2020 brought an unforeseen number of challenges for the 15 counties we serve. However, it has also brought a new level of partnerships and pooling of resources across our communities. We are inspired by the creativity of our nonprofits, and generosity of our neighbors to create short- and long-term resources for those affected by losses due to the pandemic.

Ad Astra Strong
Embracing the #AdAstraStrong movement created by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas has allowed WKCF the opportunity to highlight STARS who have offered hope and inspiration to others during the pandemic. Through this campaign, community foundations had the opportunity to receive a $10,000 grant from BCBSKS. WKCF was the first to receive the funds in the state, and was able to provide urgent needs funding to nonprofits.

Network for Good
WKCF and the Finnup Foundation teamed up to sponsor the Network for Good Jumpstart program for Garden City Arts and ABC Pregnancy Care Center. Through this program, both organizations will gain the tools and coaching to achieve their long-term fundraising goals and sustain their programs.

About Western Kansas Community Foundation
Western Kansas Community Foundation inspires and fulfills promises for a thriving Western Kansas. We are the region’s hub for philanthropy, simplifying giving and amplifying impact through connecting individual donors to causes they care about. We use the power of collective giving to address the region’s greatest challenges.

WKCF holds more than 200 funds established by individuals, families, and organizations, each making a difference in its own unique way. Through us, people who care about Western Kansas can help grow the promises we’ve made for the place we call home.
WKCF, together with grant-making partners at the Finnup Foundation and Finney County United Way, committed to pooling their resources and adapting to the area’s evolving needs due to the pandemic. The goal was to especially support gaps not covered by state or federal relief funding.

“The Urgent Needs Fund was created to assist nonprofits whose work is being directly impacted by the COVID-19 crisis,” WKCF's Executive Director Conny Bogaard said.

Several early donors contributed to establish the Urgent Needs Fund, including Dr. Luther and Ardis Fry, Black Hills Energy, Pioneer Communications and Keller Leopold Insurance. The early donors quickly helped build a $100,000 fund.

“Nonprofits have been hit hard by the COVID-19 crisis. As programs and fundraising events have been canceled, nonprofits lose a vital income stream,” said Stacie Hahn, WKCF’s Program and Marketing Director.

WKCF had the systems in place to help western Kansas communities. However, it was clear a streamlined process between funders was needed to provide timely support.

“We wanted to include the other big funders in the community in this process,” said Hahn.

The WKCF Grants Committee added Deborah Oyler, Executive Director of Finney County United Way, as a voting member as well as Caverly Hart and Amy Heinemann from the Finnup Foundation.

“Typically, the WKCF’s Grants Committee makes recommendations to the Board,” said Hahn. “However, in this instance, the Board granted the committee authority to award the grants.”

By late April, area nonprofits were encouraged to apply to the newly established Urgent Needs Fund within the Foundation, and WKCF began reviewing and awarding grants to eligible nonprofits in May.

The Urgent Needs Fund continued to grow when WKCF generated more than $23,000 for nonprofits and the Urgent Needs Fund exclusively through online donations during their MayDay Relief Drive. One-hundred percent of contributions to the Urgent Needs Fund was distributed to nonprofit organizations in WKCF’s 15-county service area.

Individuals who donated at least $15 to the Fund also received a “We’ve Got This” yard sign. According to Deborah Oyler, Executive Director of Finney County United Way, the yard signs helped community members show unity while social distancing.

“The yard signs show our resolution that we’ll make it together in our communities,” said Oyler.

Urgent Needs Fund grant applications continue to be reviewed and awarded every two weeks on a rolling basis for organizations that deliver critical services. Distributions will continue to be made through December 2020, or while funding lasts. The grants range from $500 to $5,000 and agencies may apply as many times as necessary, but funding will not exceed $5,000 in total, per organization through December 31.

