



**Working
Families'
Friend**

2018 GRATITUDE REPORT

“AS WE SUPPORT EACH OTHER, WE ARE SUPPORTED”

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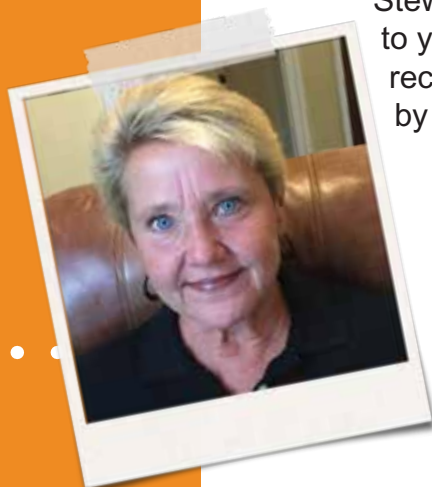
LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

What a great year 2018 was! Among other things, Working Families' Friend celebrated its 15th Birthday. When we first established our Mission in 2003 we weren't sure how we were going to go about fulfilling that mission but we were dedicated to trying. I was even caught saying on occasion, "we may or may not make it, it'll depend on whether people, companies and local labor unions think what we do is important and choose to support us." I'm proud to say, 15 years later that we MORE than made it. Thanks to you, we've raised millions of dollars and helped thousands of people.

A lot has changed though and we've had to adjust to the times. Fifteen years ago we certainly weren't concerned with Face Book or the role of Social Media in fund raising. Now, I'd like to ask you to follow us on Facebook and like us on Instagram, words I thought I'd never be writing.

Another significant event that took place last year left the staff at Working Families' Friend with mixed emotions. Our Founder and President, Mike Montgomery, retired at the end of the year. Although much could be written about Mike, his story and the impact he had is too much to capture here. The heart-felt Tribute you'll find on the following page is a small representation of what he accomplished.

Even though much has changed during Working Families' Friend's journey, one thing remains the same; we continue to carry out our Mission and serve the deserving working men and women that we do thanks to the continued support of our invaluable donors. We pride ourselves on being good Stewards of every dollar that you give us. Thanks to you, lives ARE being changed or, as one person recently put it, thanks to you we are changing lives by making it possible for lives not to change.



With Great Gratitude,

Joan E. Putthoff

Joan E. Putthoff
President

A TRIBUTE TO MIKE MONTGOMERY

Before 2003 there was a void in the social service network; Mike Montgomery filled that void when he envisioned Working Families' Friend. Mike believed that working people deserved a place to turn when they found themselves facing a one-time crisis and in need of financial assistance. He believed that these hard-working men and women who had supported themselves all their lives, and had given back generously to their communities, deserved to find a helping hand when they needed it, not a cold, "you don't qualify for help."

So, on April 1, 2003 -- yes, April Fool's Day -- Mike opened the doors of Working Families' Friend with only one thing in mind, providing service to working people. He knew that the service would have to be more than just financial assistance. He knew that working people needed a voice, someone to speak up on their behalf when they didn't have the time or tenacity to speak up for themselves. There was no better voice than Mike Montgomery. Whatever tenacity people lacked when trying to take on a problem, Mike had it covered and more. Whatever fight needed to be fought to help working people overcome adversity, he was up for it. Over the following 15 years, before his retirement, Mike would fight thousands of those fights.

It wasn't easy in the beginning. Some even wondered if the concept of Working Families' Friend would be accepted and supported. Mike, a one-man show, made the first deposit into the Working Families' Friend bank account to open it with a \$100 personal check. He flipped the switch on a very unfamiliar thing on his desk, a desktop computer, pulled out Word for Dummies, Excel for Dummies, and Windows for



Dummies and dug in. He didn't start with nothing though. He brought with him a lifetime of experience with people, decades of roots in the community and in Organized Labor, and a lot of friends cheering him on and encouraging him. But maybe most importantly, Mike brought passion.

Mike retired in December of 2018 and what a wake he left in his trail! Over the 15 years that Mike captained the Working Families' Friend ship, tens of thousands of people found help and support who otherwise would have had nowhere to turn.

