WE BELIEVE...

TESTIMONIALS

LEADING TO A BETTER COMMUNITY

We believe that everyone is able to make a positive difference to the world around them. We can each volunteer our time, or donate our money, towards worthy causes. Our individual efforts are small, but they matter.

We can achieve even more when we bring people together. For over 100 years Altrusa clubs have collected members from varying occupations and lifestyles, all sharing an interest in community service. We enjoy the friendship, fun and satisfaction that comes from working together for the benefit of others.

Each club develops a program that is tailored to local needs, undertaking a variety of hands-on service and fundraising projects each year. One of our shared goals as an organization is to improve literacy, which we believe is the key to opportunity.

Through Altrusa activities we develop our leadership skills in a supportive environment. We welcome new ideas and aim to provide enough flexibility so that our members can give their time in a way that works for them.

Why choose Altrusa?

I like that we can give of our talents, time or treasure. Some service organizations only focus on one of them.

Denise Sargent, Altrusa International of Ames, Iowa, USA

The simplicity and the ease with which Altrusans serve made me choose Altrusa.

Poverty Vaswani, Altrusa International of Madras, India

With Altrusa it is flexible with what you’ve got going on in your life, to help out more sometimes and less at other times when you’re busy.

Fiona Daws, Altrusa International of Queenstown, New Zealand
Days for Girls

Altrusa International, Inc. and Days for Girls have come together in partnership to improve the lives of women and girls internationally.

Days for Girls (DFG) is creating a world with dignity, health, and opportunity for all, through sustainable menstrual care solutions and health education. They envision a world where girls can attend school, pursue opportunities and succeed even when they have their periods.

Together Altrusa and DFG can provide girls and women in the world with essential health education, sustainable and affordable feminine products, break the silence of shame, and change the narrative to one of celebration and pride. Individual Altrusa clubs can support DFG through online fundraising, collecting supplies for kits, connecting with local DFG chapters, or saving for kits.

The DFG movement has reached more than one million girls and women and counting. Altrusa International will help to reach “Every Girl, Everywhere, Period.”
**ALTRUSANS IN ACTION**

**Active in Service**

**ALTRUSA AT THE U.N.**

**Altrusa at the United Nations**

Since 1946, Altrusa has held observer status at the United Nations (UN). In 1976, our UN membership was upgraded to the level of an NGO (Non-Governmental Organization) in consultative status with ECOSOC, the Economic and Social Council. In this capacity, we join together with other NGOs, forming a community of NGOs called CONGO (Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations), empowered to attend and participate in UN briefings and conferences related solely to global economic and social concerns.

In each biennium, the International Board appoints representatives to attend and monitor United Nations meetings and briefings. Altrusa’s representatives attend weekly briefings conducted by DPCO (the UN Department of Public Information for NGOs). In addition, they can and do serve on the many NGO committees formed to further the improvement of the human condition worldwide.

**Leading in Literacy**
WHERE CAN YOU FIND US?

Want to know more?

Find a club near you!
History

Altrusa International was founded in Nashville, Tennessee in 1917, originally as Altrusa Institute. During that time, a record number of women were going to work during World War I, and there was a need for women's civic organizations. Dr. Alfred Durham began organizing clubs throughout Nashville, TN, Louisville, KY, and Dayton, OH, before he moved on to Indianapolis, IN, where he met Mamie L. Bass.

Mamie L. Bass had served as the Superintendent of the Women's Division of the United States Employment Services, and was a partner in her brother's architecture firm. While she admired Dr. Durham's Institute, Bass felt that Altrusa could serve a higher purpose. In June 1918, when Altrusa held its first convention in Indianapolis, Mamie L. Bass's vision became reality. The Altrusa Institute became a classified service organization for women.

In 1935, Altrusa became international when the first club in Mexico was organized. Since that first step over US borders, Altrusa moved into Puerto Rico, Chile, Ecuador, Mexico, India, Korea, Russia, Ukraine, Ireland, Great Britain, Bermuda, Canada, and New Zealand.

In 1946, Altrusa sent its first representative to the United Nations. In 1962, Altrusa International established the Altrusa International Foundation. In 1966, the organization established ASTRA.
Altrusa is a network of clubs that each serve their community. Our clubs are free to determine their own service projects and fundraising efforts, tailored to local needs.

The members of our clubs, known as Altrusans, are energetic, service-minded people of all ages and ethnicities. Most of us are women, as Altrusa was founded in 1937 as a women’s organization, but we have welcomed men to our membership for over a decade.