According to Bogaard, “COVID-19 has hit our area hard. As the crisis evolves in unexpected ways, we anticipate more grant requests in the next few months. We continue to seek donations to build the Urgent Needs Fund. It takes all of us to get through this.”
According to Kirk Olomon, a former trustee to the Berniece Fry Charitable Trust, Fry believed that the family farm ground was something to hold on to due to the legacy. "There are years you can make money, and years you may lose money, but you don’t ever think about selling the land," said Olomon.

Fry wanted the land to benefit others following her passing. "When she was no longer living, that was an entity that she felt comfortable passing on—that heritage—to Western Kansas Community Foundation and trickle down to the various organizations that she had interests in," said Olomon.

Originally from Atwood, Kansas, Fry spent the majority of her adult life living and working in Garden City serving as an educator and as an active member of the community.

“She was very dedicated to her job and her students," said friend and co-worker Mary Wilson. “Berniece was very tuned in to what was happening with her classroom and students," Wilson added.

Fry began her teaching career at Garden City High School and eventually transitioned to teaching office administration-type classes at Garden City Community College.

"Business subjects are very black and white—there’s very little room for opinions. You either typed the sentence right or you didn’t," said Wilson.

Fry’s measurements used to assess her students very much fit her personality when it came to saving, investing and planning as well.

“I think that’s what attracted her to teaching those courses. She researched when investing—she wanted to get as much information about it as possible because she wanted to have a positive result if at all possible," added Wilson.

“That was Berniece,” said Olomon. “She was disciplined—very watchful and disciplined. She was very exacting in her bookkeeping regarding the farm and her expenditures,” he added.

Fry’s gifting of her farm ground and invested assets to Western Kansas Community Foundation appealed to her because of the permanency of the use of the funds.

“She was very intentional and wanted to make sure—she was very specific that this was going to be used for the purchase of assets,” said Olomon.

The four beneficiaries that will receive annual distributions from the Berniece Fry Fund are: Garden City First United Methodist Church Endowment Fund, Friends of Lee Richardson Zoo, St. Catherine Hospital Development Foundation and Garden City Community College Endowment Association. The funds will be used for the use of capital expenditures—something Olomon says Fry specifically wanted done to ensure the community’s benefit.

Olomon reflected, “Berniece had a very fulfilling career—loved teaching her students. She had a wide circle of friends, was very involved in the community with the organizations she chose to be involved in. Having this type of estate plan was perfect for her to adjust and amend plans to carry out her wishes and intent.”

The family farm ground that Berniece Fry owned was very important to her. It represented a heritage that Fry held close and continued to manage until her passing, leaving the largest farm gift ever received by Western Kansas Community Foundation.

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The Legacy Society is a distinct group of donors in the community that has designated in their will or estate plan that a portion of their estate be gifted to the Foundation upon their passing. Through the Legacy Society, you have the opportunity to support the region, and ensure that future generations enjoy the promise of an ever-improving quality of life.

Join our Legacy Society

Forms of Giving
Legacy Society members help ensure promises are kept in Western Kansas for years to come. Join this esteemed group by committing to an end-of-life gift.

- WKCF can accept many kinds of assets as charitable contributions.
- Cash
- Publicly-Traded Stock
- Mutual Funds
- Life Insurance Proceeds
- Other Non-Cash Assets

