



April 2017

Journeys

A Newsletter of Travelers Aid International

OUR NEWS



Inaugural luncheon of the National Travelers Aid Society on April 26, 1917 in New York's Hotel Astor.

Happy 100!

Today marks the beginning of the second century of the Travelers Aid network. On April 26, 1917, more than 165 Travelers Aid Societies from the U.S. and Canada gathered in New York to form the National Travelers Aid Society to provide a better, more effective way to help stranded travelers. Travelers Aid International is the present-day successor to the National Travelers Aid Society.

Just as our original Travelers Aid aides, dating back to St. Louis in 1851, were primarily volunteers, we continue to be a network where volunteers are willing to give their time to help others. Today, we have more than 2,200 volunteers at our 44 members and service locations.

To each of our volunteers we say, "We could not have provided 100 years of service without your dedication and we are forever grateful to our current volunteers and the many thousands who served before you."

And while our volunteers have been the face of the network, the nearly 500 employees of our member agencies keep the network moving forward. Thank you for your day-in-and-day-out service and dedication to our clients and our volunteers.

We will mark the 100th Anniversary with a celebratory luncheon at our Annual Conference on June 6 in Atlanta. If you have special memories of Travelers Aid that you would like to share, please write to celebrate@travelersaid.org

[Learn more about our history.](#)

Deadlines Approach for Annual Conference

Representatives of the 44 members and service locations will gather at the Atlanta Westin Peachtree Plaza on June 5-7 for the [Travelers Aid International Annual Conference](#).

The [two-day agenda](#) begins with a special technology showcase on June 5 at 3:30 p.m. and ends the afternoon on June 7 with a behind the scene tour the Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport. The theme of "Looking Back, Moving Forward" frames the educational program with sessions devoted to exploring the impact of the Trump Administration's new housing and poverty programs; training volunteers to spot human trafficking; finding community partners to advance housing goals and the question of will robots replace volunteers in our airports.

A limited number of financial assistance packages, or scholarships, are again available to underwrite a portion of the conference costs. Information on the [scholarships](#) is available on the web. The scholarship application is due on *Friday, April 28*.

Travelers Aid International has secured a discounted daily room rate of \$159 plus taxes. The Westin has set May 4 as the reservation deadline to secure the discounted rooms. The [Reservations](#) page is open.

[Registration](#) for the conference remains open.

Airport Websites Going Live

The five mini-websites for the facilities operated by Travelers Aid International are being phased into operation over the next 6 weeks. The Reagan Travelers Aid site, www.travelersaid.org/reagan, is now live. In the coming weeks, sites will be activated for Dulles, JFK and Newark airports along with a website for Washington Union Station. The four airport sites will have private, password-accessible areas for the volunteer teams. The volunteer sites will have a series of web links enabling each volunteer to quickly respond to guest questions.

MEMBER NEWS

New Member in Texas

Pathways 2 Tomorrow, a newly formed social service agency in Arlington, Texas, has joined Travelers Aid International. Amira Freeman, a former employee of Travelers Aid at DFW Airport, has started Pathways to address an unfulfilled niche in the community. She expects to be able to participate in the Greyhound bus ticket program in the near future.

Atlanta Returns to the Airport

In a pilot program, Hope Atlanta is again providing assistance to those stranded within Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport. A case manager will staff an office two days a week to reach out to those homeless individuals living in the airport and will attempt to match the individuals with community services. The airport-funded trial program runs through June.

Teens Donate Funds for New Library

Abbie Arnold, a 17-year-old volunteer at the St. Vincent de Paul Society in Phoenix, convinced the Phoenix chapter of the National Charity League to donate \$1,000 for the Dream Center library. In the end the donation grew as her fellow students added to the gift which included bookshelves, library carts and books. [Read the full account.](#)

MLK Service Day

The Weinberg Northeast Regional Food Bank, part of the Commission on Equal Opportunity in Wilkes-Barre, benefited from a Martin Luther King Day service event. More than 725 food boxes were prepared and 1,000 pounds of potatoes bagged.

