PIONEERS ASSISTANCE FUND

WILL ROGERS MOTION PICTURE PIONEERS FOUNDATION

Helping industry veterans for over 60 years.

HEY PARTNER,
NEED SOME HELP?
NO COST TO YOU,
IT'S CONFIDENTIAL
& EASY TO GET HELP.

We provide financial assistance and supportive counseling to those who work in theatrical exhibition who are experiencing hardship due to illness, accident, or underemployment.

Pictured at left is the first meeting place of the Picture Pioneers, Inc. on July 18, 1939.

In May of 1949, the Motion Picture Pioneers formalize Marvin Kircsh's idea and create "The Foundation of the Motion Picture Pioneers." The documented purpose was "to establish a self-perpetuating fund to assist pioneers of the motion picture industry who find themselves in need; the assistance to consist of direct financial aid, medical care and temporary business subsistence during periods of unemployment and unfortunate circumstances to eligible applicants."

A CAUSE FROM THE GOLDEN AGE.
A VISION FOR TOMORROW.

Saranac Lake, NY Board Meeting at Will Rogers Hospital, Summer 1966

Short Term Financial Grants

Depending on eligibility, we can assist with financial grants that pay for unexpected medical costs and/or assistance with cost of living expenses. Visit our website for a full list of services, or call one of our social workers today to find out how we can help.

Medical grants can pay for the following services (minimum of 5 years employment):

Dental
Medical fees and co-pays
Hearing aids
Medications
Psychotherapy
Health Insurance Premiums
Medical equipment

Emergency grants can pay for the following (minimum of 10 recent years employment):

Rent and utilities
Food and household necessities
Moving expenses
Burial or cremation fees
Vocational assistance

The Tom Sherak Pioneer Grant

Recently named after Tom Sherak, film industry icon and past president of the Will Rogers Motion Picture Pioneers Foundation, this grant provides long-term assistance for industry veterans with a minimum of 25 years in exhibition or distribution. Please call for eligibility and program guidelines.

After becoming permanently disabled, I needed to reduce my expenses. The Pioneers Assistance Fund helped pay for moving expenses so I could be closer to my family in a less expensive area.

-Film Buyer

Always there to lend a hand or a lasso.

Need to talk?

Our team of social workers is knowledgeable about agencies and services nationwide and is here to provide information and referrals, regardless of eligibility. Whether you are in need of financial assistance or not, give us a call for a free, confidential consultation.

We can help with a range of concerns, including:

Career counseling
A supportive, listening ear as you experience job-related challenges in our ever-changing industry.

Grief counseling
We can provide a safe, confidential place to express feelings of grief and sadness resulting from loss due to injury, illness or death.

Budgeting skills
Our relationship with our money matters. Call for a free budgeting worksheet to help track spending and encourage savings.

Elder care guidance
We can help you navigate the Medicare system, get you thinking about retirement, and discuss everything from senior living communities to advanced directives.

Community referrals
Find out what services you are eligible for in your community that may help you live a better life.

Please call about our free materials on health and wellness.

My husband's sudden death left me drained, both financially and emotionally. The Pioneers Assistance Fund not only assisted with burial expenses, but also provided supportive bereavement counseling to me and my daughters.

-Film Buyer

You don't have to donate to the Will Rogers Motion Picture Pioneers Foundation to receive assistance. Becoming a donor today gives you the satisfaction of helping a fellow industry member get through a difficult time.

Call our social workers for questions on eligibility and the other services we provide.

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