





## Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma

## Letter From the President



Dear Brethren and Friends,

In 2023, we invested in opportunities with new organizations and continued our steadfast support of organizations we had partnered with for many years.

The Masonic Charity Foundation distributed over 3 million dollars in grants to nonprofit organizations across the state of Oklahoma.

Through the Matching Funds Program, local lodges distributed over 1.5 million dollars to their communities.

During the 2022-2023 school year, our Partners in Prevention Program had 480 Masons, representing 98 lodges, volunteer their time and contribute to over 250,000 vision screenings with Vizavance!

There was one Grand Master's disaster appeal in 2023, the Maui wildfires. Oklahoma's contribution to the Masonic Charities of Hawaii totaled \$65,740.20.

With deepest gratitude, I thank each of you for your continued dedication to your communities, our state, and our country.

I hope that this 2023 Annual Report from the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma reflects on our dedication and our mission to impact Oklahomans from all walks of life.

Fraternally,

mithen

Neil Stitt Board President

## **2023 Board of Directors**

#### **OFFICERS:**

President: Neil A. Stitt 1st Vice President: Jack L. Painter 2nd Vice President: Gene McKelvey Treasurer: Ronald J. Chambers Secretary: Robert G. Davis

#### Representing the Grand Lodge:

Richard Allison\* John D. Church D. Ridge Smith 2024 William J. Cloud Gene McKelvey Bedford F. Rowland, Jr.\* 2025

Preston L. Doerflinger Bobby L. Laws L. Clay Stuart 2026 Ronald J. Chambers Mark W. Condit Robert G. Davis 2027

Robert East Landon B. Jones Jack L. Painter **2028** 

\*Indicates Deceased

#### Representing Other Masonic & Affiliated Bodies:

David A. Ray Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons

John D. Allford Grand Council, Cryptic Masons

Timothy P. Israel Grand Commandery, Knights Templar

Guthrie Scottish Rite Bodies

Neil A. Stitt McAlester Scottish Rite Bodies

Michael D. Maxey Tulsa Scottish Rite Bodies

Gerald R. Stegall Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star

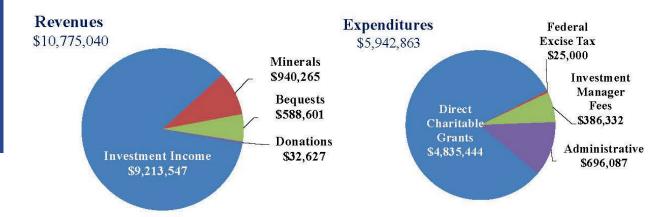
## Thank you gentlemen for your time, effort, and commitment to serve on the Board during 2023!

We would like to take a moment to honor two of our 2023 Board Members who have passed away:

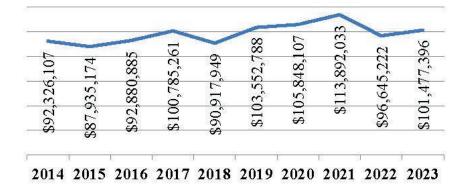
Richard Allison & Bedford F. Rowland Jr.

Thank you for your dedication to Oklahoma Masonry.

