

Group Projects, 2012 - 2022

2012 GROUP PROJECT AWARDS

Lake- Challenger Program
Elkhart- Reality Store
LaGrange- School Supplies
White- United Way/Reading Junction
Bartholomew- Prepared backpacks
Boone- Bags for abused women
Johnson- Bathrooms Dollens School
DuBois- Community Meals
Evansville- Files of Life
Dearborn- Aims web reading program

2013 GROUP PROJECT AWARDS

Lake- Partnering with Wal-Mart
Porter- A Forum and Update
Clay- Fleece blankets for the elderly
Tippecanoe/Benton/Carroll- K/1 Readers
Montgomery- Started a Free clinic
Bartholomew- Book Express
Hancock- Shoes for the Homeless Shelter
Delaware- Gift Lift
Dubois- County classroom themed float
Evansville- Hosting high school art show
Dearborn- Supporting the active teachers
Washington- Operation Smile

2014 GROUP PROJECT AWARDS

Lake- Challenger Project
St. Joseph- Support of Ronald McD. House
Elkhart- Project Mexico
DeKalb- DeKalb Co. Humane Program
La Grange- Backpacks and Supplies
Clinton- Tutoring and Food Donations
T/B/C- "Great Reads Program" additions
Clay- "Fleece Knotted Blankets"
Parke-Verm. - Food and Money Donations
Putnam- Gift Giving
Madison- Supplies to Food Pantries
Randolph- RCRTA Project
Bartholomew- Preschool Support
Hancock- Help for Those in Need
Greene- Teacher Supply Help

2014 GROUP PROJECT AWARDS

(Continued)

Monroe- Fund Raising County Fair
Dubois- Donating Eyeglasses
Vanderburgh- Empowering Individuals
Dearborn- Third World Help for Children

2015 GROUP PROJECT AWARDS

Pulaski- Assisting Elementary Nurses and Counselors
St. Joseph- Donating to Veteran Residents
DeKalb- Supporting Acres Land Trust
LaGrange- Collecting backpacks for County Clothes and Food Basket distribution
LaGrange- Scholarships to seniors planning to become teachers
Clinton- Salvation Army Food Pantry Help
Clinton- Community Tutoring Program at local schools
Tippecanoe-Benton-Carroll- Great Reads Program Improvements
Clay- Northview High School hygiene and Clothes donation help
Montgomery- Local Fine Arts Teacher monetary help from money donation to RTA
Parke-Vermillion- Help for local Lions Club
Putnam- Donations to scholarship program
Vigo- School supply help to teachers
Johnson- Outgrowth project of IRTA Active Teacher Grants
Delaware – Corinth School renovation and reopening
Randolph- Partnership with Farmland Community Center for Senior Center
Bartholomew- "Young Designers" Program
Hancock- Imagination Library Express
Monroe-Owen- Focus on Rural Schools
Dubois- Classes to learn Excel for Officer help
Vanderburgh- Hangers Project (Clothing Bank)

Group Projects, 2012 - 2022

2015 GROUP PROJECT AWARDS

(Continued)

Warrick- Socks Collected for the Evansville Rescue Mission

Dearborn- Found New Funding for the local Schools

Ripley- Pillowcase Dresses and Shorts for children in Brazil, Haiti, and Togo

Washington- “Ever After” Program

2016 GROUP PROJECT AWARDS

Lake- Foster children guests of honor

St Joseph- Financial support to Chiara group home

Allen- Help for the Allen County Honor Flight

DeKalb- Help in funding Elkhart Public Library Fountain Renovation Project

Cass- Partnered with Walton, IN Lions Club to collect and distribute eyeglasses, frames, sunglasses, and frames

Clinton- Teachers assisting fourth grade students for Indiana Bicentennial contest

Boone- Help in providing the Battered Women’s Shelter with non-perishable food and provisions

Parke-Vermillion- Made Pencil boxes for fourth graders studying Indiana history

Hamilton- Christmas project was to provide children from Sheridan Methodist Church with new books

