



Readers Respond

Give Kids the World Gets Publicity

After we published a story about the Florida charitable organization Give Kids the World [see April 2007 issue], Frank Eller thanked us for the publicity:

"We greatly appreciate the time and effort you have invested in writing the GKTW article for your publication. We can't wait to share it with our partners."

We also heard from someone remembered the industry working with GKTW long before 1997.

"I read with more than a little interest your article on the Give Kids the World Village. They truly are a magnificent organization, and Henri Landwirth is an amazing individual. But to state that our industry started to support them in 1997-98, shortchanges our efforts by nearly 10 years. It was the summer of 1988 that FLBMDA (predecessor of FBMA) decided to adopt GKTW as a cause worthy of support. Over the next several years, more than a quarter million dollars was raised through golf tournaments, auctions and other activities. In the early 90s, component manufacturers from throughout the state donated trusses for the village's first expansion—if memory serves me correct, it was between 11 and 17 buildings. We delivered these trusses via a caravan starting in South Florida, and I recall seeing the local news coverage of the arrival of these trucks at the village. I probably have the news tape somewhere in my "stuff." I also recall Don Smyth of Smyth Lumber (now a part of Stock) offering to send building materials, at cost, for any lumber dealer that wished to donate. Logistically this was a huge help for everyone. I recall this so vividly because it was during a time I was very active with FBMA. So glad to see the continued support—they deserve it!" —Bob Allen, ITW Building Components Group

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Dear Reader:

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