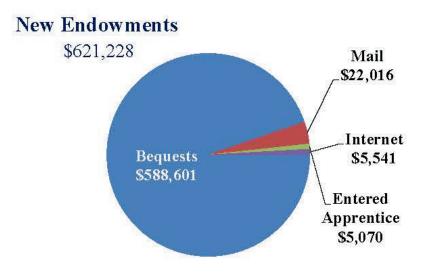
## Financial Report 2023 Calendar Year

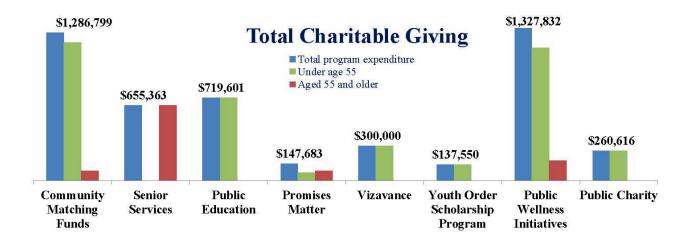


### Net Assets at 12/31

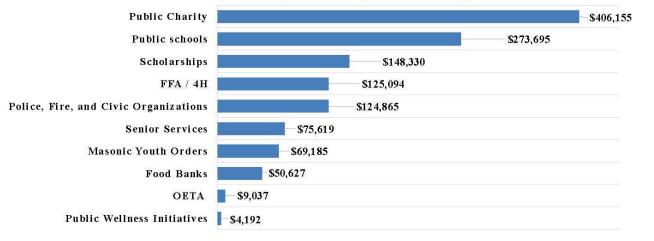












## 2023 Grants Awarded

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Award Amount</u>
Cavett Kids Foundation - Camp Cavett	\$25,000
Dale K. Graham Veterans Foundation	\$35,000
Dean McGee Eye Institute - Satellite Clinic Expansion	\$250,000
Eastern Oklahoma VA Health Care System - Voluntary Services	\$18,000
Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma - Food for Kids Programs	\$46,753.25
Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma - Senior Programs	\$21,000
Hearts for Hearing - Newborn Hearing Screenings	\$200,000
Junior Achievement - Rural Programming	\$50,000
Mercy Love Family Women's Center	\$500,000
NewView of Oklahoma	\$90,000
NextGen Under 30 Foundation	\$15,000
NONDOC Media	\$12,000
OETA	\$37,000
Oklahoma A+ Schools Institute	\$10,000
Oklahoma Alliance for Arts Education - Professional Learning Grants & Arts Excellence Awards Support	\$14,000
Oklahoma Association of Area Agencies on Aging	\$655,362.50
Oklahoma City VA Health Care System - Voluntary Services	\$18,000
Oklahoma FFA Foundation	\$5,000
Oklahoma School for the Deaf - Senior Citizens Hearing Aid Program	\$125,000
OSU Foundation - Equipment for the Oklahoma State University Bachelor of Science in Nursing Simulation Lab	\$255,325
Payne Education Center - Programming & Teacher Scholarships	\$207,000
Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma - Food for Kids Programs	\$103,246.75
Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma - Senior Programs	\$28,000
Smart Start Central Oklahoma - Early Birds Program	\$100,000
University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma - Droverstock	\$5,000
Vizavance	\$300,000
YMCA Military Welcome Center	\$18,000

## **2023 Grant Presentations**



## 2023 Matching Funds Program Report

### Total Matching Funds Program: \$1,408,382.54

- Community Matching Applications = \$1,287,791.04
- Promises Matter Matching Applications = \$120,591.50

### Number of Lodges participating in the program: 195

— HIGHLIGHTS —

## Food for Kids Campaign

- Number of Lodges participating: 85
- Total Lodge Contributions: \$18,018.50

#### **Total Senior Feeding Support for 2023: \$49,000** Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma - \$21,000

Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma - \$28,000

#### Total Food for Kids Support for 2023: \$150,000

Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma - \$46,753.25 Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma - \$103,246.75

## **Maui Fire Disaster Appeal**

- Number of Lodges participating: 66
- Total Lodge Contributions: \$20,420.10

#### Total Maui Fire Disaster Support: \$65,740.20

In addition to matching \$20,320.10 in Lodge donations, the Foundation's board approved a grant of \$25,000, all of which was sent to the Masonic Charities of Hawaii.

## **OETA Campaign**

- Number of Lodges participating: 61
- Total Lodge Contributions: \$9,037.00

#### Total OETA Support: \$37,000

This funding was used to support the following programs: Antiques Roadshow, Nature, OETA Movie Club, and This Old House.

