

2014-
2015

Annual Report



Washington Masonic Charities

Presented by Ken Gibson, Executive Director

Washington Masonic Charities

2014-2015

Mission

The mission of Washington Masonic Charities is to invest in youth and education, provide comfort and support for seniors and those in need, and to preserve and share the Masonic heritage of Washington State.

-Adopted by WMC Board of Trustees, January 2015

“We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give.” Brother Winston Churchill

Summary & Accomplishments

Washington Masonic Charities (WMC) is the 501 (c) 3 nonprofit partner of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Washington. Its work covers children’s programs, senior services, and the library & museum. Washington Masonic Charities was formed in 2012 in an effort to consolidate programs and services under a single, professionally led entity.

WMC’s main goal is to provide charitable services and infrastructure for the Freemasons of Washington and members of the general public, support youth programs, assist seniors and those in need, and to promote the Masonic heritage of Washington. This work capitalizes on the values of Freemasonry by serving the Brethren, widows and orphans, as well as mankind.

WMC is available to partner with local Lodges to aid and assist their local charitable efforts. This assistance includes providing fiscal sponsorship, planning and communication assistance as well as training in creating fundraising plans and how to properly manage charitable activities to not run afoul of the IRS.

The 2014-2015 year has been transformative for Washington Masonic Charities. The work done during this year is the beginning of realizing the vision for a new, consolidated Masonic charitable organization. It has also been the work of creating a solid foundation for many years to come.

In June of 2014 the WMC board selected Ken Gibson as the new executive director tasked with developing and leading the new organization. Gibson brought twenty seven years of nonprofit operations, fund development, and executive experience to the effort. Gibson worked closely with the board of trustees and the Grand Secretary over the summer to lay the foundation. Organization goals, resources and needs were evaluated to determine the correct staffing model. New Staff were hired in October and March. WMC hired new staff based on their ability to work collaboratively with each other and in the community. WMC’s programs were redeveloped and restarted on January 1, 2015, with the intent of preparing for the beginning of the new fiscal year in 2015.

Programs

Masonic Outreach Services

Masonic Outreach Services provides services and support for older Master Masons in good standing, their widows, their immediate family if applicable, and older people in the general public. This program has three goals.

1. To help seniors have the supports and information to remain in their homes and independent for as long as it is physically, socially and financially feasible.
2. To aid and assist seniors and their families to comfortably make the transition to assisted living or skilled care when that is the best option.

3. To provide emergency assistance when necessary to aid seniors and those in need to avoid what may become an unrecoverable personal disaster.

Masonic Outreach Services has paid special attention to focusing on best practices, which include developing and supporting aging in place options for seniors.

The Masonic Outreach Services program accomplishes its work in the following ways:

1. Information & Referral Services
2. In-home assessments & evaluation
3. Income Stabilization
 - a. Medicaid Applications
 - b. Veterans Aid & Attendance Application
 - c. Other benefits resource information & assistance
4. Case Management & ongoing connection and monitoring

In 2014-15 Washington Masonic Charities took over the function of Masonic Outreach Services staffing from the Grand Lodge of Washington.

Masonic Outreach Services provides support and services for more than 250 individuals on average annually. With the change in the program WMC is on track to serve considerably more in 2015-16. Frequently individuals are in need of more than one kind of support, so they may have several interactions over the course of many months' time. Some services, such as information and referral average between three and four communications with individuals, where more intensive activities like Veteran's Aid and Attendance Applications can take upwards of 35 or more hours of staff time per client. Option One and Relocated Resident clients receive ongoing care, communication and interactions in the form of in person and telephone visits.

Library & Museum

The Washington State Masonic Library & Museums is operated and managed by Washington Masonic Charities in partnership with the Grand Lodge Library & Museum Committee. The library and museum has approximately 48,000 books and documents (some dating back as far as the 17th century), 6,000 objects and artifacts, and 155,000 images and photographs. The Library & Museum is host to exhibits, programming, and a Masonic research library. Committee volunteers are responsible for opening the library and museum, tending to the collections, and assisting visitors as they need. Significant effort was performed to review and prepare thousands of documents, books and records for secure and heated storage. Additionally, work was done to develop a collections policy, including provisions for acquiring and deaccessioning objects and documents from the collection. This policy is in the process of being finalized. In addition, the library & museum is expanding its hours to include two weekend days each month. As always, the library & museum is also open by appointment. The volunteer team is looking for volunteers to assist in all areas of operation.

