

## Fundraising Activities

During 2021, income for the Foundation totaled \$186,555.70. Fundraising was focused mainly on raising money for the Grant Fund to operate the Foundation's Classroom Grant Program and Maggie Elder Memorial PEERS/Support Staff Grant Program. Donations to the Grant Fund totaled \$55,107.58 while the Building Maintenance/Improvement Fund reached \$324.35. Donations were also earmarked for the Endowment Fund at \$2,279.24 and non earmarked for the General Fund at \$19,070.56.

The Foundation typically holds three major fundraising campaigns each year. The *MRTF \$10,000 Raffle*, which is held in the spring, brought in \$70,495 in donations from 682 donors in 2021. The *MRTF Silent Auction* fundraiser was held at the MRTA Annual Meeting in September collected \$11,861. The last fundraiser of the year was the *Year-End Ask Letter Campaign*. The MRTF Office mailed letters to past donors, MRTA members, and corporate sponsors. The 2021 campaign brought in \$41,040.08 in donations from over 661 donors.

The Foundation did not benefit from any \$5,000 death benefits from the Public School Retirement System in 2021. MRTA donated \$22,000, representing \$1 for every budgeted dues paying member. MRTA members also donated \$4,781.03 of their meeting travel reimbursement expenses to the Foundation. Miscellaneous donations made up the balance of the donations for 2021. Thank you to the more than 756 donors who gave so generously to promote the mission of the Missouri Retired Teachers Foundation.

## Grant Programs

Since the inception of the Foundation's two grant programs, the Foundation has received 2,823 Classroom Grant Program applications and 76 Maggie Elder Memorial PEERS/Support Staff Grant Program applications. 786 applicants have been awarded \$500 Classroom Grants, totaling \$393,000 and 22 applicants have been awarded \$500 PEERS/Support Staff Grants, totaling \$11,000.

The Classroom Grant Program has been the Foundation's main focus since 2009 when they decided to stop awarding scholarships. In 2020, the Foundation added a second grant program, the Maggie Elder Memorial PEERS/Support Staff Grant Program, to assist public education personnel outside of classroom teachers. These grants are just one way the Foundation can make an impact on the education of Missouri students, encourage classroom teachers, and support public education personnel.

The 2021 Classroom Grant Selection Committee included 14 Missouri Retired Teachers Association (MRTA) Regional Vice Presidents and their Regional Committees. The committee reviewed 218 applications and selected grant winners from each of the 14 MRTA regions. 121 applicants were selected to receive \$500 grants in 2021.

The 2021 PEERS Grant Selection Committee included three Foundation Board members. The committee reviewed 48 applications and selected twelve \$500 grant winners from all over the state.

*Honoring the past and giving to the future*