

September Branch Challenge winners



Christina Vela Davidson



I hope this finds everyone safe and doing well. Wow—September was an awesome month! Thanks to all 45 branches who participated in the July and September challenges. Keep up the great work throughout the year. Our top two winners were New Jersey Merged Branch 38 and New City, NY Branch 5229. They won a Zoom call with an MDA National Ambassador.

September top fundraising branches

1. Branch 38—New Jersey Mgd., NJ \$1,085
2. Branch 5229—New City, NY \$800
3. Branch 4559—Emerald Coast, FL \$655
4. Branch 849—Fort Collins, CO \$300
4. Branch 14—Louisville, KY \$300
5. Branch 358—Northeastern NY \$190
6. Branch 67—Elizabeth, NJ \$160
7. Branch 8—Lincoln, NE \$110
8. Branch 34—Boston, MA \$100
8. Branch 3126—Royal Oak, MI \$100
9. Branch 39—Indianapolis, IN \$90
10. Branch 1833—Dalton, GA \$65

Awesome work; I continue to be incredibly moved by your dedication to MDA's mission. The money raised will help MDA continue to fund its Care Center Network, the largest network of centers providing the best comprehensive care at more than 150 leading medical institutions. Sisters and brothers, you are amazing!

Remember that your fundraising pages will remain open for the rest of the year; please continue to fundraise and donate at mda.donordrive.com/event/nalc2020 to help children and adults living with neuromuscular diseases. Additionally, branches that have not yet created a fundraising page can still set one up for their branch.

All checks and offline gifts received by the branch should use the NALC Donation Allocation Card (see nalc.org/mda) and mail donations to: MDA, Attn: NALC, 161 N. Clark St., Suite 3550, Chicago, IL 60601. Please send copies to NALC Headquarters as well.

Thanks again for your continuous hard work helping to deliver the cure—#DeliverTheCure! This year, I am requesting that all MDA information and paperwork be sent to me by Dec. 28.

Remember, helping MDA can help you, too. By supporting MDA, you enhance letter carriers' public image, boost members' morale and draw positive attention to NALC. You are the best #heroesdelivering!

WHEN A RETIRED LETTER CARRIER DIES . . .

- ✓ Notify U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM), Retirement Operations Center, Boyers, PA 16017, or call toll-free 888-767-6738 and provide: full name of deceased; date of birth; date of death; Social Security number; CSA claim number; and survivor's name, address and relationship to the deceased.
- ✓ For quicker action, provide the above information to NALC's Director of Retired Members, 100 Indiana Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20001-2144, 202-393-4695, or call toll-free 800-424-5186 only on Monday, Wednesday, or Thursday, 10 a.m.-noon and 2-4 p.m. (Eastern). NALC will alert OPM so that survivor benefits will commence as quickly as possible, and will send you the application for death benefits under the retirement system, and the claim for death benefits under FEGLI.
- ✓ Return any uncashed annuity checks to the address on the accompanying Treasury Department envelope. If payments are being deposited directly to a bank or other financial institution, contact them with the retiree's date of death and advise them to return any future payments to the Treasury Department.
- ✓ Call the local office of the Social Security Administration or toll-free 800-772-1213.
- ✓ If the retired carrier had a TSP account, notify the TSP Death Benefits Processing Unit, Fairfax Post Office, DEDIS—P.O. Box 4450, Fairfax, VA 22038-9998, or call 877-968-3778.
- ✓ Notify the retired carrier's NALC branch.
- ✓ If veteran, notify the Veterans' Administration local office.
- ✓ Notify banks and other financial institutions.
- ✓ Notify insurance companies (life, health, home, automobile, etc.). If the carrier had a policy with NALC's Mutual Benefit Association, write to 100 Indiana Ave., NW, Room 510, Washington, DC 20001-2144 or call 202-638-4318. If the carrier belonged to the NALC Health Benefit Plan, write 20547 Waverly Court, Ashburn, VA 20149 or call 703-729-4677. **Note:** Health benefit coverage for a surviving spouse and dependent children continues automatically if retiree had family coverage at time of death *and* if a monthly survivor annuity is payable.
- ✓ To request a duplicate 1099R, Statement of Annuity Paid, call 888-767-6738. Callers will need the former carrier's CSA number and the last four digits of their Social Security number.
- ✓ Have mortuary officials obtain enough certified death certificates for your needs (they can suggest how many).