Scholarship Awarded

In a continuing tradition, the Travelers Aid Society of Toronto awarded a \$500 scholarship to Emma-Lee Bucking, a student at the city's George Brown University. She is a first-year student in the hotel management program.

Affordable Housing Purchased

FamilyAid Boston earlier this year purchased two buildings with four apartments in the Dorchester/Four Corners neighborhood of Boston to add to its portfolio of homes in its supportive affordable housing program. Families in these units will pay an affordable rent while receiving case management from FamilyAid Boston staff to ensure they remain stably housed. This purchase was made with only private fundraising. [Read local news report.](#)

Marathon Runners Exceed Goal

Fifteen runners raised \$131,819 for FamilyAid Boston in the recent Boston Marathon. The team's collective goal was \$100,000. The runners will continue to collect donations until May 30. [Learn more.](#)

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

Dulles Airport - The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority is hosting an afternoon reception today for the 380 Travelers Aid volunteers at Dulles International Airport.

Milwaukee - General Mitchell International Airport will host its annual luncheon recognizing the Travelers Aid volunteers on April 29.

Reagan Airport - The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority will host two receptions for the 186 Travelers Aid volunteers at Reagan National Airport with the first a lunchtime reception on May 5 and a late afternoon reception on May 17.

Reagan Airport - Travelers Aid volunteer *Alan Davis* was recognized by Reagan National Airport with the top first quarter GEM (Going the Extra Mile) customer service award. Other Travelers Aid volunteers won GEM awards including *Chas Carron*, *Carolyn Held* and *Daphne Kamely*.

Dulles Airport - Washington Dulles International Airport honored Travelers Aid Volunteer *Patrick Kinlan* with the April GEM Award (Going the Extra Mile) for providing outstanding customer service to the Dulles guests.

IN THE NEWS

FamilyAid Boston: [Helping the Homeless in New England](#), *NBC Boston*.

Travelers Aid Society of Birmingham: [Stranded In The Magic City? Travelers Aid Will Pay Your Way Home](#), *Birmingham Times*.

Travelers Aid of Dulles and Reagan Airports: [These Travelers Aid Volunteers Will Solve Your Airport Problems](#), *Condé Nast Traveler*.

Travelers Aid O'Hare: [Travelers Aid Chicago, Senior Corps-RSVP Members, Help Vulnerable Travelers & Passengers In Crisis](#), *HandOn Suburban Chicago*.

Upward Transitions: [Rolling Out the Welcome](#), *The Oklahoman*.

MILESTONES

New Hires and Promotions

Dulles Airport - Peter Lauten was hired this month as the coordinator of volunteers at Dulles International Airport.

Reagan Airport - Tina Mally was hired in January as the coordinator of volunteers at Reagan National Airport.

Travelers Aid of DFW Airport - Mike Rodgers was recently hired as the program's new executive director.

[The digital Travelers Aid International Membership Directory has been updated on our website.](#)

FUTURE FUNDRAISING EVENTS

April 27, Heartland Alliance's 30 Years of Healing: Kovler Center's Benefit, The Newberry. [Learn more.](#)

May 1, Catholic Charities, Baltimore, Gallagher Services 28th Annual Golf Tournament, Hunt Valley Country Club. [Learn more.](#)

May 3, Total Ministries' Online giving day. [Learn more.](#)

May 5, Upward Transitions' Cinco de Mayo gala, Farmers Market. [Learn more](#)

May 6, Halifax Urban Ministries Blue Diamond Gala, Oceanside Country Club. [Learn more](#)

May 17, Catholic Charities, Baltimore, Bridesmaid Bingo, Boumi Temple. [Learn more.](#)

June 10, Heartland Alliance's Annual Home and Garden Tour. [Learn more.](#)

June 16, Nashville Rescue Mission, Nashville Area Plumbing and Mechanical Association benefit golf tournament, Pebble Brook Golf Center.

June 17, Family Services of Northwest Wisconsin, Annual Butterfly Festival, Appleton.
[Learn more.](#)

June 19, Catholic Charities, Baltimore, Blasé Cooke Classic Golf Tournament, Baltimore Country Club. [Learn more](#)

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