

**Name of Committee:** Elder Care Work Group

**Members:** Maureen Tate, Martha Heidkamp (H&W Fund Administrator), Sharon Joslyn, Mary DiVito

**Chair:** Maureen Tate

**Meetings:** We meet by conference call every two months for two hours.

**Recent activities and priorities.**

1. Annual Review

Several years ago, we instituted a September Annual Review during which we contact all current H&W recipients as well as those who are included in the Actuarial Study but not yet receiving supplements. We ask for personal annual budget projections so that adjustments to monthly supplements can take place in January of the coming year. Individuals also update a personal planning form that requests information on POA's, family contacts, funeral plans, etc.

This year the annual review anticipated preparation for the 2018 H&W Actuarial Study, originally scheduled for December, 2018. However, both the September Review and the Actuarial Study were purposely delayed, as ECWG team members were participating in International Grail meetings that delayed correspondence with recipients. Furthermore, we have been involved in an extensive review of our older members in order to identify anyone who is eligible for H&W, even if they once thought their personal resources would be sufficient since many are living longer than they ever expected

We have concluded our outreach to all eligible members via mail, email, phone and private meetings. This took a great deal of time. However, we have determined, to the best of their and our ability, all who may still need to draw on H&W funds.

At the conclusion of the Annual Review we note there are 39 individuals that we are in relationship with on a variety of matters. We do not have financial responsibility for all. There are 18 members we are working with to assess financial needs as they evolve. There are 6 members who are currently receiving monthly supplements.

2. H&W Actuarial Study

The Actuarial Study will be submitted during the week of February 25. Martha Heidkamp was confirmed to be the primary contact with the Actuarial firm and has been in contact with them. Some Grail elders will be removed from the Actuarial because their circumstances have changed and they have stable support from other sources. Other eligible members will be added so that we can continue to assess the adequacy of the Fund in relation to projected need. Although the Actuarial Study has been conducted every three years, with advice from the actuarial firm we may need to increase the frequency to meet the evolving needs of those eligible.

3. Personal Planning Forms

We have developed, and continue to fine tune, a personal planning form for those we are in relationship with, in order to track important information regarding POAs, family contacts, housing transitions, funeral planning, biographical information, etc. We hope to make this available to all members in the future as a planning tool for later years.

#### 4. Ongoing support to Grail Elders

In addition to the work noted above, we continue routine check ins with primary caretakers for a few individuals. We each continue to visit with particular elders, especially those in residential care settings. We are continuing follow up with Grail members in Louisiana. We are assisting members in identifying housing options and strategies for financial planning. We communicate, where necessary, with family members.

#### **Obstacles that need to be addressed:**

We identified the issue of needing a consistent way of reporting on the death of Grail members to US members and internationally. We appreciate staff sensitivity and assistance with this. We will follow up on this with them and the NLT.

Once the Actuarial Study is completed and we have reviewed the results, we will want to do a thorough review with Council to make sure that Council understands the Actuarial Study and its implications.

#### **Do you have the resources you need to complete your work?**

Yes. We are fortunate to have Kelly Lipp's expertise and careful management of the H&W accounts. We also appreciate the sensitivity of the National office staff in alerting us to any concerns they have about individuals and for directing questions and issues to us as they arise.

**Do you anticipate changes in the membership of your group next year?** not at this time

#### **Are all committee members able to fully participate?**

All are participating fully. While Martha has more responsibility for financial tasks as H&W Manager for our team, we all fully participate in review and discussion and assume follow up tasks at each of our meetings.