Legacy Society Members Since
Richard B. & Sheila K. Fankhauser ........................................... 2003
Ralph & Marilyn Gernann ...................................................... 2003
Gerald L. & Phyllis A. Greene .................................................... 2003
Joe & Betty F. Benson ............................................................ 2003
Mary Lou Sheed ................................................................. 2003
Danna L. Schaller Jones & William M. Jones JR ...................... 2004
Donald R. Messenger & Wauneta L. Messenger ...................... 2005
Carl & Carolyn Meyers ......................................................... 2005
Martin G. & Judith L. Husser .................................................... 2005
Robert A. & Lujuna C. Baker .................................................... 2006
Ray & Geraldine Mann .......................................................... 2006
Edward M. & Alice M. Banning ............................................. 2007
George & Lori Hopkins ......................................................... 2007
Roger & Donna Morris .......................................................... 2008
Delbert & Betty Becker .......................................................... 2010
Helen J. Batchelder .............................................................. 2011
Robert & Brenda Drees .......................................................... 2011
Lynn Boitano ................................................................. 2011
Christina & Timothy Hanigan ............................................... 2016
Richard L. Monical ............................................................... 2017
Dennis Barr & Carol Meyer ..................................................... 2017
Milan & Deanna Berry .......................................................... 2017
Kathleen Holt ................................................................. 2017
Lisa Chester .................................................................. 2018
D. Birgit & Michael J. Lemke .................................................. 2019
Gary & LuAnn Randel .......................................................... 2019
Jackie & Will Nichols ............................................................ 2019
Paul & Jil Lynn Doi .............................................................. 2019
Mary Lou Buchele ............................................................... 2020
Peggy & Jerry Gillen ............................................................ 2020
Mark E. & Kathleen A. Whitley ................................................. 2020

Give While You’re Living: Donor Advised Funds
A donor-advised fund is like a charitable investment account, for the sole purpose of supporting charitable organizations you care about. When you contribute cash, securities or other assets to a donor-advised fund at a public charity, you are generally eligible to take an immediate tax deduction. Then those funds can be invested for tax-free growth and you can recommend grants to virtually any IRS-qualified public charity.

Donors can make a larger than normal contribution to their fund in one year that exceeds the standard deduction limit. Then donors oversee distribution of interest to nearly any charity, when they want. The tax deduction applies in the year they give to the fund.

Leaving a Legacy
Planning an estate gift allows you to strategically accomplish both financial and charitable objectives. For many people, these include passing the farm to the next generation, preserving the family name, honoring loved ones, providing for heirs, minimizing tax burdens, and supporting the community they call home.

Become a Member
To become a member of the Legacy Society, include WKCF in your will or other deferred gift plan. Upon your death, we will grant funds according to your instructions. Please contact the Foundation if you have made a designation in your will benefiting WKCF.

Free Estate Planning Design
Western Kansas Community Foundation partners with John Griffin, J.D. of Stewardship Counseling, LLC to provide estate planning design services free of charge, on a first-come first-served basis. Your draft plan can then be given to your attorney to formalize. This gives you comprehensive guidance in designing an estate plan that minimizes income, gift, estate, and inheritance taxes; and facilitates smooth business, farm, and asset transition. No products are sold or endorsed through this counseling process, only the opportunity to gain ideas. Contact the Foundation to set an appointment.
Nearly 1,400 donors drove success of WKCF’s third annual Match Day. The total donations to each organization, along with the matching dollars (minus prize grants) included:

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Finney & Kearny Counties ........................................ $6,538.82
Emmas House .................. $69,508.82
Family Crisis Services .............................. $4,148.82
Finney County Historical Society ................. $8,653.82
Finney County Humane Society .................. $15,225.82
Finney County Public Library ..................... $4,354.49
Finney County United Way ........................ $45,262.82
Friends of Lee Richardson Zoo ................... $7,385.82
Garden City Arts ........................ $4,493.82
Garden City Family YMCA ......................... $46,846.82
Garden City Rotary Club ......................... $3,656.33
Happy One of Leoti ..................................... $635.82
Heartstring to Purse Strings ....................... $1,958.82
High Plains Public Radio ....................... $7,883.82
Humanities Kansas .................. $7,278.82
Leave a Legacy ................................ $12,367.32
Magic’s HOPE ............................................. $4,306.22
Miles of Smiles .................. $2,226.82
Monac ........................................... $33,728.82
Real Men Real Leaders ................. $115,849.80
Russell Child Development Center .............. $50,228.82
Shepherd of the Plains ......................... $40,683.83
Spirit of the Plains, CASA ...................... $19,363.82
St. Catherine Hospital Development Fund .... $6,931.82
St. Catherine’s Hospital Benincasa House ....... $3,753.82
Tumbleweed Festival .................. $33,513.82
USD 457 Public Schools Foundation ......... $9,927.13
Wichita County 4-H & Fair ...................... $3,583.83
Wichita County Economic Development ....... $21,522.83
Wichita County Health Center ................. $3,338.83
Wichita County Municipal Golf Course ........ $15,916.92
Wichita County Whole Health Fund ............. $658.83
WKCF Community Betterment Foundation .... $33,932.82
WKCF Women of Purpose ................... $5,755.83

