

100 Dress Campaign

Our Greater Area Memphis Chapter has kicked off a new service opportunity. At our spring seminar Tiffany Smith from Dress for Success spoke on the program in Memphis. The purpose is to help the unemployed find jobs. They help with interviewing skills, understanding the corporate culture and dress them for the interview. Once a job is obtained they help them dress for an entire week.

Our goal is help the Dress for Success Foundation by donating 100 dresses. Each of us has clothing in our closet that just sits—too large too small, wrong color. Please take the time to go through your clothing and donate to the GMAC-AACN. We are collecting business suits, jackets, skirts, slacks, blouses, unopened panty hose, nearly new shoes, scarves, purses and jewelry.

If you can help, bring your donation to a GMAC function, and we will deliver it to Dress for Success. One of AACN's goals is to give to the community, and this is one way to become involved. We will count down from 100 marking our success for the 100 dresses. Any questions should be e-mailed to Carolyn Langstraat @ carolysupermom@hotmail.com.

The title for this program came from a book entitled The 100 Dresses. A young, impoverished girl was teased each day at school because she wore the same dress day after day. She would respond she had 100 dresses. Then each night at home she would draw a picture of a dress of her dreams until she had drawn 100 different dresses. There was an artists contest at the school. The girl entered and won the contest with her paintings of the 100 dresses. The incredible talent of this young girl was overshadowed by her poverty at the beginning. But winning the contest she opened the doors to a successful career in art.

Our hope is to help someone in our community open a door to a better future by starting with a new dress.

Carolyn Langstraat