

Role Call

Reaching Out Lifting to Excellence

Always on a ROLE

Did you know that Role members rarely take a break? We are mothers, sisters, caretakers, professionals, counselors, wives, daughters, teachers, crafters, students, nurses, managers, business owners and so much more. Despite our busy lives, ROLE women are always taking the time to give back to our community. Here are a few of the activities we have been busy with:

- Decorating Soulful Prairies for the Farm to Table Dinner
- Helping a fellow ROLE member prepare her home for sale
- Selling Kiwanis peanuts
- Sewing bags for and volunteering at the Artisan's Market
- Decorating for the Countryside Unitarian Universalist Church fundraiser

This holiday season, we hope that all of you, our ROLE members, can take a break and reflect on all the wonderful work you have done.

Because of you, someone's life is a bit brighter. **Thank you for always being on a role!**



Above from left: Charlotte Bloom a regular, hard working, volunteer at our Roots Community Garden and Christina Johnson using her crafty talents at our Artisan's Market

Bidding Farewell to our ROLE Models

We will greatly miss three of our ROLE members during this holiday season. Susan Strunk, Charlotte Bloom, and Christina Johnson were three of our very active ROLE members and have gone on to new chapters in their lives. Susan recently retired as director of the Palatine Public Library and is now living in South Carolina. Susan became a grandmother this past November with the birth of her granddaughter, Greta Katherine. Susan recently told us, "I am already lamenting that I will miss the ROLE cookie exchange. I always love that event and the Mother's Day tea. I do miss the connections in Palatine but not the weather." We will miss you too, Susan. Happy Retirement!

Charlotte moved to Alabama to be closer to her family. Charlotte was the POC grant writer and her talented writing skills were responsible for grant monies benefitting the POC. While she will miss the POC and the authentic Mexican food available in Palatine, she is looking forward to enjoying the Appalachian Mountains, canoeing, enjoying nature and time with family. We will miss you Charlotte!

Christina Johnson served on our board of directors while working in the Village of Palatine and was a mentor in our Family Learning Lab. Each summer she volunteered in our ICOMPETE Summer Camp. Christina recently took a job in Roselle. Congratulations on your new job Christina!

Meet Lina Quishpe and Ceci Robles. On any given day, you will find them surrounded by little ones, soothing fussy babies and engaging preschoolers. They have been our trustworthy childcare providers for over 12 years. But, Lina and Ceci are so much more! Before ROLE was created and before we logged volunteer hours, Ceci and Lina were already role models. They are a wealth of information and support that parents have come to rely on. From child development to clothing for a child, Ceci and Lina connect parents with the help they need. But this is not all they do. Lina and Ceci embody ROLE's core mission by "seeing a need and filling the need". On any given day you will find them working childcare, speaking to parents, setting-up for provider programs, connecting walk-ins with services, sprucing up the lobby, being extra hands for service providers and volunteering in almost all ROLE activities. Thank you Lina and Ceci for everything you do for the POC. It is because of women like you, that the POC and ROLE can change people's lives! Thank you!

From left, Lina and Ceci welcome children to childcare and are a trusted source of information for parents and clients.

Spreading Holiday Cheer! This season we have been blessed with kindness from ROLE members and agencies that wish to support the mission of ROLE. A big hug and a thank you to all of you for making this holiday season a spectacular one!

Deer Grove Covenant Church for winter clothing for children
Denise Florszak for donating jewelry gifts and a crock pot for the Lunch and Learn Raffle
Countryside Unitarian Universalist Church for decorating the CRC
Bridget Witt of Palatine Bank and Trust for once again securing winter coats for children
Chris Anderson for a Christmas tree donation
Courtney Renwick, Kathy Millin, Ana Flores, Lupe Ayala and Maria Sanchez for helping Linda Bruce, ROLE member and owner of Soulful Prairies prepare for her wreath making event