2019

Match Day Inspires Growth in Giving

Western Kansas Community Foundation’s Match Day donors contributed record-breaking giving during the December 3 event. The 24-hour event brought in more than $526,000 in total donations for local nonprofits within WKCF’s 15-county service area. The event saw an increase of more than $100,000 in funds raised compared to the previous year.

“It’s really inspiring,” said Conny Bogaard, Executive Director of WKCF. “We want to promote community philanthropy, where the whole community comes together in an effort to celebrate the great efforts of nonprofits.”

“I am so pleased with the opportunities WKCF has given us,” said Robin Marsh, CEO of Emmas House. Organizations with established endowment funds with the Foundation were eligible to participate in the annual giving event. Emmaus House, who established a fund with WKCF in 2006, was one of the 34 local nonprofits participating in this year’s Match Day.

“Last year we were still struggling, but not at a point of closing our doors,” said Marsh. “For some reason I just had faith that the funds would show up for Match Day.”

While individual groups communicated the need for donors to give online, through mail or in person on the day of the event, those who made in-person donations at the WKCF office were able to learn more about the participating nonprofits and their services through table displays.

“We want to showcase the work that our organizations are doing in the greater community,” said Bogaard.

In addition, WKCF saw an increase from $50,000 to $75,000 in match funds available due to individuals and area businesses. A percentage of the $75,000 in matching funds was given to each of the 34 participating organizations. The match amount received for each nonprofit was dependent on the percentage of money that a particular organization collected on the day of the event. No organization was able to obtain more than 50% of the match.

According to Bogaard, “We are stronger together, and the power of collective giving is what we want to model.”

Thank you to our Match Day Sponsors

We’re grateful to the sponsors who generously provided the $75,000 match pool for our third annual Match Day on December 3, 2019:

Platinum: Reeve Cattle Company
Gold: Dr. Eric and Jena Fry, Dr. Luther and Ardis Fry, High Plains Orthodontics, The Commerce Bank, The Garden City Company
Silver: American Implement, Brookover Land Enterprises, Carole and Dale Corley, Midwest Energy, Peggy and Jerry Gillen, Scheepner’s Water Conditioning, The Kearny County Bank
Bronze: American State Bank, Kathy Diehl, Neal Gillespie, Kathleen Holt, Chrissy Hopkins, Dick Moncval, Steve Morris, Kirk Olmon, Liz Scheepner, Irene Velasquez, Susan Williams
Real Men Real Leaders First Year Match Day Participation Nets Impressive Results

Garden City’s Real Men Real Leaders program saw impressive results during their first year of participating in Western Kansas Community Foundation’s Match Day.

“It came off better than I expected the first time—I’m excited for this next go-round,” said Reynolds Mesa, Board President for the youth leadership program.

According to Mesa, the board budgeted for nearly a year to create a WKCF fund in 2019 which allowed them to participate in Match Day where they raised $15,000.

“We were ready for this Match Day,” stated Mesa. “It was exciting to see the potential of the dollars that could be matched when you hustled a little bit. The match aspect was very exciting for board members,” added Mesa.

The Real Men Real Leaders program connects 5th and 6th grade boys in Garden City with mentors from throughout the community to help build leadership and life skills.

According to Jonas Cruz, Program Director, the participants are introduced to the many opportunities available within their community including serving as volunteers.

