



# 2018 - 2019 Annual Report

Fellow Optimist,

When I joined my Optimist Club 40 years ago, my first major project was our club oratorical contest. We worked with a group of young boys at an orphanage. When a little 9 year old boy came up and gave me a hug, I became an Optimist for life. Our oratorical contest was a life changing event for the young boys and for ourselves.

As we celebrated 100 years of Optimism, the Foundation theme for 2018-19 was: "When Kids Speak...Optimists Listen." We all need to listen to our children, and in my case, my granddaughter, and to the other youth in our communities. We need to listen to what they want and need, so that we will know how to spend our time and talents.

The past year was a great success in moving that message forward. **A few highlights;**

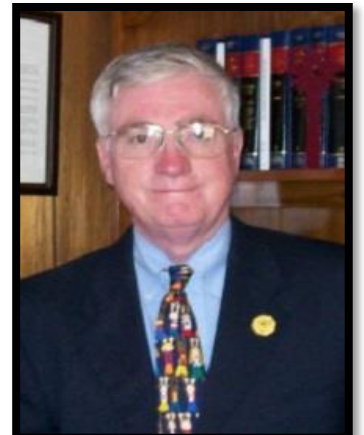
- Continued strong support of the Optimist International Oratorical World Championship by funding the US and International Regional winners, plus top 3 finishers in the finals.
- Assisted Clubs in receiving \$300,109 in charitable contributions for their own local programs through the Pass Through program.
- Helped launch the Childhood Health and Wellness program through the Centennial Coin campaign. That effort raised over \$28,000 to start the new program.
- Sent 113 students off to college with actual payout of OI scholarships totaling \$270,000.

I want to thank all Optimists who made the year such a success. From the OIF Board of Directors all the way down to the everyday Member. Each did above and beyond the call of duty to assist communities and children in our backyards, and around the world.

Let's continue to be supportive of the OIF endeavors so that the Optimist International organization can continue to make life changing events for our children and ourselves.

Optimistically Yours,

Melvin Bannister, President



**Mission:**

Seeking, receiving and managing funds and real and personal property for the benefit of Optimist International and its Member Clubs for charitable, literary, and educational activities

**Vision:**

We envision a Foundation that can provide significant funding for Optimist International's youth and service programs and is proudly supported by individual Optimists, their Clubs, and the community at large.

**Board of Directors:**

Melvin Bannister, *President*  
Bill Meyers, *President-Elect*  
Janet Oord Graves, *Treasurer*

Marc Katz, *Director*  
Don Sievers, *Director*  
Craig Boring, *Executive Director/Secretary*

**Staff:**

Craig Boring, *Executive Director*  
Shenita Taylor, *Sr. Director of Donor Services*  
Patricia Ashby, *Donor Services Coordinator*

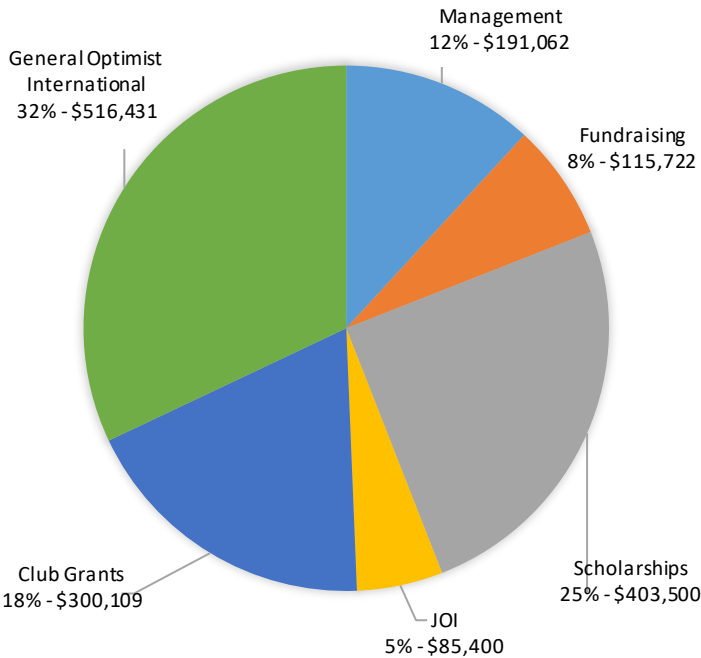
Theresa Ovelgoenner, *CFO - Optimist International*  
Michelle Blackburn, *Accountant - Optimist International*  
Zoe Williams, *Administrative Assistant*



# OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

## 2018 - 2019 Annual Report

**\$1,612,224 EXPENDITURES**



### Key Achievements:

- Paid out \$553,112 to 98 Clubs utilizing the Club Campaign program and added an additional \$61,361 in interest to the Club Campaign funds.
- Assisted 367 Optimists help 4,889 children and their families by awarding 20 Club Grants, including 1 grant to a Club in Africa.
- Donated \$5,000, along with Commemorative Artwork by Jeff Hanson, to the Louisville Ronald McDonald House.
- Contributed \$51,451 towards the OI Research Fellowship at Johns Hopkins. Plus, an additional \$69,754 towards a new research effort around pediatric bone marrow transplants.

### General O. I. Grants:

Childhood Cancer Campaign, Club Campaign Fund, *The Optimist*, accounting, growth, disaster relief, International development, allocated staff time for programs, training at International Convention, endowment payouts

### Management and Operations:

Audit, legal, banking, investment expense, some convention expenses, currency transactions, state registrations

### Fundraising:

Recognition program, planned giving, brochures

### Financial Information: 10/1/18 - 9/30/19

#### Revenues and Support

Public Support	\$1,282,269
Revenues, Gains and Losses	\$280,641

#### Expenses

Program Services	\$1,305,440
Management/Fundraising	\$306,784

#### Net Assets

Beginning of year	\$5,209,809
End of year	\$5,160,495

*Per Audited Financial Statements*



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