

Regional History Collection Finding Aid
Lewis Historical Library, Vincennes University

OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION

Title: Rose Ladies Aid Society Collection

Collection Date(s): 1871 - 1920

Extent and Forms of Material: 6 folders

Creator: Rose Ladies Aid Society

Biographical or Historical Sketch: A women's charitable organization devoted to health care of Civil War veterans and support of nursing care for elderly women. This group was based in Terre Haute, Indiana. According to an archival description in the Vigo County Public Library (Terre Haute): "The Rose Ladies Aid Society originated in 1862 when a group of Vigo County women informally organized to give aid to Union soldiers' families that were in financial distress. The women's charitable endeavors were funded primarily by Chauncey Rose, a local businessman and philanthropist, who knew the charter members of this ad hoc group and was interested enough in their efforts to become their financial benefactor.

Chauncey Rose was integral to the charitable works of the future Rose Ladies Aid Society from 1862 until well after his death. At the end of the Civil War, the women organized as the "Ladies Aid Society" to carry on their charitable endeavors for the impoverished of the community. By 1866, because their financial resources were nearly depleted, the Ladies Aid Society held a meeting to decide whether to disband. While the meeting was in progress Rose sent the Society \$500 and a written request that the Society continue its work. In 1868, Rose used his influence to successfully persuade the Indiana Legislature to enact landmark legislation allowing women who carried out charitable work to incorporate legally. As a result, the Ladies Aid Society was able to legally incorporate in 1869. On the same day Rose made a \$90,000 endowment in railroad bonds to the Society. When Chauncey Rose died in 1877, he endowed an additional \$100,000 to the Ladies Aid Society with the stipulation that the interest from the endowment be used for the assistance of 'worthy poor people'. This money lasted well into the twentieth century."

Repository: Lewis Historical Library, Vincennes University, Vincennes, IN. Please address questions to rking@vinu.edu 812-888-4330, <https://my.vinu.edu/web/shake-learning-resource-center/lewis-historical-library>

Collection Number: RHC 31

Processing Note: Processed by Richard L. King, librarian, July, 2016.

INFORMATION FOR USERS OF THE COLLECTION

Conditions Governing Access: The collection is open for research use.

Physical Access: Researchers must wash hands and dry thoroughly before use. Gloves must be worn when handling photographs and negatives. Archives must remain in Lewis Historical Library.

Technical Access: Use copies when available.

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Preferred Citation: Title and date of item, Regional History Collection, Lewis Historical Library, Vincennes University, box number 31.

IN-DEPTH INFORMATION ABOUT THE COLLECTION

Administrative/Biographical History:

Scope and Content: The collection consists of annual reports, financial reports, other reports, correspondence and receipts.

System of Arrangement: Collection is arranged by date and topics.

Acquisition Information: Donor and donation date of collection is unknown

Related Archival Materials:

Access Points:

- Rose Ladies Society ledger sheets and reports, 1871-1911, kept in MSS Box, oversize.

Subject/Names: Rose Ladies Aid Society

Subject/Topical: Organizations-health care

Organizations-women's charitable

Medical care

Geographical: Terre Haute, Indiana

Form/Genre: History

Container List:

Box	Folder	Contents
31-45	1	Annual Reports, Ladies' Aid Society, 1871-1890
	1	Annual Reports, Rose Ladies' Aid Society, 1891-1896
	2	Letter to Mrs. Shaley from M. J. Durham, June 20, 1889
	2	Letter to The Manager of Old Ladies Home from Blackford Condit, June 20, 1889
	2	Report (5 handwritten pages) by Mary M. Morris, President, May 1, 1907
	2	Letter to Mrs. S.L. Condit, secretary, from Emma B. Dick, Jan. 11, 1911

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