



MISSOURI RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION AND PUBLIC SCHOOL PERSONNEL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Missouri Retired Teachers Association and Public School Personnel Members Donate Almost \$18 Million in Community Service to Missouri Communities

JEFFERSON CITY, MO – March 19, 2019 – The Missouri Retired Teachers Association and Public School Personnel (MRTA) presented a check representing \$17,823,538 in community service hours donated in 2018 to Missouri's citizens at its annual Unit President Summit in Jefferson City on March 12-13, 2019. MRTA members reported volunteering 721,893 hours back to their communities during 2018. Washington D.C.'s Independent Sector places a value of \$24.69 per hour for community volunteers. In addition to hours of service, members also reported donating 58,081 food items and cash donations exceeding \$729,490 to food pantries and food banks within their communities.

Community Service plays an important role in the activities of MRTA's 145 local units and its more than 28,000 members across the state of Missouri. As statewide community service projects, members participate in the Community Hunger Action Program and the Ronald McDonald Tab Top Collection Program. Members also donate their time working at soup kitchens, senior centers, visiting patients in hospitals and nursing home residents, mentoring students, at local churches and charity events.

MRTA, organized in 1960, is a grassroots not-for-profit corporation working exclusively for retired school personnel. MRTA members strive to uphold and improve the integrity, value, and mission of our public schools, so that all school personnel may live healthy, vital lives and be secure economically, socially, and professionally in retirement. MRTA works with government and its entities for beneficial legislation, and encourages its members to be involved in community affairs and to work for worthy educational causes. Its mission is, "To serve and not to be served."

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