

ARTICLE XXII R.E.S.T. (RESIDENT EASTERN STARS TODAY)

The purpose of R.E.S.T. is to provide emergency and/or financial assistance, to eligible Florida Eastern Star sisters enabling them to remain in their own home. If an assisted living facility is necessary for medical or personal care, an eligible sister may utilize facilities near her own environment, family and friends. The total cost of the use of this facility may not exceed the cost of care in the Masonic Home. The individual monthly assistance shall not exceed \$750.00 per month, the exact amount based upon actual need.

R.E.S.T. Night shall be observed by subordinate chapters at the second or only stated meeting in October.

Florida Eastern Star sisters who have maintained a continuous Florida Eastern Star membership for ten or more years are eligible to receive assistance. Eligibility to be based upon need and verified semi-annually by review of all applications. The applicant will not be required to repay or forfeit personal properties to meet the qualifications for assistance from the R.E.S.T. Fund. (2022)

Assistance from this Fund is subject to final approval by the Main Committee, after review of the required applications, including budget and asset listing, with proper investigation and verification of all circumstances. Such application and budget forms are to be annually reviewed and revised as necessary by the Main Committee and approved by the Jurisprudence Committee.

The total of all assistance shall not exceed the amount that can be supported by the interest earned by this Fund, donations and that portion of the principal in excess of \$50,000, which shall be maintained as a minimum balance at all times. However, in no event shall the aggregate amount of all approved assistance exceed the amount which may be continued as long as the need and qualifications exist, as indicated by the expected budgeted funds available.

It shall be the duty of the Main Committee to review all files received and perform investigations or verification of all applications, including how, where and to whom monthly payments are to be made. Upon final approval the request for assistance is to be forwarded to and processed by the Grand Secretary as directed by the Main Committee Chairman. (Revised 2007)

The Committee shall be allowed recommended mileage for the purpose of screening applicants and postage for acknowledgment of contributions to the Fund.

Each subordinate chapter Secretary shall send all contributions to the Sub-Committee Chairman for record keeping, banking, reporting and acknowledgment of all contributions to the Fund. The Sub-Committee Chairman shall advise the Main Committee Chairman of all pertinent information. It shall be the duty of the Sub-Committee Co-Chairman to serve as chairman of major fund raising activities for the benefit of R.E.S.T. All activities shall be within the guidelines of our law. All proceeds from such activities shall be sent to the Sub-Committee Chairman for record keeping and banking.

All R.E.S.T. funds received shall be deposited in such banking institutions as shall be designated by the Grand Chapter, and all such funds shall be handled in accordance with Grand Chapter Laws.

See also COMMITTEES in this Constitution for further information.