“We volunteered last year, we had 910 community hours. They love it—these kids want to get out there and help the community so much. They are making a difference anywhere they go,” said Cruz.

Program participants were also present during the 2019 Match Day event. From opening doors for donors, receiving checks and participating in interviews, Real Men Real Leaders participants were very visible during the annual event.

“They were able to get involved in Match Day and better understand what they were doing. WKCF also interviewed some of the boys on Facebook so they got to practice their communication skills as well,” said Cruz.

The group looks forward to continuing building funds for their youth leadership program and continue to develop the future leaders of Garden City.

“The board is fully onboard to participating in this year’s Match Day—this is an investment—a legacy—and it’s an opportunity to build on this legacy,” said Mesa.

Funds Granted to Assist in Childcare Center

The largest grant made to date by Western Kansas Community Foundation was awarded to Wichita County’s Grow & Learn Childcare Center. The $1,500 grant awarded in June will be used to purchase a divider wall for the future infant room.

“We did not expect to get all of it, so it was pretty exciting that they decided to support this project in that way,” said Wichita County Economic Development Director Nikki Bjurstrom.

According to Bjurstrom, who also serves on the Grow & Learn Childcare Center’s board, the center plans to tentatively open in August of 2021.

“Volunteering last year, we had 910 community hours. They love it—these kids want to get out there and help the community so much. They are making a difference anywhere they go,” said Cruz.

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Wichita County Community Foundation

An affiliate of Western Kansas Community Foundation

WKCF Affiliate Sees Match Day Success for Second Year

The Wichita County Community Foundation organized another impressive fundraising event in conjunction with Match Day.

This was the second year for Wichita County Community Foundation to collaborate with WKCF to raise funds and according to Bruce Leisy, Board Chair of the WKCF, there was definitely more participation than the previous year.

“The amount of people that participated was better. We saw more people giving smaller amounts—definitely more people involved,” said Leisy.

Leisy attributes the increase of people participating in Match Day to the increase of money going into specific funds and seeing growth in fund investments.

“Last year we focused on just getting money into 501(c)3s—we were more interested in the overall dollars. This year we actually had funds that grew,” said Leisy.

While in-person Match Day donations were collected, participants gave funds a variety of ways. It’s a trend Leisy hopes will repeat itself this year given the pandemic.

“I don’t see COVID changing the participation. A lot of people went online last year and donated. A few came to the office and quite a bit of money came in through snail mail,” said Leisy.

Leisy believes that continuing to work together, and keeping local funds within the community is what is going to make community-focused projects a reality for Wichita County.

Wichita County Community Foundation Funds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Al Droste Memorial</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>City of Leoti</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community First</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Happy One of Leoti</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heart Strings to Purse Strings</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Herndon Trust #1 Endowed Fund</td>
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<td>Herndon Trust #2 Scholarships</td>
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<td>Jim and Judy Bixler Memorial Fund</td>
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<td>JoAnn’s Fund</td>
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<td>Kansas Health Foundation Operating Endowment</td>
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<td>Kansas Health Foundation Public Health Endowment</td>
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<td>Paula Smith Unrestricted Fund</td>
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2019 Financials

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<tr>
<th>Financial Category</th>
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<tr>
<td>Total Operating &amp; Unrestricted Assets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Advised &amp; Designated Assets</td>
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<td>Total Assets</td>
<td>$1,407,338.79</td>
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<td>Total Grants in 2019</td>
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**Liabilities & Net Assets**

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets With Donor Restrictions</td>
<td>37,838,532</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions</td>
<td>614,703</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</td>
<td>$ 39,715,904</td>
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**Assets**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and Cash Equivalents</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
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<td>Real Estate Held for Sale</td>
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<td>Mineral Rights</td>
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<tr>
<td>Property &amp; Equipment</td>
<td>11,192</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mineral Rights</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>38,610,076</td>
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<tr>
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**Assets held under split-interest agreements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assets held under split-interest agreements</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Assets** | $ 39,715,904 |

