**2012 GROUP PROJECT AWARDS**

**Group Projects, 2012 - 2021**

**Lake**- Challenger Program

**Elkhar**t- 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)

**2015 GROUP PROJECT AWARDS**

**Group Projects, 2012 - 2021**

(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-** MadePencil 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

**2017 GROUP PROJECT AWARDS**

**Group Projects, 2012 - 2021**

 (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.

**2019 GROUP PROJECTS AWARDS**

**Group Projects, 2012 - 2021**

 (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.

**2020 GROUP PROJECTS AWARDS**

**Group Projects, 2012 - 2021**

 (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 its support of youth in underdeveloped countries by filling shoe boxes with school supplies and making sure each box contained books.