



Pierre Deux ▲

SAVE THE CHILDREN (savethechildren.org)
 Pierre Deux celebrates its 40th anniversary with a toile tote, \$40. Ten percent of proceeds from the sale go to Save the Children, an organization that contributes to health, education, and life-saving efforts for children around the world. (pierredeux.com)

give a little piece of your heart



Harry Barker

PET HELPERS (pethelpers.org)
 Former Ford model Carol Perkins started sewing pillows and quilts for dogs as a form of therapy after a life-threatening brain tumor. Her South Carolina company, Harry Barker, pays disabled workers at the Charleston Disability's Hope Center to package products like these bone pillows, \$8–12. All of the proceeds from sale of the bone toys are donated to Pet Helpers, a pet rescue and adoption shelter, and to a program that provides assistance and pet therapy to hospitals, nursing homes, and disability centers. (harrybarker.com)



Designs for Dignity

Ten years ago, Chicago interior designer Susan Fredman received a call from her friend Tori Flink, who was serving as the executive director for the Lake County Council Against Sexual Assault (La CASA). Tori asked for Susan's expertise in designing the organization's 10,000-square-foot office. Susan and several of her employees made it their mission to find materials, including furniture rejects from design stores and showrooms, discontinued fabrics and wallpapers, and other merchandise that couldn't be sold, to furnish the space. The project inspired Susan to found Designs for Dignity (DFD)—pro bono design services to create interiors that reflect dignity, hope, and comfort for those served by food pantries, sexual-assault centers, treatment facilities, and day-care centers. A permanent recycling program for the design industry, DFD lessens the burden of refurbishment for organizations that help those in need. In 2002, DFD joined forces with Heartland Alliance, a charity that has served human needs and human rights for more than 100 years. So far, DFD has completed about 50 projects in Illinois and Michigan. "This is why design matters," says Susan. "We want to create environments that inspire and give hope." (312/660-1300 or heartlandalliance.org)



Above: Chicago offices of Southwest Women Working Together. Left: The Lake County Council Against Sexual Assault (La CASA) care center in Gurnee, Illinois.