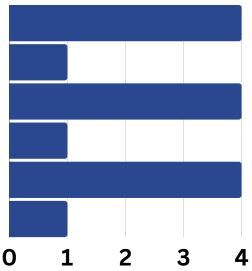
## **Promises Matter Grants**

### Total Promises Matter Grant funding issued in 2023 to Master Masons or their minor children or widows:

## \$27,166.56

- Number of Grants Issued: 15
- Number of Emergency Grants Issued: 12
- Average grant amount = \$1,811.10
- The average age of grant recipient = 57

Emergency relief - house fire Roof repairs Emergency relief - house fire (wildfire) Hearing Aids Emergency relief - tornado damage to home Funeral and legal expenses



The Promises Matter Grant is intended to be a one-time grant that solves the applicant's problem or provides a long-term solution. It can be used for charitable benefits, including medical bills, groceries, utilities, and necessary home repairs, as well as emergencies due to natural disaster.

If you know of a member of the Masonic Family that is in need, please call the Foundation office at (405) 348 - 7500 or visit our website, mcfok.org, to obtain a copy of the grant application.

## Teacher of the Year

The 2023 Teacher of the Year ceremony was held on March 1st, and the Grand Master had the honor of presenting certificates and checks on behalf of the Fraternity.

The 2023 Teacher of the Year winner, Traci Manuel, of Booker T. Washington High School, was presented with a check of \$5,000 as a token of our respect and appreciation for the difference she makes in the lives of young people in her classroom.



Congratulations Traci! The Masonic Fraternity of Oklahoma wishes you the very best as you continue to be a positive influence on the young people of Oklahoma.

## **STUDENT OF TODAY & TEACHER OF TODAY**

- Total number of certificates issued for Student of Today = 1,894
- Total number of certificates issued for Teacher of Today = 660
- Number of Participating Schools = 587
- Number of Participating Lodges = 141

### Lodges who participated in the program

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Ada Lodge 119	Cyril Lodge 504	Joppa Lodge 262	Roff Lodge 169
Adair Lodge 99	Davenport Lodge 260	Kansas Lodge 252	Sallisaw Lodge 120
Allen Lodge 81	Del City Lodge 536	Kingfisher Lodge 52	Sand Springs Lodge 475
Altus Lodge 62	Deleware Lodge 477	Lawton Lodge 183	Sapulpa Lodge 170
Alva Lodge 105	Dewey Lodge 466	Lindsay Lodge 248	Sayre Lodge 195
Antlers Lodge 39	Drumright Lodge 468	Lone Grove Lodge 25	Skiatook Lodge 416
Ardmore Lodge 31	Duncan Lodge 60	Mangum Lodge 61	Soloman Lodge 32
Bartlesville Lodge 284	Durant Lodge 45	Manford Lodge 515	St. Alban Lodge 192
Blanchard Lodge 395	Edmond Lodge 37	Marlow Lodge	Stigler Lodge 121
Boswell Lodge 232	El Reno Lodge 50	McAlester Lodge 9	Stratford Lodge 118
Bright Star Lodge 113	Elk City Lodge 182	McLoud Lodge 126	Stroud Lodge 142
Broken Arrow Lodge 243	Enid Lodge 80	Medford Lodge 108	Sulpher Lodge 144
Broken Bow Lodge 441	Eufaula Lodge 1	Meeker Lodge 478	Tecumseh Lodge 69
Bruton Lodge 30	Flint Lodge 11	Moore Lodge 539	Thomas Lodge 265
Cache Valley Lodge 530	Frisco Lodge 24	Mount Scott Lodge 540	Tishomingo Lodge 91
Caddo Lodge 3	Frontier Lodge 48	Mountain View Lodge 168	Tonkawa Lodge 157
Calvin Lodge 221	Garfield Lodge 501	Murrow Lodge 49	Triangle Lodgew 548
Chandler Lodge 58	Goodwater lodge 148	Mustang Lodge 407	Tulsa Lodge 71
Checotah Lodge 86	Grayhorse Lodge 124	Newkirk Lodge 88	Tuttle Lodge 405
Cherokee Lodge 10	Grove Lodge 187	Nicoma Park Lodge 541	Valliant Lodge 301
Cheyenne Lodge 133	Guthrie Lodge 35	Norman Lodge 38	Vici Lodge 465
Clinton Lodge 339	Guymon Lodge 335	Owasso Lodge 545	Vinita Lodge 5
Coalgate Lodge 221	Hampton Noble Lodge 291	Pawnee Lodge 83	Wagoner Lodge 98
Colbert Lodge 8	Haskell Lodge 334	Perkins Lodge 92	Washington Lodge 406
Collinsville Lodge 165	Healdton Lodge 23	Pilgrim-Rock Lodge 522	Watonga Lodge 176
Comanche Lodge 41	Heavener Lodgge 154	Pilot Lodge 367	Waynoka Lodge 422
Composite Lodge 107	Hebron Lodge 215	Pocasset Lodge 403	Webbers Falls Lodge 14
Corinthian Lodge 307	Hinton Lodge 313	Pond Creek Lodge 125	Wellston Lodge 369
Coronado Lodge 56	Hooker Lodge 366	Poteau Lodge 46	Western Star Lodge 138
Covey Lodge 460	Hyrdo Lodge 230	Prague Lodge 209	Wilburton Lodge 141
Coweta Lodge 251	Idabel Lodge 264	Red Fork-Brookside Lodge 505	Woodward Lodge 189
Creek Lodge 226	Ingalls-Gelncoe Lodge 128	Red Oak Lodge 66	Wynewood Lodge 40
Creekmore Lodge 74	Jennings Lodge 151	Ringwood Lodge 554	
Cushing Lodge 111	Jones City Lodge 537	Rising Star Lodge 129	

