How individuals, families, communities, and nonprofits can help our region thrive
Here in Western Kansas, nothing matters more than the well-being of our family, friends, neighbors, and communities. We envision a region with abundant opportunity for all.

That’s why Western Kansas Community Foundation is leading the way to transform our region from within. Through uniting people, ideas, and diverse resources, we unleash the power of collective giving to help people and communities prosper.

Join us to dream big, act boldly, encourage each other, and empower Western Kansas to thrive—forever.
Since 1996, WKCF has helped communities thrive across the 15 counties of southwest Kansas.
The Community Development Fund has the power to unleash the potential of many agencies, causes, and areas of interest. This unrestricted endowment is fueled by donations that are free of donor restrictions. The Foundation's board oversees the use of these funds, setting priorities for their use based on the most pressing needs in our local communities. And because the Community Development Fund is endowed, every donation not only contributes once, but grows and continues to impact the fund.

Imagine what WKCF could do with an additional $150,000 in annual grants, the potential payout from a $5 million community endowment. Over time, that's millions of dollars to spur innovation, address root causes, bolster the ability of nonprofits to meet community needs, and increase the quality of living throughout our region.
Local Grantmaking through LOCAL FUNDS

Through establishing a Community Fund at WKCF, every community in our 15-county region can harness the power of collective giving to support local improvement projects, provide funding for nonprofits, and build a better quality of life for years to come.

These endowed funds generate interest, which can be distributed as grants or reinvested in the fund. They’re managed by a volunteer advisory board comprised of local residents who encourage growth of the fund and oversee the grantmaking process. WKCF helps by accepting a variety of assets, professionally investing the fund, and handling administrative processes.

HOW IT WORKS

1. **Recruit an advisory board of 5-7 residents**

2. **Start the fund by raising $10,000**
   This often comes from a single donor’s estate or through contributions from a small group of donors.

3. **Set a fundraising goal and encourage ongoing contributions**
   Encourage residents to give annually, include a gift to the fund in their estate plans, and honor loved ones through memorial gifts to the fund.

4. **Give and publicize grants**
   Most funds distribute about 3% of the fund’s value per year in grants back to charities in their community. Be sure to share your success stories with residents.

Through a grant from the Haskell County Community Fund, Satanta High School was able to receive $3,000 for school beautification. Part of the group’s goal was to remove and replace brown wall carpet with fresh paint.

Call (620) 271-9484, visit wkcf.org, or email wkcf@wkcf.org to learn more
MatchDay is an opportunity to help nonprofit organizations grow their funds exponentially—so they can fulfill promises to our local communities for years to come.

Held annually, MatchDay is a two-week event culminating on Giving Tuesday (the Tuesday after Thanksgiving). WKCF offers matching funds for donations to participating nonprofits and charitable funds. In recent years, our match pool of $100,000 has fueled incredible generosity across our region.
Women of Purpose

Established in 2008 by Southwest Kansas women, the Women of Purpose is a unique collective of individuals and businesses, all centered around providing aid to local nonprofits that are addressing issues affecting women across the area.

Through funds established at the Western Kansas Community Foundation and the grants awarded from those funds, the Women of Purpose members seek to empower all of Southwest Kansas to take an active and powerful role in community philanthropy.

Through the power of collective giving, membership with the Women of Purpose opens the door for members of the community to make a difference in the lives of many, without the requirement of significant time or financial commitments. Each year, local donors are invited to activate their membership with an investment of $100, or an investment of $50 for Young Women of Purpose members (ages birth-19), from which the annual grant is awarded to a worthy women's cause.

Since their first grant in 2010, the Women of Purpose have provided funding of over $80,000 for programs addressing women's health, job preparedness, financial education, mentorship, and more. Join us as we continue to grow this meaningful giving circle.

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Having been widowed as a young woman and again at age 60, Mary Buchele learned the value of proactively dealing with end-of-life plans and reached out to WKCF to begin the process for herself.

Meet Legacy Society Member
Mary Buchele

I love my kids, and wanted to simplify the process they would go through after my death. When WKCF offered free, one-on-one estate planning with a professional, I took them up on it. I truly appreciate the assistance WKCF provided in my estate planning – and that they provided it at no cost to me.
Join the WKCF Legacy Society

Ensure future generations enjoy the promise of an ever-improving quality of life

The Legacy Society is a distinguished group of donors who have designated in their will or estate plan that a portion of their estate be gifted to the Foundation upon their passing.

