



Mitsubishi Electric Organized Volunteer Efforts

**2010 M.O.V.E. Award Goes to
PEACH Committee at MDEA/Braselton
Five Other Outstanding Projects**

Six outstanding projects were nominated for this year's Mitsubishi Electric America Foundation M.O.V.E. Award, with the winner selected by a panel of judges composed of current and former Employee Representatives. Speaking of the six nominated projects, judges remarked:

“Great projects during difficult times, nice to see people doing good!”

“...all the projects are very worthwhile and I commend all of the committees and volunteers on their outstanding efforts!”

The M.O.V.E. Award is given annually to the most outstanding volunteer project organized by employees of a Mitsubishi Electric company in the U.S. This year, **Hallway Golf**, organized by the **PEACH Committee** of MDEA/Braselton, GA, was named the recipient of the 2010 Award.

The Hallway Golf project, originally developed by the HOPE Team at MDEA/Irvine, was adopted as a national fundraiser by committees across the country. The Braselton location of MDEA made the event their own by partnering with the Special Education Department of the Murray O. Kennedy Elementary School. The project was organized with two objectives in mind:

1. Assist the Kennedy School to buy adaptive playground equipment for kids in the Special Education Program.
2. Have a wonderful day with co-workers, vendors and the children.

By all measures PEACH succeeded in reaching their goals. Nearly every employee volunteered, vendors participated, and 40 children visited the facility to play golf. The event raised more than \$6,000 for the school toward the purchase of adaptive equipment. MDEA received an award from the local school district and was mentioned in an article in the newspaper. However, the impact the event made on the volunteers was even more important. They recognized the school's need and rose to the challenge to meet it. They also recognized the ability of every child and helped by giving their love. In choosing this project, judges said:

“The amount of employee involvement and enthusiasm is outstanding!”

“Inspirational because it demonstrates employee dedication and a focus on inclusion within the local school district.”

“Everything was focused towards the children.”

“This project just seemed to have so much HEART and love!”

The MOVE Award consists of a crystal trophy and a \$1,000 donation to the benefiting charity, which will be presented to PEACH Committee representatives at the June 6th awards dinner during the MEAF Volunteer Leadership Workshop in Atlanta, GA. All the nominated projects will be honored at that time.

The five other exceptional projects – each of which demonstrated volunteer commitment and served an important need – are:

Project name: Relay for Life Project
Organized by: **ACTiVE Committee, MEUS/Cypress, CA**
Beneficiary: American Cancer Society
Activity: To bring new ideas to a recurring project, the ACTiVE Committee dedicated the month of June to the fight against cancer, raising over \$4,000 for ACS. They sold hot dogs and caramel apple slices; ran a balloon-popping dart game called "Kill the Cancer;" and gave away "Cancer Sucks" suckers. The committee won "Best Decorated Booth."
Special note: MEUS employee and ACTiVE Committee member, and survivor Diana McNeil won "The Most Money Raised by an Individual" at the event.

Project name: Miracle League – The Start of a Great Friendship
Organized by: **HOPE Committee, MEPPi/Warrendale, PA**
Beneficiary: Miracle League of Southwestern Pennsylvania
Activity: To fulfill a goal to spend time working with children with disabilities (rather than focusing solely on fundraising), the HOPE Committee spent the year hosting "MEPPi Day" events at the Miracle League baseball field—which MEPPi helped fund with \$25,000. MEPPi volunteers acted as hosts, greeters and umpires for young baseball players with disabilities.
Special note: To encourage participation, HOPE hosted a "Lunch and Learn" session for employees to learn about Miracle League and to sign up as volunteers.

Project name: Senior Work Day
Organized by: **LOVE Committee, MEUS/Suwanee, GA**
Beneficiary: Gwinnett County Senior Services
Activity: After discovering that Gwinnett County Senior Services was in need of volunteers to assist local senior citizens living on their

own, the LOVE Committee volunteered at two households, completing a wide variety of yard work and home repairs. The county was so impressed, that they have asked LOVE to partner with them again in the future!

Special note: Committee members were joined by family members for the project, including one adult child with disabilities, who fully participated.

Project name: Community Tree Giveaway Project
Organized by: **MASH Committee, MEAA/Maysville, KY**
Beneficiary: Mason County Conservation District
Activity: One of the annual goals for Maysville's Environmental Team was to help plant trees in the local community, in order to reduce the community's carbon footprint. After consulting with local tree experts from the Kentucky Division of Forestry, the committee learned that due to the tight economic conditions, the Mason County Conservation District would not have the funds to do their annual 5th Grade Tree Giveaway. MASH donated the money to purchase 1000 trees (which the Forestry office matched, for a total of 2000 trees), and each 5th grader in the county received a tree to plant.

Special note: MASH worked with local high school students to sort and prepare each of the 2000 trees for delivery to local schools.

Project name: Including Samuel Workshop
Organized by: **VISION Committee, MEAU/Vernon Hills, IL**
Beneficiary: SEDOL and Special Leisure Services Foundation
Activity: In an effort to increase employee awareness of inclusion and MEAF's national initiative, MEAU hosted an Including Samuel Workshop. Employees were invited to attend the 2-day hour-long sessions with lunch included. Attendees participated in both days' discussions and watched the "Including Samuel" documentary by Dan Habib. The VISION Committee asked representatives from Special Education District of Lake County (SEDOL) and Special Leisure Services Foundation (SLSF) to host a discussion panel before and after the film. The disability panel professionally addressed many concerns including inclusion in the workplace, referencing VISION's annual Disability Mentoring Day event.

Special note: VISION will host another Including Samuel Workshop in the fall for MEAU management.

Congratulations to all the nominees—when we volunteer, we all win!!!