members to perform

community service in a wide variety of activities, sponsored both by the Club and by other

organizations. All time spent in community service should be recorded on the Club’s website, so

that the Club has accurate information about its members’ interests, activities, and “workload.”

Members are expected to perform a minimum of 20 hours of Club Sponsored Community

Service each fiscal year (June-May).

**FUNDRAISING**

The Club sponsors a fundraising project typically every two years. All members of the Club are

required to participate actively by selling tickets, seeking sponsors/donors, and/or supporting the

event by providing service. Proceeds from the fundraiser benefit the Club’s foundation, which

donates money to the event beneficiary and funds the Club’s community service activities.

**CLUB DUES/FEES**

The Altrusa club year is June – May. Members are billed on an annual basis during May for

$375 and they are due June 1. New members will pay $375, plus an additional new member

processing fee of $28 for total of $403.

**New Member Dues/Fees**

The initial $395 in dues/fees paid by a new member covers the following:

* New Member Processing Fees $28
* Annual Membership Fee $423 *Includes: Club Dues to International, Luncheon Meetings, Holiday Party, Annual Meeting*

Based on the date you join the club new member dues are the following:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Join Date** | **New Member Dues** |
| Between April 1 – November 30 | $423 |
| Between December 1 –March 31 | $211.50 |

The new member processing fees are a one-time charge and will not recur. Quarterly payment

plans are possible for members and can be discussed with the club treasurer. If requesting

quarterly payments, a debit or credit card is required to be on file as quarterly payments will be

automatically charged upon due date.

**Other Fees**. During your membership in Altrusa, the following dues may apply:

Member Charges for Holiday Party and Annual Meeting. For both the holiday party and

annual meeting held in either December or January and the annual meeting held in May,

all members are charged a "base charge" equal to a regular lunch charge (currently

$30.00) whether or not they attend the party or meeting. The base charge cost is

included in the annual dues. The thought is that the holiday party and annual meeting

replace the program lunch meetings for these months and this helps to subsidize the

costs of these events at the same rate as a regular lunch. For this reason, the charges

for members attending the holiday party and annual meeting will be charged an

additional fee if so approved by the membership to be paid prior to attendance of the

event.

Guest Charges for Meals and Parties. Unless a guest pays for charges at the event,

when you make a reservation for a guest, you will be charged for their lunch ($24) or

event cost. For the holiday party in January 2023, the guest charge will include the full

cost of the event of $55. Guest charges will be added to the member’s invoice which will

be due and payable prior to the event.

Invoices. Members are responsible for payment upon attendance of special events

including night meetings, annual meeting and holiday party. Your payment is your

reservation. Members are billed annually for membership dues in the month of May and

payment is due on June 1st.

Guest Charges for Luncheon Meals. Unless a guest pays for charges at the event, when

you make a reservation for a guest, you will be charged for their lunch ($30.00) or event

cost.

Member Charges for Holiday Party. For the holiday party in December and/or January

the cost of any guest who is not an Altrusa member.

**Altrusa International, Inc. of Downtown Dallas**

**Contact and Committee Information for Prospective Members 2023-2024**

**Membership VP:** Susan Melnick, 214-460-556, [intownrealtor@gmail.com](mailto:intownrealtor@gmail.com)

**Our Club Website**: www.altrusadtd.com

Our Club has four committees: Service, Fundraising, Membership and Communications. Each committee is headed by a Vice President in the respective area, who also serves on the Board of Directors. The following is a brief description of the work done by each committee.

**Service Committee**

Recommends to the Club a program of service projects each year Coordinates all service projects as they are scheduled throughout the year Coordinates ASTRA, Altrusa’s extension into local high schools.

**Fundraising Committee**

Coordinates all aspects of the Club’s annual fundraising event, Dessert First, and gourmet chocolate sales Provides sales training to members Conducts oversight of sales through the Club’s website.

**Membership Committee**

Coordinates efforts to recruit new members Coordinates Altrusa Accent and Auction Item presentations Promotes education of new members about Club structure and function through liaison and mentor programs.

**Communications Committee**

Manages all communications about Club members and activities Maintains permanent Club records for current and future use Prepares scrapbook of Club year for presentation to the President.