

# THE BLUE ENVELOPE

LAST YEAR,

THE BLUE  
ENVELOPE  
APPEAL

For seven decades, the Blue Envelope Appeal has been a call to action: a tradition that unites Scottish Rite Masons in service, compassion, and generosity. It began on October 2, 1955, when Ill. Richard A. Kern, 33°, Chairman of the Committee on Benevolences, was authorized to send a letter, under the Sovereign Grand Commander's signature, to all 116 Valleys inviting members to make voluntary gifts to the Benevolent Foundation.

The response was overwhelming. More than 13,000 Brethren contributed, raising over \$130,000 in the first year, and the annual appeal soon became known by its signature blue reply envelope.

Today, that same spirit lives on in every gift made through the Blue Envelope Appeal. But your gift does more than honor tradition. It directly supports programs that change lives:

- **Children's Dyslexia Centers:**  
Giving children with dyslexia the tools to read, learn, and thrive.
- **Grand Almoner's Fund:**  
Providing relief to Masons and their families facing unexpected hardship.
- **Leon M. Abbott Scholarship Fund:**  
Opening doors to higher education for deserving students.
- **Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library:**  
Preserving Masonic history and heritage for generations to come.

In addition to supporting these vital programs, your gift also strengthens your Valley. Your donation earns Valley of Excellence credit and helps determine your Valley's Abbott Scholarship allocation, ensuring your generosity makes an impact both locally and nationally.

Every day, Scottish Rite Masons make a difference – lifting up children, supporting families, and preserving a legacy of learning and service. The Blue Envelope Appeal is your chance to join that mission. Your gift, no matter the size, helps bring light, hope, and opportunity to those who rely on these programs.

Thank you for your enduring commitment to Scottish Rite Charities. Your donation honors the past, serves today, and builds a better tomorrow for future generations.

Sincerely,

  
Walter F. Wheeler, 33°  
Sovereign Grand Commander

  
Bridget Steele  
Senior Director of Charities

RAISED  
\$538,987<sup>77</sup>

FROM  
7,395  
DONORS

CAN WE  
BEAT THAT  
THIS YEAR?