



Quail Creek X-tra

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ONGOING EFFORTS OF TWOQC RECOGNIZED AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

Make a Difference Day is the nation's largest day of service, bringing together millions of Americans to volunteer in their local neighborhoods and communities. It was created in 1992 by Gannett Co., Inc.'s USA WEEKEND Magazine along with partners Newman's Own®, Inc. and Points of Light. Newman's Own donated a total of \$130,000, awarding ten Make a Difference Day honorees and three City Award winners with \$10,000 each to continue their efforts.

This year's honorees were selected from thousands of nationwide volunteer initiatives that took place October 26, 2013. According to the event's Master of Ceremonies Jenna Bush Hager, this year's winners embraced the spirit of volunteerism with efforts ranging from kids creating bed kits for underprivileged kids to eye surgeons performing cataract surgery free of charge for needy agricultural workers. These efforts have created a lasting and meaningful impact on their



Peggy McGee, President of The Women of Quail Creek, accepted a \$10,000 check for Southern Arizona VA Healthcare System. L-R: Jim Lanahan, Editor-in-Chief, USA Weekend; Peggy McGee; Tom Indoe, President/COO, Newman's Own; and Tracy Hoover, President, Points of Light.

communities. The monetary awards will help ensure that the honorees are able to continue their projects.

Four years in a row, The Women of Quail Creek have held a clothing drive for homeless veterans in the Tucson area, with the last three years being part of the national Make A Difference Day program. On April 10, 2014, in Washington, DC, their efforts were recognized nationally when TWOQC President Peggy McGee was presented a check for \$10,000 that will be used to purchase furniture for homeless veterans as they transition to a more positive lifestyle and move into housing and eventually re-enter

the job market.

The youngest recipient was a ten-year-old girl, and two others were in their teens. Peggy said it was great to see young people have such caring hearts to help others, because it made her feel more secure that our country will be in good hands in the future.

In her remarks, Peggy told officials that it was the generosity of the Quail Creek community that

made the day the success that it was. She reiterated that, although she first conceived of the idea for the clothing drive when she started knitting hats on a loom during a long flight, it was the support of TWOQC members that has kept it going and growing. The annual clothing drive requires the efforts of many TWOQC members and their spouses to sort, bag, and deliver the donations.

On April 17, Peggy presented the check to the director of the Southern Arizona Veterans Health System.