

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 4, 2017
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Hastings Area Retired Educators Association of Minnesota Grants Funding to Hastings READS, a United Way of Hastings Funded Program

(Hastings, MN) – The Hastings Area Retired Educators Association of Minnesota (HAREAM) recently provided a grant to Hastings READS, a community-wide reading program of the United Way of Hastings (UWH). The \$300 grant will help offset the cost of promotional materials for the 2018 Hastings READS in February.

“It was with great enthusiasm that our local Hastings Area Retired Educators Association responded to a call for funding to keep the Hastings READS program working for the children of this area. As retired educators, we are always looking for ways and means to fund kids’ programs that enhance learning. We understand that the basic need to educate our youth is through a strong reading program. It is with great enthusiasm that our local chapter applied to Retired Educators Association of Minnesota (REAM) for the \$300.00 grant that will help keep such a basic educational program on solid footing,” said Paul Ehrhard, REAM Vice President.

REAM has been supporting Minnesota educators since its inception in 1954. REAM works closely with statewide public employee retirement systems including the Minnesota Teachers Retirement Association and the Public Employees Retirement Association. REAM’s primary focus is to protect and maintain Minnesota’s educator’s pensions.

“It’s an honor to receive funding from Minnesota’s retired educators who think so highly of Hastings READS,” said Mari E. Mellick, CAE, UWH Executive Director. “Establishing a new partnership with a reputable organization such as REAM is exciting for UWH and for our community’s educational initiatives.”

For over ten years, Hastings READS has touched thousands of individuals through its community-wide reading program. Hastings READS seeks to encourage reading and discussion of books and the ways in which books can help readers understand the lives and experiences of themselves and others. The theme and activities for 2018 Hastings READS will be announced soon.

The UWH is an independent United Way that has worked for over 50 years serving Hastings and the surrounding rural communities within Independent School District #200. Its mission is to build partnerships to improve the lives of people in our community. Donations are accepted year-round. For more information about the UWH and the agencies it funds, visit www.unitedwayofhastings.org.

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