Over 8,500 families received financial assistance totaling more than \$3.5 million. The little agency that opened its doors with a \$100 deposit now has an annual operating budget of nearly \$1 million. It's impossible to really know all the people who were touched, paths that were righted, or crises that were averted. But one thing is for sure, one man with vision, passion, tenacity and a will to succeed DID change lives.

Mike was able to retire knowing that he had built a strong foundation at Working Families' Friend and that things were set into place to ensure that people would continue to have a place to turn for much-needed help when they are out of other options. But, he also retired knowing that without the generosity of those that support Working Families' Friend we are nothing.

On behalf of the thousands of people helped over the last 15 years, THANK YOU Mike Montgomery, THANK YOU, you changed lives by making it possible for lives not to be changed.

**WFF
MISSION**

To gather resources in order to enable employed and recently unemployed individuals to sustain & maintain quality of life through assistance, training, advocacy, and financial support.

WHY OUR DONORS GIVE

“

I choose the convenience of allowing Working Families' Friend to take a small amount out of my checking account each month. It's not enough that I miss it, but I know that small amount is going to make a huge difference in someone's life. I'm a firm believer in working hard and taking care of your own family. When you do that your whole life and a crisis comes up, there should be a place to turn. Other than this agency, there is nobody that is willing to help working folks out. We all need a hand-up at one time in our lives. I'm happy that I'm able to offer that to someone.

No other agency provides assistance to working people. It's important that people don't have to lose their dignity when they need it most. I will always give because of the integrity of the agency, and the kindness of the staff.

It's a pleasure to support WFF that does so much for so many.

In many cases, your organization is the “firewall” between families of working people and the truly dire straits due to circumstances not of their own making. We know our donation will be put to good use.

The organization I belong to is a huge supporter of Working Families' Friend. We sponsor and attend all of their fundraising events and participate in the Penny per Hour Program. It is our way to show how much we value the service they provide to the community.

I make a contribution through weekly payroll deductions to United Way designated for Working Families' Friend. You really get to see your donated money go to work when you end up being a thankful beneficiary of a program that you help every week. Thank you, United Way. Thank you, Working Families' Friend.

”

AS WE **SUPPORT** EACH OTHER...

...WE ARE **SUPPORTED**

WHY YOUR GIFT MATTERS



“I had been battling an undiagnosed medical issue. Finally, last Spring I found a doctor that could help. While hospitalized for weeks, among other struggles, I wondered when I would return home and what that would be like. A long fight was ahead of me to try to adjust to what had now become my new way of life. You see, part of my

medical treatment included the amputation of one of my legs, above the knee. I knew I would be sent home from the hospital in a wheelchair and was going to need on-going therapy. To get released from the hospital, I had to have access to my home, which would require a wheelchair ramp to my front door. Working Families' Friend reached out to their friends and supporters with the Carpenters Regional Council St. Louis-KC. The carpenters showed-up at my house, did a professional job and they were fast. The ramp was completed with rails. It looks better than the pictures. Please let everyone involved know my appreciation. I am lost for the right words to adequately express my thanks, but it comes from the bottom of my heart. Working Families' Friend can't always stop bad things from happening, but they certainly can help make a very difficult situation better. I will always be grateful for their help.

”

“You were a huge help when I had no idea what I was going to do. I will pay it forward and NOT forget how you helped me. You provided a lifeline for my family. God bless everyone for what you do.”

“I am grateful for the help. I don't think there was anyplace else where I could get assistance after I broke my neck and had to be off work for almost three months.”

“Thank you so much for helping my family. Your program is amazing and I thank each and every one of you and your donors. My family isn't one to ask for help. We usually choose just to go without.”

“We are out of the house for eight to ten months while our house is being rebuilt after the fire. Replacing essentials is overwhelming. The assistance is greatly appreciated and will help us a great deal until the insurance company finds us temporary housing. Thank you.”

“My husband endured a traumatic brain injury and we're still not certain of his prognosis. Your assistance will help with some of the medical bills that we are facing. We would like to thank everyone involved in this most generous offering of love and compassion. It means so much. Thank you!”