Grant- Held silent auctions, 50/50 raffles and sold Christmas wreaths to raise money for donation to the IRTA Foundation

Randolph- School and craft supplies were collected and distributed to the county’s schools and to Jay/Randolph Developmental Services

Hancock- Work with Alternatives, Inc., a domestic violence shelter in Anderson, IN

Daviess/Martin- Designed and constructed a parade float, “The Classroom- Past, Present, and Future” Award money was given to a local first year teacher whose name was drawn at random

Knox- RTA chose to fund KETA, who supplies items to needy children for use at school

2016 GROUP PROJECT AWARDS

(Continued)

Monroe- Participated in the literacy component of the Indiana Bicentennial celebration

Dubois- Honor Flight Network took honored veterans of WWII and Korean War to the memorials at Washington, DC

Warrick- This RTA partnered with the soup kitchen at a local church to provide meals for those in need

Dearborn- Sponsored a poetry contest for school children to celebrate Indiana’s Bicentennial

Ripley- RTA members worked to get funds for the purchase of cook stoves for the preparation of meals for children in South Sudan orphanages

Washington- RTA members raised funds for “Jump Start,” a program which provides back packs and school supplies for children in need

2017 GROUP PROJECT AWARDS

Lake- Help for the Northwest Indiana Symphony Orchestra

St Joseph- Participation in the “Michiana Military Stand Down”

De Kalb- Funds donated to purchase needed items to northern Alaska

La Grange- Participation in planning and organization of project, “The Farm.”

Clinton- Assisting the area’s Salvation Army with organizing food pantries

Montgomery- Monetary donations to educators in the county

Morgan- Participating in the Teacher Appreciation Week activities for Morgan County Educators

Parke/Vermillion- Planning and Implementation of two stores for middle and high school students in County

Putnam- Collected non-food items and donated to a food pantry in county

Vigo- Participated with the area’s Catholic Charities to provide food and non-perishables for the “Back Pack” program

Group Projects, 2012 - 2022

2017 GROUP PROJECT AWARDS

(Continued)

Delaware- Increased their participation with the “Back to School Teacher Store” in 2017

Randolph- Regularly and actively support Jay-Randolph Developmental Services as well as the Farmland Community and Senior Center

Brown- Upgrading the “Secret Garden” at the Brown County Health and Living Alzheimer’s Wing

Dubois- Support for Santa’s Elves in Santa Claus, Indiana by helping to reply to letters from children all over the world addressed to Santa

Blue River- Volunteered to serve ice cream at a local nursing/rehab facility once a week

Dearborn- The Foundation, along with Dearborn County Hospital and Walmart recognized nurses in Dearborn and Ohio Counties

Ripley- Partnered with Bucket Buddies Mission, Inc. by providing buckets to children who have cancer or other life-threatening illnesses and are patients in hospitals

Southeast Division- Members collected children’s books to be used when volunteering in the schools and then read them to the students

Washington County RTA- Help for the Salem Domestic Shelter with a new home for their food bank

2018 GROUP PROJECTS AWARDS

Pulaski – Support for Community Reading Corner

St. Joseph- Donation to local Alzheimer and Dementia Services of Northern Indiana

DeKalb- Help for the Historical Museum

LaGrange- Stuffed animals for the Farm Project

Clinton- Help to the Crossing School

Montgomery- Help for outreach groups

Parke-Vermillion- Reading to kindergarten students

2018 GROUP PROJECTS AWARDS

(Continued)

Delaware- Help for the Children’s Center of Delaware County

Randolph- Support for the Winchester House
Hancock- Support for the Talitha Koum Recovery Home.