## **YOUTH ORDER SCHOLARSHIPS**

### **Applications Received**

DeMolay: 9 Job's Daughters: 2 Rainbow: 32

### **Applications Disqualified**

DeMolay: 1 (ACT score) Job's Daughters: 0 Rainbow: 1 (age)

### Total Scholarships Awarded - 41 at \$4,000 each

- 14.6% of the applicants were new high school seniors, leaving 85.4% returning college student applicants.
- 22.4 average ACT score for the high school seniors who qualified for a scholarship.
- 3.599 average GPA for returning college students.



This photo is from the 2023 Scholarship Presentation at Oklahoma Rainbow's Grand Assembly.

### **ADDITIONAL YOUTH ORDER SUPPORT**

In addition to the Youth Order Scholarship Program, the Foundation provides an annual contribution to each Youth Order trust. In 2023, each youth order trust received grant funds of \$10,000 to support statewide youth order activities.

Individual lodges often use Matching Funds to support the Youth Orders. In 2023, Lodges contributed to each Youth Order via Matching Funds the following:

**DeMolay:** \$46,025.96 **Job's Daughters:** \$15,942.00 **Rainbow:** \$66,089.34

## SENIOR ESSAY CONTEST

### 2023 Essay Topic: *Social media brings us together and pulls us apart; Do you believe that the good outweighs the bad or vice versa?*

- Total Number of Essay Submissions = 747
- Total Number of Disqualifications = 306
- Number of Participating Schools = 101
- Number of Participating Lodges = 78

### 2023-2024 Senior Essay Contest Statewide Winners

#### <u>Females</u>

#### **Males**

1st Place	Hennessey High School	<b>1st Place</b>	Shawnee High School
2nd Place	Thomas Fay Custer High School	2nd Place	Bethel High School
<b>3rd Place</b>	Charles Page High School	<b>3rd Place</b>	Guymon High School
4th Place	Shawnee High School	4th Place	Owasso High School
<b>5th Place</b>	Hammon High School	<b>5th Place</b>	Reydon High School
<b>6th Place</b>	Grove High School	<b>6th Place</b>	Antlers High School
7th Place	Owasso High School	7th Place	Laverne High School
8th Place	Weatherford High School	8th Place	Bethel High School
9th Place	Woodward High School	9th Place	Cheyenne High School
10th Place	Cheyenne High School	10th Place	Cherokee High School

Please note - these are the high schools the winners attended. Student names are not being shared for safety reasons.

