

Minnesota P.E.O. Home Fund Annual Report 2020

The Minnesota P.E.O. Home Fund is a Minnesota project providing grants to elderly, disabled or infirm individuals living in Minnesota needing financial assistance for the basics of life. During this past fiscal year, the Minnesota P.E.O. Home Fund granted 93 applicants a total of \$310,000 (unaudited). That is a new record amount of applicants and of grant moneys allocated. The Home Fund received \$50,738.37 from dues, chapter donations, memorials and honorariums, an increase of more than \$7,000 from the previous year. What amazing grants the Home Fund Board members have made with the additional money. Thank you and your chapters for your contributions and your generosity.

The Minnesota P.E.O. Home Fund portfolio is managed by the Wells Fargo Private Bank and the asset increase due to market increase allowed the Home Fund board to make these grants on behalf of all Minnesota P.E.O. members.

This past year we saw an increase in chapter-recommended applications. Thank you for seeking applicants and for supporting them with your letters of recommendation. We ask you to continue to partner with social workers, social service agencies and local religious congregations to inform others about the Minnesota P.E.O. Home Fund. Talking about the Minnesota P.E.O. Home Fund is a good way to talk about the work of P.E.O. in our communities.

Examples of grants given this past year vary widely and include: a number of motorized scooters, wheelchairs and home health care devices not covered by insurance, dental care and dentures for several applicants, rent/groceries/utilities for individuals facing economic hard times due to a myriad of issues including medical/prescription bills. Many individuals and families live in need due to one accident or illness pushing them into financial crisis. We expect in the coming year that many will be impacted by Covid-19 and the financial implications of the pandemic. The Home Fund Board discussed often how the economic prosperity many were experiencing was missed by the elderly living on limited Social Security funds and by those families and individuals facing medical expenses not fully covered by insurance.

Please remember that the Minnesota P.E.O. Home Fund is open to all Minnesotans: men, women, children, P.E.O. members, and non-P.E.O. members.

We changed the application process this year and made the application available for people to download from the website. We also added a page to the mnpeo.org website that is open to non-members. This is useful to potential applicants and to vendors who receive our checks and wonder about the mission of our organization. It is now possible to use Google's search function and find the application to download.

Due to MSC changes with reporting and electronic record keeping, there have been delays in sending acknowledgements and thank you notes to donors/contributors. The Home Fund board apologizes for these delays.

Five P.E.O. members and two state officers served on the Minnesota P.E.O. Home Fund Board during 2019-20:

Sue Sailer, FO, Perham, Treasurer

Carol Jackson, A, Minneapolis, Secretary

Jamie Briones, EK, Minneapolis, Administrator

Jan Briones, Q, Montevideo, PSP MSC, Courtesy Secretary

Jill Seinola, EK, Minneapolis, PSP MSC, Chairman

Nikki Hess, CZ, Bemidji, President MSC, ex-officio member

Kristi Harlan, FP, Shakopee, Vice President, MSC, ex-officio member

The Home Fund board met quarterly to review applications, award grants, review the portfolio management and conduct the business of the Minnesota P.E.O. Home Fund .

Thank you for your contributions, thank you for finding and sponsoring applicants. Please continue to fund the good work of this Minnesota P.E.O. project.

Thank you for providing me with the opportunity to serve on this state committee for the past five years. It is truly humbling and an honor. Working with our applicants, our Minnesota P.E.O. sisters, and with Minnesota P.E.O. Home Fund board members has been a blessing.

We are called to serve.

Jill Seinola, Chairman, Minnesota P.E.O. Home Fund
Chapter EK/Minneapolis, PSP MSC
April 2020