Spouses' Club reaches out to help local group

Suzanne Reynolds, Army War College Public Affairs Office

Carlisle Barracks Spouses' Club reaches out to help local organization

A check for $1,600 was presented to Shari Bellish, executive director, Carlisle C.A.R.E.S. by Amy Turner, president, Carlisle Barracks Spouses' Club, at a Spouses' Club luncheon, Wednesday, Nov. 12 at the Letort View Community Center. Photo by Tony Gray.

Nov. 13., 2008 - Carlisle C.A.R.E.S. (Combined Area Resources for Emergency Shelter) was the recipient of a check in the amount of $1,600 from the Carlisle Barracks Spouses' Club on Wednesday, Nov. 12.

Amy Turner, president of the Spouses' Club presented the check to C.A.R.E.S. Executive Director, Shari Bellish at a luncheon held at the Letort View Community Center.

"The check could not have come at a better time," said Bellish. "The economy has impacted so much on donations." "This money will be used to put up four families for a week," she said.

"Times are tough this year," said Tony Gray, the Club's Outreach Chairman. "Carlisle C.A.R.E.S. has seen a 70 percent increase in the number of local homeless they are supporting, of which nearly a third are veterans."

"On the day after Veterans Day and the eve of the holiday season, we felt compelled to come to the aid of those with the greatest need," he said.

According to Gray, the new selection criteria for organizations interested in requesting outreach

funds is to provide for health and welfare, some vocational-type training, provide health and wellness to Veterans and their families, and be located within a 10-mile radius of Carlisle Barracks.

Also new this year, organizations may submit emergency requests for funds at any time. The official deadline for funding requests is March 12, 2009. Requests for applications may be e-mailed to: tony_gray_mail@yahoo.com

The Spouses' Club next fundraising event will be the annual live and silent Auction held on March 20, 2009.