

Important Telephone Numbers

Anthem Blue Cross/Blue Shield RIPEA Group Health Plan	1-866-649-2041
AMBA Dental/Vision/Long Term Care/Cancer/Whole Life/ Medical Air Service Association	1-800-258-7041
Genworth Long Term Care	1-765-827-6607
HearPo Hearing Plan	1-888-432-7464
MetLife Auto/Home	1-800-438-6388
P.E.R.F. Retirement Checks & Benefits	1-888-286-3544

The RIPEA Board of Directors Working for You

Fred L. Armstrong Indianapolis	Cleo R. Duncan Greensburg	Marriette (Marty) Montgomery Indianapolis
Christie A. Bader Georgetown	John Galloway Indianapolis	Roger Parent South Bend
Larry L. Buell Indianapolis	Bruce Kimery Indianapolis	John Riemke Kendallville
Jack Dillon South Bend	Morris Mills Ladoga	Harold Woodruff Frankfort

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Indianapolis, IN 46227
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H.B. Shepherd, Founder
William R. Murphy, Executive Director

Email us at ripea@ripea.org or visit our website:

www.RIPEA.org

The RIPEA office hours are:
Monday through Friday,
8 a.m. to 4 p.m.



RIPEA

Retired Indiana Public Employees Association

Working for Your Retirement Today

May 2016



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Retired Indiana Public Employees
Association, Inc.
3530 S. Keystone Avenue, Suite #305
Indianapolis, IN 46227

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A message from the Executive Director

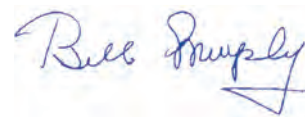
Welcome to the May issue of the *Communicator*. We have a special group of women and men serving on the RIPEA Board of Directors. Like you, they're all retired public employees and (also like you) are committed to your long-term wellbeing. One member recently made the news as he marked the 10th anniversary of his global charity World Dignity, Inc. (WDI).

Roger Parent from South Bend is a 10-year member of our Board. His charity, WDI, provides educational opportunities for the poor and strengthens community life. The charity only provides aid when invited by the community, or by the people to be affected. You can read more about it on Page 2 and in greater detail in a *South Bend Tribune* article posted online on Monday, February 22. You can also visit the charity's website www.worlddignity.com to learn more.

There will be much to digest from the political world in the upcoming months as election campaigns ramp up. We'll hear and read plenty of information and misinformation, and it's sure to cause confusion and complications. While we at RIPEA do not endorse one candidate over another, we do have our finger on the pulse of state and federal politics. Feel free to call us about any political issue relating to public employees, your pension or your benefits.

Thanks to you for allowing us to be a part of your retirement. As always, we're here to help you every step of the way. Please keep in touch.

Until next time,



Bill Murphy, Executive Director

RIPEA foundation grants

Enclosed in this newsletter is the 2016 Grant Application. If you've encountered a financial hardship, you may be entitled to receive assistance in the form of a grant. Grants are made possible due to the generosity of the many RIPEA members who contribute to the Foundation.

The Foundation Board reviews each application and selects grant recipients based on need and the amount of money we have available in the fund.



The grant application must be returned by July 1 and all applicants will be notified by August 1.

REMINDER: Please read the information on the back of the application prior to completing. As indicated on the back, all applications must be completed properly, documentation included and signed to be considered.

Legislative review

This year's Legislative non-budgetary, "short" session adjourned March 10th. The RIPEA Board of Directors again sponsored a COLA bill and 13th check bill on behalf of our RIPEA members. As we reported in February, the COLA bill was introduced, referred to the House and Legislative Procedure Committee where it died. HB 1161, the 13th check bill, was passed by the House, amended by the Senate and therefore referred to a Conference Committee. The amended bill was subsequently passed by both the House and Senate without a dissenting vote.

If you are a PERF retiree with an effective date of retirement of December 1, 2015 or prior, you

will receive with your regular PERF check on September 15, 2016 with one of the following additional amounts:

Years of Service	Amount
5-10 (disabled only)	\$150
10-20	\$275
20-30	\$375
30+	\$450

NOTE: The 13th check is not automatic. The 13th check bill must be approved by the legislature each year and signed by the Governor. Please consider sending a "Thank You" note to your local Legislators and the Governor.

The 26th annual convention is scheduled

Mark your calendar, RIPEA's 26th Annual Convention is Monday, September 12 at Primo South Conference & Convention Center in Indianapolis. This is the same location as recent years.

The results of the convention survey at last year's event indicated a strong preference for presentations on financial matters and to learn more about the Public Employees Retirement Fund (PERF). We listened and will have speakers on these topics. In recognition of Indiana's 200-year birthday, there will also be a presentation by a representative of the Indiana Bicentennial Commission.