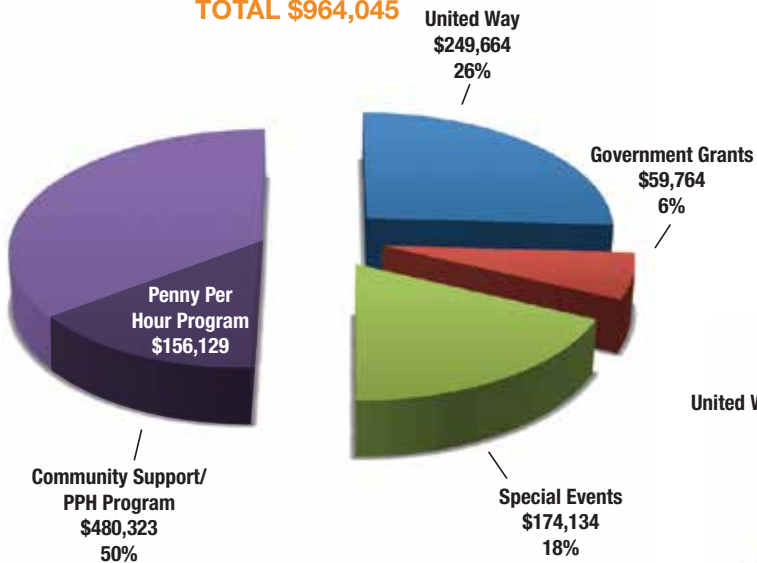
HOW YOU CAN HELP TRANSFORM SOMEONE'S LIFE TODAY

- Monthly Automatic Withdrawal from your account
- Make a donation by writing a check
- Contribute Online at our www.wffriend.org
- Donate directly through PayPal: donate@wffriend.org
- Payroll deduction through:
 - The United Way of Greater Kansas City
 - The Combined Federal Campaign
 - Missouri State Employees Charitable Campaign
 - City of Kansas City, Missouri Combined Charities Campaign
- Participate in our Penny Per Hour Program
- Support our Annual Fundraising Events
- Set up a Facebook Birthday Fundraiser selecting Working Families' Friend as your charity of choice
- Memorial gift to honor the passing of a loved one
- If you choose to shop on Amazon, please use AMAZON SMILE and designate Working Families' Friend as your charity of choice.

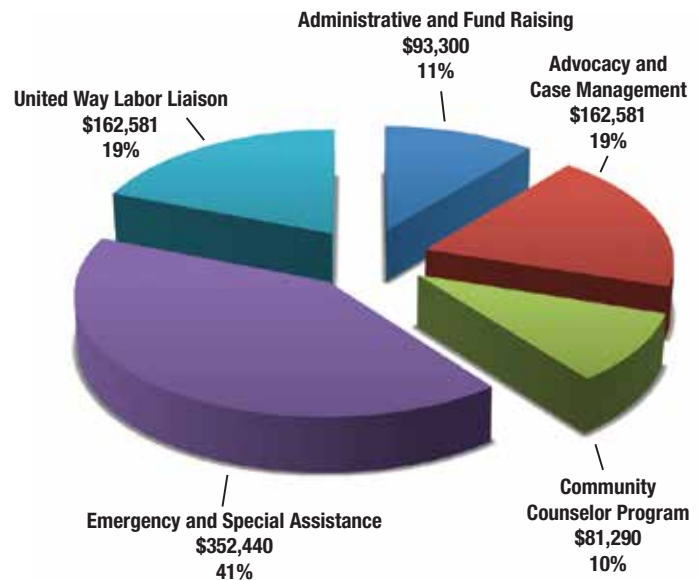
As a not-for-profit agency, we are eligible to receive tax deductible donations under current IRS guidelines.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

2018 INCOME TOTAL \$964,045



2018 EXPENSE TOTAL \$852,192



PENNY PER HOUR



Our Penny Per Hour Program is the cornerstone of support we receive from the community.