To learn more about Altrusa, find your nearest club on the map below.
Altrusa Districts

District One
Bermuda, Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Quebec

District Two
Pennsylvania, New York, District of Columbia, Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland

District Three
Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina

District Four
Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee
Charter a Club

If you can’t find a club in your area, we’d be thrilled to help you start one!

We know that it may seem daunting to start from scratch, but you won’t be alone. We have an International New Club Building Committee who are dedicated to mentoring people like you. Our existing resources will help you to advertise Altrusa in your community, share information about our organization, determine the service needs of your area, launch new projects, teach you the ins and outs of Altrusa, and ultimately charter your club. We will support you, so that you can inspire others to join you in service.

Whether you’re a confident or aspiring leader, please reach out to us at altrusa@altrusa.org
Events

Each year, each District of Altrusa International hosts a conference for the members in that area. These events are an opportunity for fun, educational workshops, networking, sharing, skill building, electing leadership, and celebrating our accomplishments.

Altrusa conferences run through April and May annually. The current schedule is shared below, with links to respective District websites for more information.

Every second year, Altrusa International holds a convention for the entire membership, with a similar purpose to District Conference but on a larger scale.

The next Altrusa International Convention is 17 – 20 July 2019 at the Grand Sierra Resort and Casino, Reno, Nevada.
DISTRICT CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

UN INTERNATIONAL DAYS OBSERVED
Are you a young person who wants to make a difference in your community?

In ASTRA we believe that age is no barrier to being able to improve the lives of others. No matter how old you are, you have the power to create positive change!

ASTRA provides community service opportunities for youth, so that you can use your time and talents to help people. In ASTRA you will form lasting friendships, develop your leadership skills, and interact with other local volunteers on projects of lasting benefit.

An Altrusa club acts as the sponsor for an ASTRA club, which are usually connected to a school. ASTRA includes a wide age range from middle school and high school to college students. Altrusa International supports ASTRA by recognizing their service through awards, providing scholarships, and issuing graduation cords.
ASTRA is an acronym that summarizes what we are about. We use our ABILITIES to SERVE our community. We participate in TRAINING that improves our leadership skills and take RESPONSIBILITY for our work together. Our members are proud of ACHIEVEMENTS that make a real difference to our world.
To learn more about Astra, find your nearest club on the map below.

Charter a Club

If you can't find a club in your area, we'd be thrilled to help you start one!

Take a look for the contact details of your local Astra club or drop a note to our Astra International office staff at astra@altrusa.org.
Support your Altrusa Foundation with a gift that gives back to your communities.

This year, the Altrusa International Foundation will:

- distribute Disaster Relief Funds to support residents left devastated in the wake of recent natural disasters
- support students with $10,000 in ASTRA academic scholarships
- provide children's camps with $10,000 in Club 21 Program grants to give children a fun and safe place to be a kid while they battle disease and disability
- distribute $12,000 from the Club 21 Program to international projects supporting communities in Ghana and Mali with healthcare education and services
- acknowledge Altrusa Clubs with Letha H. Brown Literacy, Dr. Nina Fay Calhoun International Relations, and Manzia L. Bass service awards
- celebrate and support Altrusa Clubs with $100,000 in community service grants

Thank you for your support.
• The new...

Districtfivealtrusa.org
Altrusa is a network of clubs that each serve their community. Our clubs are free to determine their own service projects and fundraising efforts, tailored to local needs.

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Altrusa District Five covers Ohio and Michigan. To learn more about Altrusa, find your nearest club below.
Michigan

Battle Creek

Branch County

Grand Rapids

Greater Birmingham
News & Events

District Service Bulletin (DSB)
A District publication that includes information from your District Board and District Chairs, details of upcoming District Events, and updates from the Altrusa Clubs in your area.

Altrusa Compass
An International publication that includes information from your International Board and International Chairs, updates from the International Office, and details of International Convention.

LATEST DISTRICT FIVE DSB
LATEST ALTRUSA COMPASS
District Conference

Held annually in Spring, our District Conference is an opportunity for fun, educational workshops, networking, sharing, skill building, electing leadership, and celebrating our accomplishments.

The next District Five Conference will be held April 27 – 29, 2018.

This conference is hosted by the Highland County OH club and the event will take place at the Roberts Centre, Wilmington, OH.

CALL TO CONFERENCE
International Convention

Every second year, Altrusa International holds a convention for the entire membership, with a similar purpose to District Conference but on a larger scale. The four-day program includes business meetings, a variety of workshops, keynote speakers, service projects, recognition through awards, election of international leadership, opportunities to connect and socialize with Altrusans from across the world, and a lot of fun!

The next Altrusa International Convention is July 17 – 20, 2019 at the Grand Sierra Resort and Casino, Reno, Nevada.
Member Log In – same as usual for now
THANK YOU!