Finally, because this is an election year, we've invited the three candidates for Governor to each deliver a brief presentation.

We'll have the day's final agenda in the August issue of the *Communicator*, including which candidates are able to attend. We look forward to seeing you on September 12th.

NOTE: RIPEA will again offer free bus transportation from any location in Indiana that has a minimum of 25 riders. Spread the word!

Global charity continues to grow

In 1962, former South Bend Mayor (and current RIPEA Board Member) Roger Parent joined the Peace Corps and was sent to Thailand to teach. When the Peace Corps needed volunteers to aid in the relief effort after Thailand's 2004 tsunami, Roger went back.

It was then he met two Americans living in Thailand who were also

helping in the relief effort. The three new friends discovered that while many relief agencies offered financial assistance, none specifically asked the people in the region what they needed. Inspired, in early 2006 the three formed World Dignity, Inc. (WDI), a non-profit charity in South Bend. Since then, World Dignity has donated more than \$500,000 in aid in Thailand, India, Bangladesh and South Bend.

For example, in India, WDI currently supports 18 women and one man with college funds. The plan is to add more students in 2016. They also support education programs in Thailand and a reading program in South Bend.

Congratulations Roger for your efforts in helping many of the less fortunate through WDI and for your continued dedication to your fellow RIPEA members.

RIPEA and Ivy Tech are great partners

Did you know Ivy Tech offers free tuition for classes they classify as "Senior Scholars" classes? What's more, the RIPEA Foundation contributes to the program to pay for the books and activity fees of any RIPEA member who enrolls in one of these classes.

Now, the RIPEA Foundation, in cooperation with Ivy Tech, has expanded the program to pay for books and activity fees for RIPEA members enrolled in *any* Ivy Tech class. You just need to present your current RIPEA membership card when enrolling and the books and activity fees required for that class will be paid from the RIPEA Foundation.

NOTE: The RIPEA membership card must reflect that you are a current member of RIPEA.



Your loved ones need to know this

Talking about death can be difficult, but at some point, it's necessary. Have you had a conversation with your spouse or next of kin about what to do in the event of your passing?

If something happens to you, a surviving family member will need to contact the Public Employees Retirement System (PERF). They will need a copy of your death certificate with your name, Social Security number and date of death. This information is needed to determine if a benefit is due to your survivor or beneficiary. PERF can be reached at (888) 286-3544.

If you haven't done so, you might consider organizing a checklist with your pension, insurance, will, Social Security information, bank account numbers, passwords for online accounts, etc. A family meeting may also be necessary to share this information with everyone who needs to know.

A loved one's death can be overwhelming. A little preparation ahead of time will lessen the burden for those who are left to finalize your estate.

RIPEA FOUNDATION

3530 South Keystone Avenue, Suite 305 Indianapolis, IN 46227

Telephone Number: 1-800-345-9214

2016 Individual Grant Application

Application must be received in our office by July 1, 2016

Member's Name _____

Address _____

City/Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone No. (____) _____

Name, Address and Telephone Number of Person Completing This Application Other Than Applicant:

TOTAL GROSS MONTHLY INCOME:

	<u>Member</u>	<u>Spouse</u>	<u>Total</u>
PERF	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Employment	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Other	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

Amount of Grant Requested: \$ _____

NOTE: If all lines are not completed and necessary supporting documents are not submitted the application will not be considered. All information on this application is confidential and will not be shared with any person(s) not affiliated with the RIPEA Foundation.

Purpose for which Grant will be used: (If additional space is needed for a complete explanation, please attach a separate sheet): _____

If Grant is to assist with payment of an existing financial obligation, please include a copy of the bill or a list of expenses if submitting a credit card bill.

Will any part of this obligation be paid by insurance: _____ If yes, how much? _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Print name: _____

For Office Use Only Verification of Membership by: _____ Amount Recommended: _____
Reviewed by: _____ Date: _____

***PLEASE SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR GRANT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.**

RIPEA Foundation

Grant Eligibility Requirements

All Applications Must:

- Have a signature
- Include documentation as proof of financial need
- Provide accurate monthly income totals
- Request an amount no greater than \$1,000 (max)

Eligible Requests:

- Medical bills
- Prescriptions
- Hearing aids
- Eyeglasses
- Dental
- Utilities
- Handicap ramps or equipment (estimate or bill must be included)
- Medical insurance premiums
- Credit card bills, when used to pay for acceptable expenses (itemized billing statement must be included as proof)

The following expenses are not eligible for a grant from the RIPEA Foundation:

- Amounts over \$1,000
- Property taxes
- Funeral expenses
- New roof, new furnace, septic tank installment, etc.
- Automobile payments or repairs or purchase
- Vacations
- College loans or tuition
- Mortgage or home equity loans
- Cell phone bills
- Cable bills
- Veterinary bills
- Legal fees