



California Eastern Star Foundation

Please read this letter in its entirety

November 2019

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

At our 2019 Annual Grand Chapter Session, Foundation President, Sister Cathy Solem, presented her report on the funds collected and the amounts distributed to our members by our California Eastern Star Foundation in 2019. Your Foundation Board members feel that these important statistics should be shared with all members and are pleased to provide this recap for all of you. The numbers are impressive and you should be proud of what was accomplished in 2019.

Every coin march you contributed to, every fundraising event you attended and every personal donation you made to one of our charities has made a big difference in the lives of our members.

Currently, the total assets of all funds in the California Eastern Star Foundation exceed \$9.7 million. Most of these funds are invested and are earning a significant return on that investment, which allows the Foundation to help our members now, and to continue to help in the future. Some of these assets are locked into endowments, which have been directed by the donor to use in a specified manner. Please know that your California Eastern Star Foundation is doing well and is available to help our members now and for many years to come.

In 2019, the members of California donated over \$192,000 to all of our various charities. Included in this amount was \$25,000 from General Grand Chapter specifically designated for fire relief.

Paws-for-Purple Hearts was the special project of the Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron in 2019. During our Grand Chapter Session it was announced that \$22,000 was raised to support this worthy project. Additional funds collected will be added to this amount and a final total will be reported later.

The following funds were disbursed to our members in 2019:

- * The Benevolent Fund aided 14 members in need of temporary assistance for a total of \$16,845.
- * The JC Lee Cancer Fund assisted 9 members with \$18,990.58.
- * The Margarite Rennie Cancer Fund assisted 10 members with \$22,919 distributed during the year.

- * Scholarship was also the special project of the Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron. Donations received in 2019 were \$58,248 which will help to boost the total number and dollars of the scholarships that will be awarded in 2020. In 2019 we were able to award 56 recipients with a total of \$72,750 in scholarship assistance.
- * The Disaster Fund received \$44,739 in donations and of that amount, \$34,845 is designated specifically for fire relief. This does not include the gift cards and personal donations that our members gave. The Foundation assisted 6 members with a total of \$8,500 and 3 members with \$7,000 for other relief for a total of \$15,500 from the Disaster Fund.
- * The Heart Fund received \$1,034 in donations and the Cancer Research Fund received \$3,996. The recipient of these funds will be determined at the end of the calendar year.
- * Other donations received in 2019 for the Patient Comfort Station, Youth Groups and unspecified donations totaled \$2,849.
- * Youth Fund - A special collection was taken at Grand Chapter to increase the funds available to support our Masonic Youth Groups. A total of \$3,800 was collected at Grand Chapter from those in attendance.

The assistance to our members provided by the California Eastern Star Foundation in 2019 was only made possible by the generous donations received from our members. Your continued generosity will allow us to make a difference in the lives of our members and loved ones in the years to come.

As an Eastern Star member we have obligated ourselves to aid, comfort and protect each other on life's journey. Your continued support of our charities through the California Eastern Star Foundation makes this a reality.

In Star Love,
California Eastern Star Foundation Board