

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

**AmpliFon
Hearing Plan** 1-888-432-7464

**MetLife
Auto/Home** 1-800-438-6388

**P.E.R.F.
Retirement Checks & Benefits** 1-888-286-3544

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800-345-9214

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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.

The RIPEA Board of Directors Working for You

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RIPEA

Retired Indiana Public Employees Association

**Working for Your
Retirement Today**

May 2017



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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*.

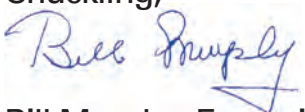
As a member of RIPEA, I'm sure you're aware of the legislative and insurance benefits that are available. But yours for the taking are also discounts on hotels, rental cars, cruise and vacation packages. You can even score special pricing on computers through both Dell and Apple.

Now, thanks to a partnership with CU Wireless, you can add cell service to the list of ways we save you money. Through this plan, you can access cell plans that are both straightforward and low-cost. What's more, both free and inexpensive phones are available.

We love to find these deals for our members and I'm happy to share them.

Also want to share this:

Texting Shortcuts for Seniors	
ATD	At The Doctors
BFF	Best Friend Fainted
BYOT	Bring Your Own Teeth
CUATSC	See You At The Senior Center
DWI	Driving While Incontinent
FYI	Found Your Insulin
GGPBL	Gotta Go, Pacemaker Battery Low
IMHO	Is My Hearing Aid On?
LOL	Living On Lipitor
TTYL	Talk To You Louder
FWIW	Forgot Where I Was

Chuckling,

 Bill Murphy, Executive Director



RIPEA Foundation Grants

Since 2001, due to the generosity of our RIPEA members and several vendors, the RIPEA Foundation Board has approved 1,020 grants totaling \$581,462 to our most needy members. Last year, the Board approved 125 grants to RIPEA members for a total of \$62,070. Enclosed is the 2017 Grant Application.

If you have encountered financial hardship you may be entitled to receive assistance from a RIPEA Foundation Grant. Complete the application and return it to us by July 1, 2017. We are grateful to our generous members who allow the Foundation Board to continue this program.

Save the Date

RIPEA's 27th Annual Convention will be Monday, September 11th. An agenda and registration form will be in the August *Communicator*.

Start the Conversation About Long-Term Care Now

Can you afford to pay for long-term care services out of your own pocket? If not, call us. We have solutions. Association Member Benefits Advisors makes long-term care policies available to RIPEA members. We can show you how to protect your assets with long-term care insurance, how to select a plan and what to do in an emergency. Visit myambabenefits.info/ripea or call 1-800-258-7041 to learn more about long-term care and other benefits available through RIPEA!

Board Member Updates For You

We've had two changes to our Board of Directors in recent months. **Senator Morris H. Mills** resigned from the Board December 31, 2016, having served since 2001. His analytical skills, in-depth knowledge on many issues and commitment to providing the best for RIPEA members is appreciated by all. Thanks for your service, Morris. You'll be missed.

We welcome back to the Board **Dr. Craig Hartzler** who previously served from June 2006 until December 31, 2012. Craig has a distinguished resume including Chief of Staff to the Superintendent of Public Education, Director of Executive Education School of Public and Environmental Affairs at Indiana University, Executive Director of PERF and Commissioner of the Indiana Department of Workforce Development.

Your Legislative Corner

The 2017 Indiana General Assembly passed HB 1537* nearly unanimously, approving a 13th check for retirees of PERF with an effective date of retirement of December 1, 2016 or prior. The 13th check amount will be added to your regular PERF benefit of September 15th in the amount of:

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

Every year since 1991, except 2004, there has been a 13th check paid to PERF retirees. *However, it is not automatic.* We are grateful to our Board of Directors for their guidance and counsel in RIPEA's legislative efforts. Three Board members in particular—Senator Pat Miller, Representative Cleo Duncan and Representative Larry Buell—are former legislators who testified in support of HB 1537 and were instrumental in it becoming law. We encourage all RIPEA members contact their legislators to thank them for their support of the 13th check.

***Note:** HB 1537 included a 13th check for 2 years. Therefore, all PERF retirees will now receive a 13th check in 2017 and 2018. This is the first time a 13th check was approved for 2 years. To be eligible for a 13th check in 2017 your retirement date must be December 1, 2016 or prior. To be eligible in 2018 your retirement date must be December 1, 2017 or prior.



Amplifon Hearing Plan

If you've used the Amplifon Hearing Plan offered through RIPEA, please let us know how you feel about this benefit:

Very Satisfied Satisfied Not Satisfied

Comments _____

Please respond in one of the following ways: Mail us this form, email your answer by filling out a form on the "Contact RIPEA" page at www.ripea.org, or call us at 1-800-345-9214. Thank you!

RIPEA FOUNDATION

3530 South Keystone Avenue, Suite 305 Indianapolis, IN 46227

Telephone Number: 1-800-345-9214

2017 Individual Grant Application

Application must be received in our office by July 1, 2017

Member's Name _____

Address _____

City/Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone No. (____) _____

Name, address and telephone number of person completing this application if other than applicant:

TOTAL GROSS MONTHLY INCOME:

	<u>Member</u>	<u>Spouse</u>	<u>Total</u>
Social Security	_____	_____	_____
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)

ACCEPTABLE REASONS FOR REQUEST:

- 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)

UNACCEPTABLE REASONS FOR REQUEST:

- Amounts Over \$1,000
- Property Taxes
- Funeral Expenses
- New Roof, New Furnace, Septic Tank Installment, Etc.
- Car Payments, Repairs, or Purchase of a New Car
- Vacations
- College Loans or Tuition
- Mortgage or Home Equity Loans
- Cell Phone Bills
- Cable Bills
- Veterinary Bills
- Legal Fees