We saw an increase in the number of essays received as well as school and lodge participation. The total number of essays received was 747 – an increase of 218 essays from last year. While we are excited about the increase, we would love to see the number closer to the 2,000+ we received pre-Covid. Unfortunately, we had to disqualify 40.96% of the essays this year because they did not meet the requirements. The three biggest disqualification categories were AI detected, no work cited page, and too few words.





Formerly Prevent Blindness Oklahoma



Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma

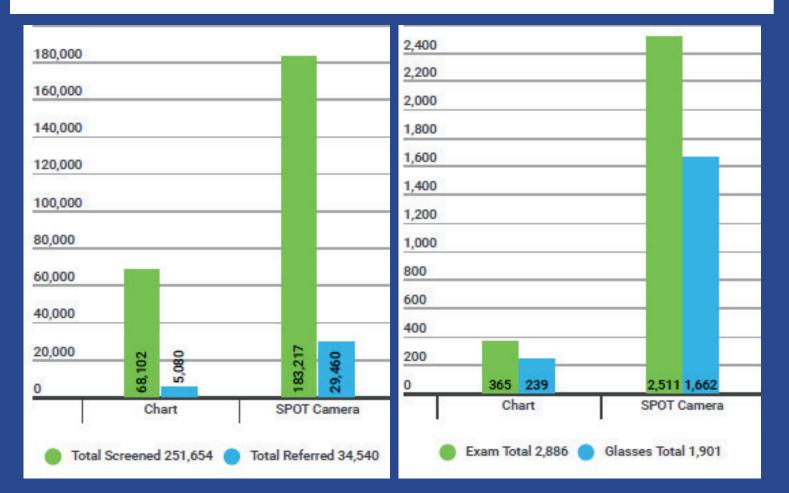


THE MASONIC FRATERNITY OF OKLAHOMA

In 1986, Vizavance, formerly Prevent Blindness Oklahoma, approached the Oklahoma Masons seeking a small amount of funding to expand its Children's Vision Screening Program. Vizavance already had been conducting children's vision screenings for over 20 years. However, services were limited to the Oklahoma City area due to the lack of funding. It had always been Vizavance's goal to provide services to children throughout the state, but that would take money and volunteers. Thus, the *Partners in Prevention* program was created. Vizavance provides the screening expertise; the Grand Lodge provides volunteers in communities throughout the state; and the Foundation provides the funding.

During the 2022-2023 school year, 98 lodges, who were represented by 480 Masons, volunteered their time and contributed to over 250,000 screenings! Vizavance honors those lodges and Masons by selecting a Lodge and Mason of the Year. The volunteers honored for the 2022-2023 School Year are:

> Mason of the Year: John Carter



Lodge of the Year: Edmond Lodge No. 37

## OKLAHOMA ALLIANCE FOR ARTS EDUCATION

### 2023 marked 33 years as a co-sponsor for the Oklahoma Education Awards for Arts Excellence!

The M.W. Grand Lodge of Oklahoma, The Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma, and the Guthrie Scottish Rite Masonic Center worked alongside the Oklahoma Alliance for Arts Education, the Oklahoma State Department of Education, and the Oklahoma Arts Council to make the event happen.

Since 1998, the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma has provided <u>\$188,888.81 in total support</u> to the Oklahoma Alliance for Arts Education for the Oklahoma Education Awards for Arts Excellence.

You can learn more about the Oklahoma Alliance for Arts Education by visiting their website: <u>https://www.oaaeok.org</u> Or you can scan the QR Code





## **PAYNE EDUCATION CENTER**

### Payne Education Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that trains teachers to prevent reading difficulties in children and to remediate dyslexia while serving as a resource and referral center.

The Masonic Fraternity of Oklahoma began its relationship with the Payne Education Center in 1985, when it was just beginning. The Founders of Payne Education Center had visited the Learning Center of the Scottish Rite Hospital in Dallas, which had just launched a multisensory education curriculum specifically targeted to dyslexic children.

