

FRIENDS OF MID-MISSOURI FISHER HOUSE, INC.

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

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 initial mission and purpose of the organization was 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. The construction of the Mid-Missouri Fisher House started in July 2022 and was completed in May 2023. At that point, the newly constructed facility was "handed over" to the VA medical center to prepare it for opening in July. Subsequently, the organization's mission shifted away from its capital fund campaign, which ended on December 31, 2023. As a non-profit partner with Truman VA, our mission and purpose is (1) to support the Mid-Missouri Fisher House with the purchase of groceries and personal items for guests; (2) provide for emergency needs of the Fisher House; and (3) raise and enhance awareness of the Fisher House program.

2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Received \$2,052 donation from Boone County Government employees holiday party in January.
- Received \$1,000 donation from American Legion Post 624, Sunrise Beach, in January.
- Received \$2,000 donation from Show Me Cosmopolitan Club in January.
- Received \$1,500 donation from Missouri Elks Association in February.
- Received \$750 donation from Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary 1529 in February.
- Received \$1,000 donation from Columbia Rock Bridge Lions Club in March.
- Received \$500 donation from the Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity at Missouri Valley College, Marshall in April.
- Raised \$1,000 in a raffle for a donated Barbecue Grill and Smoker in May.
- Received \$1,000 donation from a Columbia Elks Club fundraiser in June.
- In July, received Patriot Award from the Fisher House Foundation in recognition of our sustained, successful support of the construction of the Mid-Missouri Fisher House.
- In July, partnered with the Fisher House Foundation and Truman VA in the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the Mid-Missouri Fisher House and tours of the facility following the ceremony.
- Received \$50,000 donation from Wagons for Warriors, Lebanon in July.
- Planned and conducted the third annual golf tournament to benefit the Mid-Missouri Fisher House at the Country Club of Missouri in Columbia on July 24. Veterans United Home Loans was the Title Sponsor again for the event, which produced a net profit of \$14,000.
- Purchased hardcover tri-fold guest books, name tag lanyards and notepad journals for Fisher House guest prior to the opening of the facility in late July.
- Joined Friends of St. Louis Fisher House with an information exhibit on Military Appreciation Day at the Missouri State Fair (Sedalia) in August.
- Partnered again with the Heart of America Marathon for its annual event in September. Our organization provided 15 volunteers to assist with the race in Columbia and received \$2,500 donation from the Columbia Track Club.

- In September, participated in SmokeFest 2023 in Hermann. This was the third year that our organization was the designated charity. Received \$5,000 donation in November.
- In October, received \$2,000 grant from MFA Oil Foundation, which was used to purchase two benches for the front entrance, two teakwood rocking chairs, a side table and umbrellas for the patio tables.
- In November, received \$5,000 donation from Central Bank of Boone County for the capital fund campaign, which was the first payment of a \$20,000 pledge to be paid over four years.
- In November, received a \$1,000 impact grant from Missouri Employers Mutual, which was applied to the purchase of floor cleaner for the Fisher House.
- In December, received donation of nearly \$5,000 from the “Hug a Hero” baseball cap fundraiser conducted by Central Bank of Boone County in November.
- Received unsolicited anonymous \$5,000 donation in December.
- Received \$2,432 donation from Isle of Capri Casino (Boonville) in December.
- In December, provided volunteer support for a local North Pole Lights & Grinch Photo fundraiser that resulted in a direct donation to the Fisher House.
- Approved as a participant in the 2023 Missouri State Employee Charitable Campaign and the 2023 CoMoGives Campaign. Total contributions pledged/received were \$6,448.
- Provided presentations and/or information about the Mid-Missouri Fisher House to several groups and organizations throughout the year.
 - Columbia Rock Bridge Lions Club (January)
 - American Legion Auxiliary Post 202 in Columbia (February)
 - Fulton Kiwanis Club (March)
 - Boonville Kiwanis Club (March)
 - Columbia Women’s Club (March)
 - Chamber of Commerce Showcase CoMo 2023 in Columbia (April)
 - American Legion Post 607 in Saint James (August)
 - Missouri State Fair Military Appreciation Day in Sedalia (August)
 - SmokeFest 2023 in Hermann (September)
 - Alpha Gamma Sigma fraternity at University of Missouri in Columbia (September)
 - Military Morning breakfast for veterans in Columbia (November)
 - Columbia United Church of Christ (November)
 - American Legion Post 57 in Bucklin (November)
 - Sons of American Legion Post 5 in Jefferson City (December)
 - Central Bank of Boone County employees (December)
- Partnered again with Central Missouri Mustang and Ford Club as one of four charities for the annual car show held in Jefferson City in September 2023, which resulted in a \$1,000 donation.
- Distributed Spring and Fall newsletters to past donors.
- Provided a monthly average of \$1,500 for groceries and personal items for Fisher House guests once the facility opened.

2024 PLANS

- Continue to raise public awareness of the Mid-Missouri Fisher House and the services it provides to families of veterans receiving care and treatment at Truman VA..

- Continue to raise funds in order to provide for groceries and personal items of guests as well as emergency needs for the Fisher House.
- Apply for the 2024 Combined Federal Campaign and reapply for the 2024 Missouri State Employee Charitable Campaign and CoMoGives 2024 fundraiser.
- Conduct fourth annual Golf Tournament to benefit the Mid-Missouri Fisher House.
- Pursue grants and donations from foundations as appropriate.
- Maintain Facebook page and other social media sites as well as the organizational website.
- Maintain and seek partnerships with fundraising activities such as the Heart of America Marathon & Fun Relay, Smokefest 2024 and other events sponsored by veteran service and civic organizations.
- Participate in one year anniversary event associated with the opening of the Mid-Missouri Fisher House in July 2023.
- Distribute semi-annual newsletter to past donors.