



## Friends of Mid-Missouri Fisher House

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### **FRIENDS OF MID-MISSOURI FISHER HOUSE, INC. ANNUAL REPORT 2020**

The Friends of Mid-Missouri Fisher House, Inc. was organized, established and recognized as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization by the Internal Revenue Service and the state of Missouri in June 2018. The mission and purpose of the organization is to serve as the local, community partner for the Fisher House Foundation by raising awareness of and funds for the construction of a Fisher House on the grounds of the Harry S. Truman Memorial Veterans' Hospital in Columbia, Missouri as well as to provide assistance to that Fisher House once it opens. The estimated construction start of the Mid-Missouri Fisher House is sometime in 2023.

#### 2020 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Presented \$1 million grant proposal to Veterans United Foundation that was approved on November 5, 2020. A celebratory check presentation was conducted on November 23, 2020, at the site of the future Fisher House near the main entrance of Truman VA.
- Successfully planned and conducted the Second Annual Trivia Night event on January 31, 2020, which produced a net profit of \$6,842.
- Established a Capital Funds Account in order to earn interest on donated capital funds.
- Applied for and received Missouri State Sales Tax Exemption status.
- Provided presentations and/or information about the Mid-Missouri Fisher House to several groups and organizations throughout the year. (The opportunities dwindled significantly due to the COVID 19 pandemic.)
  - Mid-Missouri VFW Conference in Jefferson City, Mo. (February 2020)
  - Senior Marketing Specialists training conference in Columbia, Mo. (March 2020)
  - Missouri National Guard Family Resource training event in Jefferson City, Mo. (September 2020)
  - Heart of America Marathon board meeting in Columbia, Mo. (November 2020)
  - Veterans United Foundation board in Columbia, Mo. (November 2020)
  - Columbia Chamber of Commerce Virtual Expo (November 2020)
  - Sons of the American Revolution local chapter meeting in Columbia, Mo. (November 2020)
- Approved as a local organization for the 2020 Combined Federal Campaign in June 2020. A total of \$5,798 in pledges and donations was generated.
- Partnered with Central Bank of Boone County for a "Pennies for Patriots" fundraiser in June 2020, which resulted in a \$1,195 donation.
- Partnered with the Heart of America Marathon for its annual event on September 7, 2020. Our organization provided 11 volunteers to assist with the race in Columbia, Mo. Donations associated with this event and partnership totaled \$4,460.
- Successfully transferred the organization's website administration to Weebly, saving approximately \$450 in annual administrative fees.
- Submitted 33 grant requests from a wide variety of funders and mailed eight information packets to mid-Missouri companies requesting support. This activity resulted in two substantial gifts from foundations: (1) Allen P. and Josephine Green Foundation provided \$35,000 grant; (2) Fred V and Dorothy C Heinkel Charitable Foundation provided \$30,000 grant.

- Partnered with Central Missouri Mustang and Ford Club as one of four charities for the annual car show held in Jefferson City, Mo. on September 20, 2020, which resulted in a \$1,000 donation.
- Conducted another Doll House raffle in December 2020. The raffle for the donated doll house generated \$1,000.
- Partnered again with the local distributor for Matco Tools to receive proceeds from the sale of a promotional item to the company's customers, which resulted in a \$620 donation.
- Produced and published 16 informational videos on the organization's social media sites.
- Explored and participated in several fundraising opportunities including (1) Amazon Smiles, (2) USA Today/Gannett "A Community Thrives," (3) iGive online shopping application, (4) Facebook's "Giving Tuesday," and (5) "\$20 for 2020" online fundraiser.
- Adopted an organizational Non-Discrimination Statement and Policy in December 2020.
- Developed and distributed a newsletter to be published on a quarterly basis.
- Despite the pandemic, the Board of Directors continued to meet regularly throughout the year with virtual meetings.

## 2021 PLANS

- Continue to raise public awareness of the Mid-Missouri Fisher House to be built at Truman VA.
- Restart efforts to recruit and identify organization ambassadors in outlying communities/areas to include Kirksville, Mexico, Sedalia, Lake of the Ozarks, Saint James, Waynesville, and Marshfield.
- Continue efforts to identify and contact prospects as potential donors in conjunction with the Strategic Fundraising Plan. Pursue grants and donations from foundations as appropriate.
- Reapply for the 2021 Combined Federal Campaign and reapply for the 2021 Missouri State Employees Charitable Campaign.
- Identify alternative fundraiser(s) to replace the annual Trivia Night event that had to be canceled due to the pandemic.
- Maintain Facebook page and organizational website as well as expanding organizational presence in other social media platforms.
- Maintain and seek partnerships with fundraising activities such as Mid-Mo PGA Hope, the Heart of America Marathon & Relay and other events sponsored by veteran service and civic organizations.
- Apply for the 2021 CoMoGives Campaign.