Back in Oklahoma, the newly founded organization contacted the Guthrie Scottish Rite Foundation for financial support. All three Scottish Rite organizations in Oklahoma joined the effort to expand teacher training statewide.

As the training program grew across the State, the fraternity's financial support was turned over to the Masonic Charity Foundation so that additional resources could be made available.

## Since 1994, the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma has provided <u>\$1,483,807.15 in total support</u> to Payne Education Center.

You can learn more about Payne Education Center by visiting their website: <u>https://www.oaaeok.org</u>

Or you can scan the QR Code





#### Parent Resource Hours **1,332**

•Parents received help during IEP, 504, and school meetings

•Received classes and coaching sessions on laws, rights and resources



**2023 STATISTICS** 

Students Receiving CALT Therapy on a sliding scale **96** 

•Students whose family income qualifies for SNAP or Soonerstart receive CALT services at a discounted rate.



#### Tutoring Hours 2,496

•Students received tutoring twice a week, one hour each session by a CALT in their area of the state

## 2023 MISSION PARTNER AWARD

The YMCA of Greater Oklahoma City presented the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma with its 2023 Mission Partner Award, recognizing our support of the <u>YMCA Military</u> <u>Welcome Center at Will Rogers World Airport.</u>

### Since 2017, through the YMCA Military Welcome Center, we have been able to serve over 13,000 meals to recruits heading to basic training or catching a plane home for the holidays.

Our Board President, Neil Stitt, represented us on stage to receive the award. Thank you to the YMCA for this award! We are proud to support not only our community but those who serve in the military to protect it.



## **2023 Donation Report**

#### Donations were made in memory of the following people in 2023:

Anna Harvey **Bruce Hendricks** Bruce Long **Bud Barker** Byron A. Daugherty Cabryn Kyle Charlie Hoy Clarence Jones Clifford Jewel Curtis Gimlin D. Wallace Wall David Carpenter David L. Smith Don Harvey Donald E Wolford Donald Gene Crain, Jr.

Elmer Kid G. Mark Ekiss Gary Daugherty Gerald Drury **Ginger Scheihing** Hollis Reid Perry Jake Baker Jay G. Murrison Jim Steenbergen Joe Smith John Alexander John Palovic Junior Rowland Kent Callahan **Kieth Ballard** L.H. Hackler

Larry Cole Larry Daugherty Larry Harvey Lester Keeler Loren Epperson Marcia Rowland Olin Albert Tabor Raymond Leon Youtsey, Sr. Robert C Shady Robert Freerksen Robert Wood Steven Paul Wilson Tammy Noyes Tubby Damron

#### **Bequests Received**

Clyde R. Evans Estate Gertrude Moore Testamentary Trust Priscilla Kaye Massey Estate

#### Grand Master's Club (Donations over \$200)

Ankit Bogati Ben Earl Grove Berry O. Keeler Brian M. Jackson Christopher Michael Sheehan David Albert Tennison Dee E. Talley Don Henry Stanton Ethel Padden Fort Meyers Beach Lodge 362 Glen Allen Chaney Gordon Edward Beckett J. C. Niblett Jack Painter James Daniel Givens, Jr. Jeremy Wayne Warren John Edward Coy John Lewis Logan Kurt A. Harrell Lindley Clay Stuart Michael Darwin Maxey Michael Lee Hicks Newell Barker Paul Timothy Currell Preston L. Doerflinger Red Cross of Constantine - Saint Omer Conclave Richard C Yokley William D. Diehl

