



## *A Letter from the President - December 2022*

*AT&T Ameritech/SBC Retirees - We are AASBCR®*

Dear AASBCR® Member,

As we celebrate Christmas season 2022, a season of giving, we thought it important to share with you an update on donations and grant activity that you - the members of AASBCR® - have enabled.

About five years ago we started offering grants and donations on a trial basis to charitable organizations that benefit seniors and the community at large. Our first grant in 2018 was to **Three Gaits**, a Therapeutic Horsemanship Center in Wisconsin, providing therapeutic riding sessions to children and adults with special needs. The grant paid for two 12-week sessions for two young sisters. Our next grant in 2020 was provided to **Vets Helping Heroes**, an organization in Florida that provides service dogs to veterans. That grant helped pay for training a service dog for a returning vet.

In 2021 we awarded two more grants. The first was to the **Midtown Educational Foundation**, an organization that guides low-income urban youth along pathways of success. The grant paid for scholarships to two of their outstanding students. The second was to **Changing Children's World**, a foundation that strives to reduce the incidence of violence and neglect by strengthening the capacity of parents and caregivers to care for the development and emotional wellbeing of children. That grant paid for a six-week workshop for parents and children. Each time we provided a grant we featured a story about the organization and how the grant money was used.


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This year we have funded four grants. The first of those was to **Play Global**, a non-profit organization that teaches baseball to coaches and youth in developing countries and areas of conflict. Play Global uses baseball as a way to help kids see past their differences, respect others, and play as a team. You can read more about Play Global in the 4Q Newsletter. In the coming weeks and months, we will be featuring stories about our other grants, **Ride Assist Naperville** in Illinois, **Englewood Meals on Wheels** in Florida and **West Park Meals on Wheels** in Ohio.

In addition to the grants, we also felt it was appropriate to donate to organizations that respond to disasters and hunger needs in the United States and around the world. We donated to **Feeding America**, an organization that supports foodbanks, throughout the U.S.

We also donated to **World Central Kitchen**, headed by Chef Jose Andras, an organization that provides meals to those in humanitarian, climate and community crises. Their response to those in need in Ukraine, in Florida following hurricane Ian and in Puerto Rica, following hurricane Fiona, put them high on our list of organizations that deserve our support.

Our final donation was to **Samaritan's Purse**, an organization praised by our members in Florida for providing aid to residents impacted by the destruction wreaked by hurricane Ian.

We can only do this because of your incredible generosity. You should be proud of what your donations have accomplished.

Thank you for your support and warm wishes for a beautiful holiday season and a happy new year.

Sincerely,

*Mary Foley*

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Here are some pictures and information about our grants and donations:

### Three Gaits Horsemanship Center



### Changing Children's World



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## Vets Helping Heros



Navy Veteran Alberto O'Neil and his service dog Murray



Murray as a puppy

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## Midtown Educational Foundation



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More Midtown Educational Foundation



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## Feeding America

### Feeding America's Vision: An America without Hunger

Feeding America is the largest charity working to end hunger in the United States. We partner with food banks, food pantries, and local food programs to bring food to people facing hunger. We advocate for policies that create long-term solutions to hunger.

Learn more about Feeding America at [U.S. Hunger Relief Organization | Feeding America](http://www.feedingamerica.org)

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## World Central Kitchen in Florida



Read more about WCK's actions in Florida at: [World Central Kitchen \(wck.org\)](http://wck.org)

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World Central Kitchen - Ukraine



WCK is supporting Ukrainians through harsh winter. For more information, see:

[World Central Kitchen \(wck.org\)](http://wck.org)

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## Samaritan's Purse Florida



See Samaritan's Purse in action in Florida after Hurricane Ian:

[Samaritan's Purse Serves Thanksgiving Lunch to Hurricane Ian Survivors](http://samaritanspurse.org)  
([samaritanspurse.org](http://samaritanspurse.org))

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