

MasonicAid

MasonicAid encompasses three programs of the Masonic & Eastern Star Home Board that are funded through annual earnings of the Home Endowment Fund. MasonicAid is a means of helping worthy and distressed Oregon Master Masons, their wives, and widows, as well as female members of an Oregon Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star. Outreach services began in 2009 to identify and coordinate needed services for Masonic members that can improve the quality of their life and help them stay independent in their own community. This is done through a variety of services depending on where the member lives and what may be available, such as:

- Coordination of community and governmental services
- Assistance with applications, making connections with services providers, and solving problems in those connections
- Referral to agencies offering resources or support
- Education on issues related to accessing services and dealing with senior related issues
- Ongoing case management

The goal is achieved by collaboration of the Masonic & Eastern Star Home (MESH), the OutReach Coordinator and members of Masonic Lodges and Eastern Star Chapters. These services may be available through local community and social service organizations, government agencies, volunteer groups, and the members of Masonic Lodges or Eastern Star Chapters. All services are confidential and can be begun by an individual, a Lodge or a Chapter contacting the OutReach Services Coordinator, Danielle Christopherson, at the Grand Lodge office. Individuals who are eligible for the MasonicAid OutReach Services include:

- Oregon Mason in good standing for the previous five years
- Wife or widow of an Oregon Mason in good standing for the previous five years
- Female member of the Oregon Order of Eastern Star in good standing for the previous five years

Situations that may indicate help is needed include: lack of socializing, unhealthy living conditions, strained finances, transportation needs, and other factors that affect quality of life as one ages. Once a referral is made to the OutReach Services Coordinator an assessment is completed to determine individual needs. A service plan is then developed and help available through community resources is coordinated. There is some financial assistance available for some services if resources in the community and natural supports are not available. Those services include:

- In-home care
- Personal emergency response systems
- Meals On Wheels
- Temporary 24-hour in home help following injury or illness
- Respite for caregivers
- Transportation and shopping
- Durable Medical Equipment

All other resources; including community, Medicare/Medicaid and personal insurance must be exhausted prior to the utilization of Masonic Financial Assistance. The OutReach Coordinator will assist with this process. OutReach Services is always in need of donations. If you would like to make a safe and secure donation online you may do so by typing the WEB page address and following the directions on the page (<http://www.masonic-oregon.com/for-members/donate-online>.) You may also designate your donation to OutReach Services by phone call or mailing directly to The Masonic Grand Lodge of Oregon.

The Masonic Grand Lodge of Oregon
2150 Masonic Way
Forest Grove, OR 97116
(503) 357-3158 or (800) 970-9920

2014 Scholarship Program

The Lodge is once again offering scholarships to high school seniors, RCC and SOU students, and graduates of Medford and Central Point high schools who are attending other colleges. Information on the program is available on the Lodge's web site (www.medfordlodge103.org) by clicking on Scholarship Program on the left side of the home page. The scholarship policy statement is included on this page. It lists eligibility criteria for students and also identifies which private schools are included in the program. Student application forms are available on this page for download. If you do not have internet access, you may also contact Gary or Howard in the Secretary's Office at 541-772-2541 to have a policy statement and application mailed to you. All applications must be completed by students and received in the Secretary's office by March 15 to be considered.

Let's Go To Lodge Tonight

My brother, let's go to Lodge tonight; you haven't been for years. Let's don our Lambskin Aprons white and sit among our peers.

I feel a kind of longing, see, to climb those creaky stairs; I know it'll be a thrill for me to lay aside my cares.

We'll meet the Tyler at the door and though he'll hesitate, we'll hear him say just as before, "Come in or you'll be late."

I'd like to get out on the floor--Come on, let's get in line; I want to face the East once more and give the same old sign.

I want to hear the gavel rap the Craftsmen to attention and see the Master don his cap; a night without dissention.

So come! Pass up that picture show, or your wrestling bout or fight; switch off that TV set!

Let's go!

Let's go to Lodge tonight.

(author unknown)