#### (2023 Donation Report Continued)

#### All Donors in 2023

Alton Carl Dragoo Amos Manuel Welliver Amy Norton Andrew Labosky, Jr. Ankit Bogati Ann Dodson Anonymous Archie Everett Price Becky Milford Bedford Forrest Rowland Ben Earl Grove Ben Kenyon Benjamin Ray Perry Berry O. Keeler Bill & Dean Peterson Bill D. Horn Bill R. Trammell **Billy Henry Ames** Billy King Nuzum Bobby Gene Cudd Bobby Mason Brett Allen Biery Brian M. Jackson Byron Wayne Daugherty Charles D. Hampton Christopher Michael Sheehan Chuck Gibson Cody L. Presley Dale Arthur Stout Dalton Allen Turney Daniel Allen Burchett David Albert Tennison David George Lowe David John Hood Dawn Hayes Dee E. Tallev Denise Webb Dennis Edward Schoors Don Carpenter Don Henry Stanton Donald E. Akin Donald Glenn Jones Donald V. Ray & Karen C. Ray Revocable Trust Doris Lambert **Dustin Peter Cordier** Edward Ernest Swafford Ethel Padden Fort Meyers Beach Lodge 362 Freddy Delain Bocock Gary A. Davis Gary Chaney Gary Clohessy Gary M. Geralds Geary Wayne Wilson George M Hedrick Glen Allen Chaney Glenn Roy Weigl Gordon A. Fruth Gordon Edward Beckett Henry Joe Hicks Henry Lee Riebel J. C. Niblett Jack Gerald Herron Jack Painter James Alan Koontz

James Daniel Givens, Jr. James Leroy Selders James Oates Jana McGee Jason Mitchell Beynon Jeffrey Webb Presley Jennings Lodge 151 Jeremy Wayne Warren Jerry Allen Hedrick Jerry L. Sills Jesse Garza Jessie E. Phillips Jimmy L. Reagan Jimmy Lee Seeger Jo Ann Carr Joani Smith Joe Pete Skimbo John Arthur Merz John C. Curry John Carmack John Edward Coy John Howard Smith John Lewis Logan John Paul Phillips John R. Christopher Jonah Dewight Roebuck Joseph Weber Joshua David Ramos Joy Hopkins Keith Fletcher Purdom Keith Gregory Jobe Kip Thornton Kurt A. Harrell Larry K. Duffy Larry Spahr Lee Edward Egdorf Leonard C. Mason Lillie Davis Linda Nees Lindley Clay Stuart Llovd Christopher Lonnie Lee Norris Mathew Aaron Turner Matthew John Ludden Matthew Robert Stevens Matthew Travis Cargill Micah Luke Thompson Michael Charles Bradley Michael Darwin Maxey Michael David Hogben Michael Lee Hicks Michael Lewis Dixon Neil Allen Stitt Newell Barker Patti Keahey Paul J. Bates Paul Lee Guthrie Paul Timothy Currell Perry Mitchell Philip Stuart Nelson Phillip Kirby Coe Phyllip M. Hickman Preston L. Doerflinger Ralph Roy Holman Raymond Lee Chronister

Saint Omer Conclave, RCC Richard C. Yokley **Richard Eugene Draper Richard Walls Robert Charles Felts** Robert Glenn Davis Robert K. Sanders Robert Leon Ellis Robert Lynn Bradway Ronald Lester Hackler **Russell Neal Davis** Sam Edward Henry Samuel Thomas Brence Scott Lemmerman Setsuo Ray Shig Suminaga Shirley Waner Stephanie Hancock Steven Earl McGowen Steven Edward Cox Steven Michael Oliver Suzanne Ballard Teddy Ray Herweck, Jr. Terry Lynn Pedigo Thomas George Bayless Thorr Villiam Fionnlagh Odinson Tim Daniels Tom Uglean Tricia Latham Troy Lavern Kelley Vernon Dean Gray Wesley Howard Syler, Jr. William Cason Cox William D. Diehl William James DeWinter William Michael Rowlett Wilmes Ford Lincoln Mercury, Inc. William D. Bates

# Thank you!

## **Masonic Charity Foundation Staff**



JOHN LOGAN Executive Director



BECKY GOAD Office Manager



CANDI CLAUNCH Programs Manager



MEKAILA WILHELM Director of Communications

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### <u>WEBSITE</u>



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