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

**HOW WE HELP**

We’re here to help simplify the giving process.

Establishing a fund at the Community Foundation as part of your estate allows you to:

- Support your favorite nonprofits or choose community grant-making funds that align with your interests

- Give almost any kind of asset, from real estate to stock to retirement plans and life insurance proceeds

- Avoid setup costs and ongoing management of a private foundation

To become a member of the Legacy Society, include the Community Foundation in your will or other deferred gift plan. If you have WKCF in your estate plans, please contact us so we may fully understand your intentions and recognize your generosity. Upon your death, we will use your gifts according to your instructions by investing the principal and using the interest to make grants to the charities you designate, handling all administrative tasks.

**PLAN YOUR LEGACY**

Free Legacy Planning Services

Through the Legacy Planning program, WKCF provides estate planning design services free of charge through a professional estate planning attorney. Appointments are offered on a first-come, first-served basis every month.

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, and a gift through the Foundation is not required to utilize the service. Contact the Foundation to set an appointment.

**DEFINITION**

What is an estate?

An estate is anything/everything you own and will leave behind at your passing.
The family farm ground that Berniece Fry owned was very important to her. It represented a heritage that Ms. Fry held close and continued to manage until her passing, leaving the largest farm gift ever received by Western Kansas Community Foundation. The gifting of her farm ground and invested assets to WKCF appealed to Berniece because of the permanency and use of the funds.

Originally from Atwood, Kansas, Ms. 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.

“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 Kirk Olomon, former trustee to the Berniece Fry Charitable Trust.
Fields for the Future
The Community Can Be Your Heir Through WKCF

Farm legacy gifts to WKCF are a great way to give back to your community—they’re straightforward, easy to implement, and are always focused on maximizing potential. Local farm families have been investing in the WKCF since the beginning, and recent gifts have enabled us to reach even further, providing operating grants to nonprofits in need.

Our Fields for the Future program has three flexible ways to create a charitable legacy for your community. With the WKCF, proceeds from the sale of the land (if sold) or annual income from the land are used to support your charitable wishes through the establishment of an endowed fund. Retained land is managed by WKCF Holdings, LLC; which contracts with tenants to manage production/farm the land, and the land remains on the county tax roll.

WKCF Holdings, LLC now manages nearly $3 million of local farm ground on behalf of the Foundation, which consists of various acreage including dry-land, irrigated, CRP, and pasture ground all found within Finney County, Kansas, and Hitchcock County, Nebraska. The holding company, which has its own board of managers consisting of local farmers and farm experts from Southwest Kansas, works with tenants of the farm ground to ensure it is properly utilized and maintained while under the renters’ care.

3 WAYS TO GIVE FARMLAND

1. Outright Gift
Land is gifted to WKCF. You receive immediate tax benefits, see the gift’s impact on your charitable beneficiaries, and may actively participate in grantmaking.

2. Life Estate
Ownership transfers to WKCF while you’re living, and you see immediate tax deductions on the charitable portion. You retain full income and use of the land during your lifetime, and management of land transfers to WKCF Holdings upon passing.

3. Will or Trust
Gifted land transfers to WKCF Holdings upon your passing, bypassing capital gains and providing tax benefits to the estate. WKCF administers grants from the land income to the causes you designate in your will or trust documents.

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### Amplify Your Impact

By partnering with Western Kansas Community Foundation, your charitable dollars have a greater impact. Our unique structure helps you gain tax advantages while giving more to the causes you care about. And with WKCF managing the paperwork, it’s a convenient way to keep track of your giving.

### Ways To Give

**Donor-Advised Fund**
A donor-advised fund is like a charitable investment account to support charitable organizations you care about. When you contribute to a donor-advised fund, 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.

**Designated Funds**
By establishing a Designated Fund, you select specific nonprofit organizations to receive grants automatically on an annual basis. By donating to an endowment, you provide a permanent source of support for your preferred charities, which promotes long-term sustainability.

**Field of Interest Funds**
By choosing a Field of Interest Fund, you are able to provide grants to advance the unique interests that are important to you such as arts & culture, children & family, health & human services, environment, etc. The Foundation’s board utilizes these funds in their community grantmaking processes, applying grant funds to requests within your specified field of interest.

