



COSMOPOLITAN INTERNATIONAL

THE CLUB THAT FIGHTS DIABETES



Tracy Miller



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Thankful

What are you thankful for? As our US friends celebrate the Thanksgiving season, we have an opportunity to think about our blessings and what we are thankful for. What is on your list? **Your family? Friends? Is Cosmopolitan on your list?**

Most of us would agree that we as a nation are abundantly blessed. The joy of everyday living, the opportunities that we have to touch others' lives, and the fulfillment that comes from knowing we have truly made a difference in our world serve to inspire us, even in difficult times. Numerous Cosmos have lost loved ones in recent weeks and months, and our hearts go out to them and their families. The impact of the economic downturn to clubs and our entire organization still is evident. And we continue to look for ways to reach out to others to share our passion and our enthusiasm for one day erasing diabetes from our world.

Even in the face of challenge, our members remain at the heart of everything Cosmopolitan does. Be sure to visit www.cosmopolitan.org, to find **several new brochures** designed to help bolster our membership (Resources/Downloadable Documents/Brochures and Forms). In an effort to make these brochures as cost-effective as possible, clubs may download the brochures and have them printed locally. Here you also will find a PowerPoint presentation on how to hold a successful membership event, along with a form to help track guest information at your events. If your club is unable to download these documents, please contact Tracy Miller, Executive Director, at headquarters@cosmopolitan.org or call 717-295-7142. We want to give you all the tools you need to be successful in sharing our organization with others.

New this month!

Each month, this newsletter will highlight an important benefit of membership in our international organization. This month's benefit: Strength in Unity and Purpose. Look at what we have done in Columbia, EVMS, Cornbelt Diabetes Connection, Crusader Clinic, Canada, and our other diabetes programs! There is strength in numbers when we are working toward a common goal. Only when WORKING & SERVING TOGETHER can we have the greatest impact in funding diabetes research.

Alert!

On January 2, 2013, the 'American Taxpayer Relief Act' was signed into law. This bill retroactively extends many of the sunset provisions on certain tax laws as well as permanently patching the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT). However, certain items were extended only until December 31, 2013, and without additional extension which appears unlikely, these items will expire. One of these expiring items could greatly benefit Cosmopolitan is the IRA distributions to charities. The current rules permit taxpayers over age 70 1/2 to make **tax free IRA distributions** of up to \$100,000 **if donated to charity**. Under current IRS rules, taxpayers this age or older are required to withdraw a minimum amount from IRAs each year. Obviously, a tax free withdrawal is a better option. This may be a wonderful opportunity for qualified taxpayers (over 70 1/2) ... either Cosmos or their families or friends ... *to make a tax free donation from their IRA* to the Cosmopolitan Diabetes Foundation, a 501(c)3 organization. Remember, this opportunity ends December 31st which is only a few weeks away. For more information, contact Cosmopolitan headquarters at headquarters@cosmopolitan.org or 717-295-7142.

In closing during this Thanksgiving season, let us see the good in our world, in each other, and in our circumstances. Let us show compassion and kindness and remember the positive difference that we – together – are making in our world.

A very happy and blessed Thanksgiving to all.



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