Children's Programs

Children's programs are comprised of four sub programs, including Bikes for Books, Washington Safety Identification Program (WASIP, formerly CHIPS), Masonic Model Student Assistance Program, and Safe Schools anti bullying program.

In September of 2014 WMC piloted the Model Student Assistance Program with great success. Twenty four educators received training over the course of two days. Surveys completed by these educators demonstrated a high level of interest and value in the material and the training method conducted. Our goal in 2015-

16 is to host this and the Safe Schools anti bullying training in both western and eastern Washington.

WMC also partners with lodges via the children's Committee to support Bikes for Books and the reformulated Washington Safety Identification Program (formerly CHIPS).

Charity

Charity support in 2014-15 was primarily run through WMC's emergency needs program in its Masonic Outreach Services. More than \$9,000 was expended to assist individuals with emergency needs during the course of the year. In addition to emergency needs, some funds were expended to support Toys for the Troops Kids (a holiday program for E4 & below soldiers' families); and the Civility Project.

Washington Masonic Charities worked in partnership with the Grand Lodge Charity committee as needs arose. Significant effort was applied to working on a memorandum of understanding between the Charity Committee, Masonic Service Bureau and Washington Masonic Charities.

Scholarships

WMC Scholarships provide financial assistance for deserving youth. These scholarships support individuals who will be obtaining higher education in four year universities, two year colleges, and vocational schools. In 2014-15 the Scholarship Committee recommended the distribution of \$16,000 to ten individuals, comprised of juniors and seniors. Scholarship amounts ranged from \$4000 to \$10000. This also includes three scholarships for individuals within the masonic bodies – one scholarship each for DeMolay, Jobs Daughters, and Rainbow. WMC is working toward expanding the scope and amount of scholarship dollars awarded in 2015-16. Finally, WMC awarded one educator of the year award for an innovative and deserving educator. This was a \$500 award.

Finance

As of June 27, the WMC Audit of financial statements was not complete. This report will be amended and submitted accordingly to reflect the audited annual statement once produced. Presented below are the unaudited balance sheet basic information.

Balance Sheet - Unaudited

Current Assets	\$1,098,315.19
Property & Equipment	\$ 23,296.88
Other Assets	\$ 0.00
Total Assets	\$1,121,612.07
Current Liabilities	\$ 0.00
Long Term Liabilities	\$ 22,096.79
Total Liabilities	\$ 22,096.79
Total Capital	\$1,099,015.28
Total Liabilities & Cap	\$1,121,612.07

Profit & Loss - Unaudited

Total Revenue	\$933,500
Total Expenses	\$653,086
Net	\$280,414

2014-15 Board of Trustees

Officers

M:W: Bruce Vesper, President

W: Zane McCune, Vice President

R:W: Jim Mendoza, Secretary

W: Gene Ulrich, Treasurer

Trustees

M:W: Sam Roberts, Trustee

R:W: Don Munks

R:W: Warren Schoeben

R:W: David Owen

R:W: Warren Schoeben

R:W: David Owen

V:W: David Colbeth

Staff

Bro. Ken Gibson, MNPL, Executive Director

Byron Cregeur, Masonic Outreach Services Director

Andrea Hall, Supervising Case Manager

Marcia Washburn, LPN, Western Case Manager

Christine Fox, Eastern Case Manager

Monica Bradley, Office Manager

Washington Masonic Charities would like to also recognize the hard work and dedication of the Committee Members from the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Washington who worked tirelessly and with nothing expected in return to make these programs and services exceptional in our Grand Jurisdiction. A heartfelt thank you to each of them! We would be nothing without their dedication. Thank you!