Greene- Delivering supplies to the teachers of Greene County

Knox- Help with local program, “Helping His Hands”

Monroe-Owen RTA- Help for a local school reading program

Dubois- Recycling, Reusing, and Donating

Dearborn- Raised funds for grants for educational activities and projects, K-12

Ripley- Book distribution during Lions’ Club vision screening in the schools

2019 GROUP PROJECTS AWARDS

Lake- Provide grant money for active teachers in their county

St. Joseph- Donated to St Margaret’s house, a day shelter for women and children in South Bend

DeKalb- Donated to the Shriner’s Hospital for Children in Cincinnati and Chicago

LaGrange- Helped local teachers acquire boxes to move their classrooms to a new classroom or school.

Boone- Collected personal care items, underwear, and socks for Sylva’s Place.

Hendricks- This group continued their \$1,000 teacher scholarships but made a special effort to increase the number of applicants through awareness of this help.

Montgomery- Is involved with Pam’s Promise, a non-profit transitional program for the homeless men, women and children.

Parke-Vermillion- This RTA improved their group project of “If You Give a Kid a Book” which was to give each kindergartner a book in each county.

Group Projects, 2012 - 2022

2019 GROUP PROJECTS AWARDS

(Continued)

Vigo- Teachers brought gently read or new books, periodicals, or unused puzzle books to distribute to local hospital waiting rooms, especially the ICU family waiting rooms.

Delaware- They expanded their Gift Lift program that serves those in nursing/group homes who have no family to provide gifts or remembrances at Christmas or Valentine's Day.

Madison- They continued to assist the indigent residents through local food banks and churches by bringing in canned goods.

Randolph- They supported the Worldwide Free Library Program. Protected wooden boxes with book were put up in the county so children can trade a book or just take a book to read.

Bartholomew- In addition to its food offering to needy families, this RTA helped with address verification, registration, and hospitality during two of the four days the pantry was open.

Hancock- This group supported Hope House, a local homeless shelter which serves several surrounding counties.

Monroe-Owen- They joined with "First Book Nations" by collecting money to purchase books through this program. The funds would be used to purchase books to be distributed at Templeton Elementary School, an International School.

Dubois- Members helped the local Humane Society. They collected money, old towels, and needed supplies.

Dearborn- They added barrettes to their pillowcase dress project to improve the overall effect of the dresses.

2019 GROUP PROJECTS AWARDS

(Continued)

Jackson- They collected personal care items and then gave them to the organization "Double Down Outreach." This group prepares a weekly simple dinner for the homeless in their area.

Ripley- They continued its support of youth in underdeveloped countries. They filled shoe boxes with toys, clothing, school supplies, and personal items.

2020 GROUP PROJECTS AWARDS

Lake- Members shared where they volunteered and gave a view of their activities. Volunteer projects were spotlighted in their newsletter.

DeKalb- Big Brothers Big Sisters was the group project in DeKalb County. They elected to give a money gift to help the organization. Funds were kept for use within their county.

Boone- They collected toiletries which were given to the United Methodist Children's Home. This home is a home for boys.

Montgomery- Members donated personal care and paper goods, money to 4 Anchors Women's Ministries, CASA, and The Blue Star Mother's organization. This is a group of women who have sons and daughters in the military.

Putnam- This RTA donated small gift items to members in assisted living and nursing homes at some holidays. The gifts were for personal enjoyment.

Delaware- They donated money which was matched by a grant award to buy teacher supplies.

Group Projects, 2012 - 2022

2020 GROUP PROJECTS AWARDS

(Continued)

Madison- This RTA supported several local food pantries. Since they had no meetings, they gave money to support these food pantries.

Bartholomew- They developed a virtual presentation to review important dictionary skills instead of going into the schools.

Hancock- One of the projects was Love, INC. (Love, in the name of Christ). This church based organization provides help to those in need. They brought in hygiene items, cleaning supplies, pantry items, paper goods, and gas cards.

Brown- Improved their memory garden project. The club updated flowers, maintained bushes and provided new tools.

Dearborn- Made three layer masks and distributed them to various agencies. They made over 2000 masks.

Ripley- They added personal donations of money and gave food directly to the banks in addition to the RTA giving money.