**Founders**

- Bank of America, N.A.
- Brookover Company
- Dr. & Mrs. Bill Clement
- Dr. William & Jean Clifford
- Commerce Bank
- John & Mona Crump
- Bill & Mary Cummings
- Phil & Sheryl Dick
- Dan & Chris Fankhauser
- Helen Fankhauser
- Dr. Luther & Ardis Fry
- Dale J. & Carole Corley Gabel
- Garden City COOP
- Garden City Company
- Garden City Telegram
- Jerry Gigot & Family
- Mr. & Mrs. Henry Hall
- Dr. & Mrs. Michael Harris
- Katherine Hart
- Clifford & Doloros Hope
- Steve & Kay Irsk
- Taylor & Katherine Jones
- Kearny County Bank
- James Kelle
- Leo & Eldora Kleysteuber
- Lee Construction, Inc.
- Lewis, Hooper & Dick, LLC
- Bryan & Genene Love
- Max & Marianne Miller
- Martin & Judy Nasser
- Merelyn Lee Reeve
- Lee & Brenda Reeve
- Archie & Judith Rooney
- St. Catherine Hospital
- Elizabeth Schepner
- Southwestern Bell Telephone
- Judy & David Stanard
- Dr. Don & Shirley Tilloton
- Western State Bank
- James & Rose White
- Glen & Mary Ellen Woods

**Digital Information**

**Audited Condensed Statement of Financial Position – December 31, 2019**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Liabilities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions</td>
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<td>Net Assets With Donor Restrictions</td>
<td>37,838,532</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Total Liabilities & Net Assets** | $ 39,715,904 |

**Funds**

**St. Catherine Hospital Development Foundation**

**Sublette Public Schools Foundation**

**Tumbleweed Festival**

**Designated Funds**

- A Growing Idea
- Bennicasa House
- Bernadine Sitts Intermediate Center
- Bernice Fry
- Carl and Willynda Holmes
- Cecil and Frances O’Brae
- City of Leoti
- D & L Hewes Scholarship
- Dan & Chris Fankhauser
- Dorothy M. and Louise Wampler
- Dr. Stephen Meyers
- Ellen H. Osward
- Garden City Family YMCA
- Garden City High School
- GC Catholic School Alumni & Friends
- Heart Strings to Purse Strings
- Herndon Trust #1
- Humanities Kansas
- Jeanne B. Corley Hospice
- John’s Fund
- KHF Operating Endowment
- KHF Operating Endowment - Wichita Co.
- KHF Operating Support
- Law Enforcement Officer Program
- Lawrence F. Zant and Marjorie R. Williams
- Moses in Garden City
- Otto and Mary Lee Molid
- Pat and Gene LeClic
- Patsy Ruddick Memorial
- Robert A. Whippo Memorial
- Tyler M. Graft Memorial
- USD 363 - Holcomb Public Schools
- Wichita County 4-H and Fair
- Wichita County Economic Development
- Wichita County Health Center
- Wichita County Municipal Golf Course
- Wilmer “Bill” Dorchea-Kline Educational Fund
- WKCF Sustainability
- Women of Purpose

**Field of Interest Funds**

- Carl and Carolyn Meyers
- Dr. Max and Charlotte Teare
- Garden City Sunnies Kiwanis Club
- Haskell County Community
- Heart Strings to Purse Strings
- Jeanne Beach Corley
- KHF - Haskell County Matching Fund
- KHF - USD 457 Matching Fund
- KHF Children’s Fund
- KHF Public Health Endowment
- KHF Public Health Endowment – Wichita Co.

**WKCF Funds**

**Donor Advised Funds**

- Al Diste memorial
- Buffalo Living Legacy Fund
- Clifford & Delores Hope Family Fund
- Clifford Family Fund
- Community First
- Earl and Dora Fry
- Easington Family Fund
- Ed and Nelda Lewis Family Fund
- Erudie Elliott Hall
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