

Prior Service Trust Fund

The Prior Service Trust Fund (PSTF) is a U.S. funded program that provides benefits to Micronesians with five or more years of service with the Naval Administration or Trust Territory Government prior to 1968.

Prior Service Recipients

- Following are some of those that are receiving PS checks every month.
- Amount of checks ranges from \$27 to \$64 a month.
- Although some may say the monthly amount is small, it has been very valuable to our old retired folks receiving it and have been depending on the check to pay for important things in their life.

PS RECIPIENTS IN KOSRAE

What do you use your PS check for?

Name: Mary M. Nedlic

Age: 78



“I use it to pay for Laundry Soaps, toiletries, electric power for me and my family.”

Name: Anna Bradly Aliksa

Age: 87



Hello!! What do you use your Prior Service check for?



“I use my PS check to pay for food but most of it pays for....”

***“..my telephone bill so my kids
and grand kids living abroad can
call me any time.”***



Name: Ruth E. Robert
Age: 79



“I use my PS to pay for Medicine”

Name: Camoa Palsis
Age: 77



“I use it to pay for rice and other food and also electricity”



“I have been depending on my prior service check to pay for our monthly sack of rice and some other small food items. I thank you all for this service and hope that it does not discontinue. Thank you.”



“Thank you!”

Name: Nikeme Sigrah

Age: 79



“...to pay for phone bills and food.”

Name: Kun Kinere

Age: 82



*“I use it to pay for food and taxi service
to the hospital”*



Name: Yosimi Jesse

Age: 70



“...please don’t stop prior service checks! I need it.”

PS RECIPIENTS IN POHNPEI



“My name is Claudio Panuelo, 77 years of age, and I am receiving \$30 per month for my PS. I use it to supplement my cost of living. Presently it is paying off my travel account for the referral trip I made to a Philippines Hospital a year ago. This amount is still not enough but it is helping , yet I believe it should continue as long as there are recipients still alive. And I think an increase would be wise considering the high cost of living.”

Name: Misko Luther
Age: 73
Benefit Amount: \$27



“I am receiving \$27 per month, which to me is very small but still it is helpful. It is helping to supplement cost of basic needs of my family. It would be nice if the amount is increased since cost of living has also increased.”

Name: Cornelius Barnabas

Age: 81

Benefit Amount: \$37



“I use my check for things I love to eat, especially the healthy food that is recommended for my health conditions. I will spend the rest of my life in house, since I have lost my eyesight and may not be able to get to places, so I really need that amount for the rest of my life for it is very helpful.”

Name: Makodo William

Age: 79

Benefit Amount: \$27



“I am using my benefit to supplement coat of my needs. It is small but it is helping and I would like to have the program continue with consideration of increasing the amount because of high cost of living.”

Name: Yukiko Paul

Age: 74

Benefit Amount: \$27



She is using her benefit for paying her monthly utilities bills. She would like to see the program continue while she is still alive, given a cost of living allowance considering the ever increasing cost of living.

Name: Dordea Marquez

Age: 69



“I use my check to accommodate my needs like food, electricity and other important things I live with in my everyday life.”

PS RECIPIENTS IN YAP

Prior Service Benefit Recipient

Name: Maria Fanapin

Age: 81 yrs old

Benefit amount: \$27



Comments:

“ Even though it’s not much, it is my only source of income. I heavily depend on it especially now that I am very old and sick. I use the money to pay for my oxygen and other medicine, pampers, and etc. I wouldn’t be able to pay for these stuff if I didn’t receive this benefit even with the help of my children who are also struggling financially.”

Prior Service Benefit Recipient

Name: John De Deo Beynag

Age: 78 yrs old

Benefit amount: \$27



Comments:

“ The money helps me...I wish they can increase the amount so I can get my electric back. Right now that I am hospitalized, I worry on how to pay my medical bills.”

Prior Service Benefit Recipient

Name: Erenna Alfonso

Age: 77 yrs old

Benefit amount: \$38.77



Comments:

“ I use the money for medical supplies and food. I also support my grandchildren living with me because their parents passed away. I worry all the time on how to pay bills and put food on the table as a surviving spouse with all these financial struggles and obligations.”

Prior Service Benefit Recipient

Name: Monalisa Mongon

Age: 58 yrs old

Benefit amount: \$27



Comments:

“ Costs of living is sky rocket. There are times I cannot afford groceries so I credit them and use my monthly benefit to pay back the store. I do not have any other source of income so if my benefit happens to stop, it will impact my life greatly...I am a surviving spouse and I live alone.”

Prior Service Benefit Recipient

Name: Gundenes Gurungin

Age: 59 yrs old

Benefit amount: \$27



Comments:

“ The money is not enough these days with prices of everything so high. I just received a “shut off” notice from the utility company. I can no longer pay my bills. I can only pay for the most essential things such as food and medicine. Is there a way my benefit can be increased...I’m really struggling!”

PS RECIPIENTS IN CHUUK



PS recipient in Chuuk state stressed the need of this amount, despite its amount, it is of great help on them. The money is mostly used for food and other things that would be life sustainable.



Other recipients in Chuuk kept the same idea that they would need this amount throughout their life, or if possible be increased since all things are costly at this time.

100% of the Prior Service recipients we interviewed asked that the program be continued and that they are depending on the fund to pay for important necessities in their life.

Although their monthly benefits are very small, none of them complaints, rather appreciate all the assistance from Prior Service. It will be nicer if an affordable increase is added.

Thank you!!!