2021 GROUP PROJECTS AWARDS

Lake- LCRTA board formed a team to assist the Pack to Give Back program coordinated by the Food Bank of Northwest Indiana.

Parke-Vermilion- This RTA improved their group project of "If You Give a Kid a Book" which was to give each kindergartner a book in each county.

Vigo- Collected clothing and personal hygiene items which were donated to Catholic Charities Christmas store where needy people could shop and wrap gifts for their family.

Bartholomew- Provided backpacks and supplies for Afghan students located at Camp Atterbury plus backpacks and supplies to students in the area.

Hancock- Contributed to Journey Bags, a partner of Hands of Hope, an organization which provides a one week supply of clothing and toiletries for underprivileged children who are placed in foster homes.

Dubois- Volunteers donated their time to the local Dubois County Museum including logging items, greeting visitors and instructing fourth graders about the history.

Dearborn- They worked with the Reuse Coordinator to sort through many skids of donated Christmas decorations. They transformed a warehouse into a Christmas specialty shop. They worked in shifts during a three day Give-Away for customer who shopped for free.

Ripley- They continued their support of youth in underdeveloped countries by filling shoe boxes with school supplies and making sure each box contained books.

2022 GROUP PROJECTS AWARD

ST. Joseph - Donations provided books for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library.

Dekalb - Supported the Image of Hope Ranch. The program is for a child, teen, or adult who may struggle emotionally.

Clinton - Volunteered at the Frankfort Hospital by wrapping gifts to help the patients and provide a scholarship to a local school.

Miami - had a plant/yard decoration auction. Proceeds go into their scholarship fund, which is invested in our local Community Foundation.

Boone - Provided monetary support for a small non-profit "Wishing Wings" which provides stylish clothing and personal care products for foster children, middle schoolers and high school students.

Group Projects, 2012 - 2022

2022 GROUP PROJECTS AWARD (cont.)

Fountain-Warren – Provided baskets filled with candy, gum, snacks and tea including samples for those with health concerns at each of the buildings within the school communities.

Hendricks – The VA was contacted, and they requested lap blankets for the VA hospital. Members developed a fleece prototype which was a full body blanket with a muff pocket on the front. Members gathered with their sewing machines for a sewing day and then continued making the blankets from home. The group also donated a variety of other items to the VA clients.

Vigo County - Donated more than twenty boxes of clothing, personal hygiene items, baby items, cleaning supplies, school supplies, and diapers to CODA – Council on Domestic Abuse.

Johnson – Kic-it (Kids in Crisis Intervention Team) serves homeless children in Johnson County. Collected items and put together 20 grooming kits including a monetary gift. On their Local membership form, they added a line for people to donate directly to Kic-it when they pay their dues.

Grant – Chose to help the Salvation Army as their project. Some were bell ringers. Also donated food items and gave monetary donations. The Angel Tree (gifts for children only) was encouraged on an individual basis.

Bartholomew County – They decided to help two school corporations by promoting a clothing drive. Nurses in the schools need clothing for students. Also encouraged monetary donation to supplement other purchases needed.

Hancock County - Supported the Andis Women's Clinic to provide screening health

services for all women with an emphasis on those women who are at risk and uninsured or underinsured.

Whitewater Valley – Helped those students who have decided to make education a career. To do this members collected gently used shoes which went to Africa, South America and the Philippines. After collecting 3,000 shoes they were able to use the money to award their first scholarship.

Daviess-Martin – “Pennies from Heaven” -- Monetary donations collected and presented to two libraries' summer reading programs. Another donation was given to Camp Illiana plus an additional donation of cleaning supplies to aid the camp in their mission.

Dubois – Volunteered many hours at the Alexander School House located in Jasper, Indiana which was one of the 124 one-room schoolhouses in Dubois County.

Ripley – They expanded their ongoing project with Samaritan's Purse and its International Relief Organization through its project “Operation Christmas Child”. Besides the shoeboxes which included school supplies and at least one book they also included an article of clothing in each box.