

\$TAMPING for DOLLAR\$

August 2023

Stamping for Dollars is an occasional newsletter of the Indianapolis First Friends team who sell donated postage stamps to benefit Right Sharing of World Resources (www.rswr.org). RSWR is an independent Quaker organization partnering with groups of women in Guatemala, Kenya, India, and Sierra Leone for community transformation.



Kathy Rhyne, Norma Wallman, Phil Goodchild, Rachel Morgan, and Amy Perry. The team is under the Witness and Service program.

Earnings

In Fiscal Year 2022-23 the \$tamping for Dollar\$ team earned \$2,620.15 for RSWR. The team received 367 packages and worked 582.75 hours. We earned \$4.50 per hour. (Donors spent \$1,414.45 to send us stamps.) Another important contribution is that we provided RSWR with many new contacts.

Fiscal Year	Income
2018-19	\$2,327.09
2020-21	\$1,846.65
2019-20	\$4,720.35
2021-22	\$3,447.90
2022-23	\$2,620.15

Average income over five years: \$2,992.42.

Ministering to a Friend Enabled a New Ministry

Choir Has a Problem

Jenny Morgan loved to sing, but had a progressive disease that prevented her from entering the choir loft. Over many months, the Meeting tried or considered multiple solutions to the problem of getting her up the several steps, but none was satisfactory. Finally, the Meeting settled on installing a small lift in the choir room. However, now there was no room for the choir members, the piano, and all the music scores. So, the choir moved to a different room.

Stamp Team Struggles

In December 2017, the stamp program came to First Friends. Twenty-some big cartons and boxes were stored on the stage in Fellowship Hall. For three or four months, every Monday the stamp team would lift the boxes onto kitchen carts, move the carts from the stage in Fellowship Hall into the parlor, work for a few hours, and then wheel the carts back to the stage. This process was tedious and time consuming.

New Team Members

The stamp team is delighted to welcome two new members, Kim Kiser and Jeff Quick. Jeff, a stamp collector, got to know us at the Indiana Stamp Club. Several stamp team members belong to the club and attend meetings. Kim is a member of First Friends.



New team members Jeff Quick and Kim Kiser

Jeff and Kim join the team consisting of Blake Baldwin, Brad Jackson, Carol Donahue, Deb Goodchild, Ed Morris,

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A Solution!

One Sunday morning after worship, Amy Perry was walking with her friend Linda Lee from the choir loft through the old choir room. As they walked through, Amy saw the host of empty cubbyholes. Her eyes lit up. These shelves would be perfect for housing the stamps! After consulting with leadership, the stamp team moved the cartons and boxes into the now vacant room. The room has been set up to work efficiently to sort and store the stamps, and they are grateful that they no longer must camp and decamp every time they work on stamps.



Rachel Morgan and her mother Jenny

Circle is Completed

In the meantime, Jenny passed away, but to complete the circle, her daughter Rachel became a stamp team member! Rachel enters the contact information for our donors into a database shared with RSWR that allows RSWR a better understanding of stamp donors. Contributing in this way allows Rachel to be connected to the Meeting and serve others remotely. Health concerns limit her ability to come to Meeting very often.

Accommodating one person with special needs (that is, ministering to that person) enabled the flourishing of another ministry. The stamp team has a room well suited to its functions because First Friends ministered to a choir member with a disability. A family tradition of service continues through Rachel.

Thank you to David Beatty, Mindy Sommer, Shawn Porter, and Tom Wright for help with this article.

Right Sharing Quilt



Yet another connection between First Friends and Right Sharing: First Friends member Ann Panah was a big supporter of Right Sharing. She also loved to quilt. When she died in 2018, her quilting group, which met at Indianapolis First Friends, created a quilt in her memory and donated it to First Friends. First Friends held an auction for the quilt. The auction and subsequent campaign earned \$2,930, enough to start 12 to 16 women in business.



Ann Panah

\$TAMPING for DOLLAR\$ is produced for the benefit of RSWR staff, Indianapolis First Friends staff, the \$tamping for Dollar\$ team, and others who have shown particular interest in the RSWR stamp program. In keeping with the program's status as an extension of RSWR, the orange and turquoise colors conform to the RSWR brand. The turquoise also is that in the frequently used banner of First Friends Meeting, which graciously provides working space for the stamp team.