**Community Grantmaking Funds**
When you give to a Community Grantmaking Fund (like the Community Development Fund or a County Fund), your donation is pooled with those of other donors to address pressing community needs. These funds are unrestricted in their power to help our community thrive.

**Scholarship Funds**
By creating a Scholarship Fund, you impact the lives of deserving students, turning their dreams of higher education into reality. With Scholarship Funds, you set the scholarship requirement criteria, and the fund may be established in your name, the name of a loved one, or a group such as your high-school graduating class.

### What To Give

Through WKCF, you can give many kinds of assets. You can make a one-time donation, or you can set up recurring donations monthly, quarterly, or annually.

- Cash
- Publicly-Traded Stock
- Real Estate & Farmland
- Retirement Funds
- IRA Required Distributions
- Life Insurance Proceeds
- Annuities
- Commodity Grain
- Minerals (Oil & Gas)
- Farm Machinery

### TIP

**Maximize Your Mandatory Retirement Distributions**
If you are 70 ½, you must start withdrawing from your tax-deferred retirement savings plans. Rather than paying tax on the distribution, you can donate it to a nonprofit organization. It’s a win-win—the portion you’d pay in tax goes directly to charity.
Lack of childcare options is one of the most critical needs facing rural America. In Wichita County, there is only one licensed provider, and a recent economic study found there was a need for at least 84 children.

“We couldn’t wait for a solution to magically appear,” said Nikki Bjurstrom, Director of Economic Development, Wichita County Economic Development, Inc. “So we put together a plan to build our own childcare center.”

The WKCF gave a $10,000 grant for initial plans and blueprints, the largest competitive grant the WKCF had given at the time. Various funding sources were secured, including MatchDay funds raised through their WKCF endowment fund, and a $200,000 zero-interest loan from Wheatland Electric as part of their participation in the USDA Rural Economic Development Loan program.

Because the project was being built on public ground, they were unable to take out a mortgage on the property. WKCF was able to help. “WKCF signed the letter of intent, which was huge. They’ve been pivotal through this process all along,” said Nikki. “This project is really special,” said Conny Bogaard, WKCF Executive Director. “We’re excited about the potential of this resource and we’re so glad we could be a partner and try an innovative approach.”

Jumpstart Gives Nonprofits a Boost

Thanks to a grant from the WKCF and the Finnup Foundation, local nonprofits are participating in the Jumpstart Capacity Building program. Through a personal coach and technology, this program empowers organizations to improve operations, implement fundraising processes, and accelerate their mission.

“I learned how to implement good processes. Our coach gave us a game plan for a solid standard operating procedure. I feel more confident, and we were able to update our membership structure and implement a campaign that raised more than $2,500. As a small nonprofit, that’s a big win!”

Call (620) 271-9484, visit wkcf.org, or email wkcf@wkcf.org to learn more
EXAMPLES OF RECENT GRANTS

- Meade Conservation District “Ag Safety Day” $900
- St. Catherine Hospital Development Foundation “Drive Thru Flu Shot Clinic” $4,000
- USD 457 “Summer Robotics Camp” $8,300
- Wichita County Economic Development “Grow & Learn Childcare Construction Documents” $10,000
- Scott County Historical Society “Fossil Preparatory Lab” $3,000
- La Communidad “Convergence Partnership” $12,500
- Garden City Police Department “New SWAT Protective Gear” $3,600
- Kansas Food Bank “Food 4 Kids” $1,668
- Cimarron City Library “Spanish Collection Development” $1,200
- International Rescue Committee “Emergency Housing Funds” $2,500
- ABC Pregnancy Care Center “One by One Partnership” $5,000
- Miles of Smiles “Adaptive Saddle” $1,500
- Ford County Breastfeeding Coalition “Breastfeeding Bench for Liberal” $3,442
- City of Lakin “City Builders Daycare” $10,000
- Wichita County Arts Alliance “Colorado Children’s Chorale Workshop” $500
- Holcomb High School “Financial Education” $850
- Garden City Arts “Blushing Artiste” $310
- Gray County Food Bank “Food Bank” $450
- Seeds of Hope Church “Hope Grows Drive for School Supplies” $500
- String Academy of the Plains “Instruments for Students” $1,540
- Community Day Care Center “Fire Panel” $5,000
- Satanta Elementary Library “Library Improvement” $1,800

Tap into funding to further your organization’s programming or build capacity. Check out our grant cycles and apply online at wkcf.org for the following opportunities:

- Operating Grant
- Core Grant
- Women of Purpose Grant
- Urgent Needs Grant

Know a student taking college courses? You can also find our scholarship opportunities online!

