

TELICO WORKING TOGETHER - A COORDINATED EFFORT TO IMPROVE THE COMMUNITY

Seven organizations operating independently, each accomplishing their organizational missions, can do a lot of good for the community. But when they band together to help each other accomplish those same missions, the synergy generated by those relationships magnifies the impact each can have. This is exactly the mission of the newly formed Tellico Working Together Group. While still in the start-up stage generating plans and ideas, the future looks very promising. The Tellico Working Together initiative will debut at the POA Fall Festival on Friday, October 25th in the rear parking lot of the Community Church between 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. Free hot dogs, cookies and beverages will be provided.

The seven member Tellico Village organizations, four service clubs and three churches, include the Lions, Kiwanis, Rotary, the Women's Club (GFWC), the Community Church, the First Baptist Church and the Shepherd of the Lake Lutheran Church. Collectively, their membership represents a significant percentage of the population of Tellico Village. Each has a different mission focus area. For the Kiwanis it is children; the Lions, vision and sight, the Rotary is schools and dental health; the Women's club focuses on social issues affecting women and families in the community; and the three churches on serving the spiritual needs of their congregants as well as filling unmet needs in various social and economic areas in Loudon County

The thrust of the cooperative effort is two-fold. First to assist in better accomplishing each other's mission focus efforts. For example, the other clubs will assist the Lions in their used eyeglass collections. Another example would be the clubs collecting food to support a church-sponsored collection effort for the Good Samaritan Center. The second area of cooperation would be in augmenting personnel for specific tasks. As the organization grows, more areas of cooperation will be discovered and be a point of focus.

The introduction of this new Tellico Working Together organization, as mentioned above, will be as part of the POA Fall Festival. The event's primary focus will be on providing attendees with information on various local community support programs, activities and events in the Village, civic club programs and activities in which residents may want to participate, and an overview of the POA marketing campaign designed to promote the growth of the Village. In addition to POA-sponsored information booths, each of the members of Tellico Working Together will have booths to provide information about their organizations and its mission within the local area.

In addition to the informational aspect of the Festival, there will also be free food, and beverages available. There will also be live music and last but not least, a chance, for a small fee, to dunk several village notables in a water tank. Attendees are asked to bring some non-perishable food for the Good Samaritan center as well as used eyeglasses and hearing aids which will be collected at the event by the Lions club.

A good time is planned for POA Fall Festival and the launching of the Tellico Working Together group. Come join in the fun and learn what will hopefully, prove to be a start to a program that will add immeasurably to the quality of life in our community.