2018 PENNY PER HOUR PARTICIPANTS

Carpenters Local #315
Construction and General Laborers Local #264
Construction and General Laborers Local #319
Construction and General Laborers Local #1290
Floorlayers Local #1181
IAFF Local #42
IAFF Local #3112
IAFF Local #3808

KC Steel Supply, Inc.
Painters Local #2012
Painters Local #2015
Pipefitters Local #533
Plasterers' & Cement Masons Local #518 (OPCMIA Local #518)
Plumbers and Gasfitters Local #8
Security Police Fire Professionals of America
Sheet Metal Workers Local #2
Teamsters Local #541

WORKING FAMILIES' FRIEND 2018 DONOR PARTNERS.....

We are grateful to all who support Working Families' Friend. We are here for you because of you. Your recent gift has life-changing effects. Our incredibly generous partners believe in our mission. There is no better community of support than the individuals, corporations and organizations listed below.

We make every effort to make sure the list is complete and accurate. If you contributed to Working Families' Friend in 2018 and are not listed, please accept our deepest apology and contact us immediately in order to update our records.

Again, we thank you for your generous support! Your gift has already been put to work.

\$20,000 & ABOVE

Argosy Casino Hotel & Spa
IAFF Local #42
Jackson County
Operating Engineers Local #101
Pipefitters Local #533
Sheet Metal Workers Local #2
Truist

\$10,000 - \$19,999

Carpenters Local #315
Alan Frisbee
Iron Workers Local #10
Kansas City Building & Trades Council
Laborers Local #264
Plumbers & Gasfitters Local #8
SPFPA Local #249
Teamsters Joint Council #56
Teamsters Local #41
UAW Local #249
Unified Government-Hollywood Casino Charitable Fund

\$5,000 - \$9,999

AT&T Employee Giving Campaign
Blue Cross Blue Shield of KC
Tom & Barbara Burke
Cement Masons (OPCMIA Local 518)
CWA/AT&T Charity Golf Tournament Committee
Heartland Combined Federal Campaign
IAM Local #778
Laborers Local #1290
Laborers Local #663
Teamsters Local #455
Teamsters Local #541
United Way of Greater Kansas City

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Joseph Adams
Aetna, Inc.
AFGE Local #3399-Harry S. Truman Vet Hospital
AFSCME Local #500
Amalgamated Transit Union Local #1287
Asbestos Workers Local #27
Anita Autrey
Blake & Uhlig, P.A.
Boyd, Kenter, Thomas &

Parrish, LLC
Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers #15
Carpenters Local #1127
Carpenter's Regional Council St. Louis-KC
Country Club Bank
CWA Local #6360
Duke Dujakovich
Floorlayers Local #1181
Glaziers Local #558
Governor Stumpy's Grill House
Greater KC AFL-CIO
Heavy Constructors Association
Joseph Helin
HMC Companies
Diane & Michael Horning in Memory of Andy Horning
IAFF Local #3112
IAFF Local #42 Retirees
IBEW Local #124
IBEW Local #1464
IBEW Local #412
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Millwrights Local #1529
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Kevin O'Neill
OPEIU Local #277
Painters District Council #3
Painters Local #2012
Plumbers & Pipefitters Local #178
Principal Financial Group
Joan Putthoff
Darik Rademacher
Kimberly Rowland
RPCS, Inc.-Ramey's Price Cutter
Stephen Ruley
Kevin Ryan
SEIU Local #1
Ralph Stubbs
Teamsters Joint Council #3
Teamsters Local #396
Teamsters Local #633
Teamsters Local #838
The Hood Law Group, LLC
UAW Local #31

UFCW Local #1
Ullico Investment Company
United Labor Credit Union
United Way of Milwaukee & Waukesha County
UPS Foundation
Western MO & KS Laborers' Dist. Council

\$500 - \$999

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Conference USA & Canada
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Brandon Boger
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Bright Dental
Kenneth Brown
Mark Campbell
Joe Camper
Susan Cowart
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Elevator Constructors Local #12
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Henry County United Way
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IAFF Local #3808
IBEW Local #53
International Brotherhood of Teamsters
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\$100 - \$499

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Working Families' Friend

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United Way of
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unitedwaykc.org

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