



The Foundation

Since its inception in 1939, the Columbian Club has enjoyed a history of providing much-needed financial support to a variety of charitable organizations. Each year, thousands of dollars have been raised to support Italian-American service agencies and other worthwhile agencies and causes. The financial results of the Club's many successful fund raising efforts have been distributed to selected charities in accordance with the Club's objectives.

In 1987, the Columbian Club Charitable Foundation was created to establish a formal entity which would be recognized as a bona fide vehicle for making charitable contributions. The Foundation is approved by the United States Internal Revenue Service as an exempt foundation under code section 501 (c) (3). Contributions made to the Columbian Club Charitable Foundation are tax-deductible.

The Foundation is administered by trustees composed of ten trustees and the current president of the Columbian Club. From time to time, the trustees appoint advisors from the Columbian Club general membership. These trustees and committee members serve without pay or compensation. In accordance with Foundation by-laws, no part of the principal or income of the Foundation is permitted to benefit any donor, trustee or advisor. Therefore, you can be assured that virtually the entire amount of your donation will be distributed to charities.

The Club

In September, 1939, eight Italian-American businessmen, founded the Columbian Commercial Club as a means of staving off the difficult times the Depression brought and creating an atmosphere of mutual support and goodwill. Today, the Columbian Club of Chicago is recognized as a prestigious organization of Italian-American business leaders limited to 100 active members representing virtually every business and profession.

Through the years, the Columbian Club and its members have flourished as they've helped meet the

social and professional needs of their changing community. More than half a century later, the goals and objectives of the club still reflect the brotherhood and ideals of its founders. The Columbian Club continues to promote the adaptation and application of higher social, business and professional standards; provide a practical means to form endearing friendships, render humanitarian service and build a better community; and cooperate in creating and maintaining the high idealism which makes possible the propagation of justice, patriotism and goodwill.