GRANT TOTALS

$307,872
Total Competitive Grants in 2022

$2,484,928
Total Competitive Grants since 1996
Invest in Your Organization’s Future

CREATE AN AGENCY FUND

Agency endowment funds can help ensure the future of your cause for years to come. The minimum contribution is $10,000, payable over 5 years. Each organization gets to choose how to utilize these funds to best fit their needs, and they benefit from the fund’s proceeds.

**Professional Investment Management**

Agency funds are placed into our investment pools with other assets of WKCF to build and preserve the funds in perpetuity. An agency fund relieves your organization’s staff and Board of Directors from the accounting and management of its invested funds.

**Increased Organizational Visibility**

Nonprofit organizations with agency funds at WKCF join our larger giving community. Agency funds are featured on our online donation site, and the endowed funds are eligible to participate in our MatchDay fundraising campaign.

**Cost-Efficient Administration**

WKCF staff processes all gift acknowledgments and provides your organization with quarterly statements of fund activity.

**Acceptance of a Variety of Assets**

We make giving to your agency fund easy for donors, and are already set up to accept a variety of assets including cash, real estate, closely-held securities and many more.

**Planned Giving Services**

WKCF administers charitable gifts through planned giving, which can include direct gifts to agency funds. We serve as a partner by administering the gifts and working with potential donors and their professional advisors to answer gift planning questions.

**AGENCY FUNDS AT WKCF**

- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Finney & Kearny Counties
- Catholic Charities
- Community Daycare Center
- Emmaus House
- Family Crisis Services
- Finney County 4-H Foundation
- Finney County Community Health Coalition
- Finney County Historical Society
- Finney County Humane Society
- Finney County Library
- Finney County United Way
- Friends of Lee Richardson Zoo
- Garden City Arts
- Garden City Noon Lion’s Club
- Garden City Schools
- Great Plains Christian Radio
- Great Plains MakerSpace
- Kanza Society Endowment Fund for High Plains Public Radio
- KHF Leadership Garden City
- Leave A Legacy Foundation
- M & S Fund
- Magic’s H.O.P.E. Therapeutic Horsemanship, Inc.
- Miles of Smiles
- Real Men Real Leaders
- Rotary Club of Garden City
- Russell Child Development Fund
- Satanta Lions Club
- Shepherd of the Plains Foundation
- Spirit of the Plains, CASA
- St. Catherine Hospital Development Foundation
- Sublette Public Schools Foundation
- The Community, Inc.
- Tumbleweed Festival

*We’re very excited to have this opportunity to help educate and bring long-term solutions to assist our diverse population.*

**Madelyn Martinez-Valdés**

Lead Pastor of The Community Church
ATTORNEYS AND FINANCIAL ADVISORS:

Help Clients Create A Greater Charitable Impact

Whether you are an attorney, financial planner, or tax advisor, WKCF can assist you and your clients in structuring tax-wise gifts that establish an enduring community legacy.

We add our expertise to yours to ensure that your client makes educated decisions while selecting from a full spectrum of options.

- Develop strategic giving plans for your clients and their families, including giving instruments and funding options
- Assist with grantmaking research, recommendations, and outcomes
- Provide guidance on the community’s charitable needs
- Illustrate, project, draft, or review necessary documents

“Working with individuals who want to leave a lasting legacy for the passions that drive them is such a joy. WKCF is where these legacies bear fruit.”

Dennis Burns
Private Client Advisor at Commerce Trust.

Enclosed is my gift of $________________ to be directed to:

- [ ] Community Development Fund
- [ ] Other ________________________________

Please make check payable to Western Kansas Community Foundation. A receipt will be sent for tax purposes.

- [ ] In honor of ____________________________________________
- [ ] In memory of ____________________________________________

Donor names ___________________________ Phone ____________ Email _______________________

Address __________________________________ City/State/Zip ________________________________

Please contact me about:

- [ ] Establishing a fund
- [ ] Speaking to a group
- [ ] Personal Legacy Planning services
- [ ] Using the Foundation to administer charity in my will or trust
- [ ] Other Fund

To donate online, visit wkcf.org