WKCF Affiliates receive GROW II grant

Grant County Community Foundation (GCCF) and Wichita County Community Foundation (WCCF), both affiliate foundations of Western Kansas Community Foundation, have been awarded $300,000 grants through the Kansas Health Foundation’s GROW Healthy Kansas community foundation initiative. GCCF and WCCF are two of fourteen community foundations in the state to receive this funding, and are two of 39 total community foundations in Kansas involved with the GROW II program. Also among the 39 community foundations is Western Kansas Community Foundation who was awarded a $600,000 GROW II grant in 2010.

"We are pleased both GCCF and WCCF were awarded grant funding from the Kansas Health Foundation. Participation in the GROW II initiative will bring the opportunity to leverage funding that will forever stay local to benefit initiatives important in these communities," said Shea Sinclair, executive director of the Western Kansas Community Foundation. "This will be an excellent opportunity to grow permanent assets in Grant and Wichita Counties to address challenges now and into the future."

The GROW (Giving Resources to Our World) Healthy Kansas community foundation initiative was launched in 1999 as a 10-year grant of the Kansas Health Foundation, with the goal of starting and strengthening community foundations in Kansas. The intent was to work with community foundations to help build local philanthropic leadership and resources that would result in long-term, sustained health improvements in communities throughout the state. At the end of the first decade of the program, the collective resources of GROW community foundations had grown from $19 million to $95 million by the end of 2009.

This success led the Kansas Health Foundation to announce the second phase of GROW in 2009, with GROW II geared toward community foundations building permanent resources that will measurably improve the health of local residents and to support collaboration and alliances among community foundations in Kansas.

“Community foundations play a vital role in the strength and growth of a community or region,” said Steve Coen, president and CEO of the Kansas Health Foundation. “Through this initiative, the Kansas Health Foundation looks to help community foundations build their capacity and resources in order to make a positive impact on their communities for generations to come.”

"Through considerable planning and hard work, both GCCF and WCCF created a plan and engaged their communities to raise funding to support their GROW II applications. Now that both WKCF affiliates have been accepted into this exciting program, work will begin to educate the greater community about the matching grant opportunity that will build significant assets to address local community needs in perpetuity”, said Shea Sinclair.

For more information about GROW II, GCCF, WCCF or Western Kansas Community Foundation's efforts or to learn how you can contribute, please visit www.wkcf.org or contact Shea Sinclair at 620-271-9484 or www.wkcf.org.
Have you ever been approached by someone you admired and respected, and agreed to do something you really didn't know much about, more because they asked you to do it than because you really wanted to? That is what happened to me 6 years ago when I agreed to serve on the board of directors for the Western Kansas Community Foundation. I clearly remember my first meeting in October, 2005. We met briefly before the annual celebration to distribute the foundation grants, and during that half hour meeting, I met other board members, reviewed what I considered a significant budget and accepted a new multi-million dollar fund—then adjourned to distribute hundreds of thousands of dollars in grants. I left there feeling very inadequate and thinking, what in the world have I gotten into! Little did I know then that it would enrich my life, support my community and forever change my perspective.

With the excellent support of the citizens of southwest Kansas and the leadership of our staff and the board, Western Kansas Community Foundation has accomplished so much in the last 6 years! As I reflect back, I am amazed at the tremendous progress the foundation has made:

- In September, 2005, WKCF assets were slightly over $5 million. Now, 6 years later, we have assets of over $18 million, a significant growth by any standards.
- WKCF participated in all 5 phases of the GROW II initiative through the Kansas Health Foundation that provided significant matching funds for WKCF as well as valuable operating funds, education and technical support. We are now involved in the next phase, GROW II, which is a 6 year program providing $600,000 for the WKCF in matching endowment funds plus technical support, education and operating funds to help meet the challenge.

- From an annual granting period, we now have 4 grant cycles each year to better meet the needs of grant recipients.
- We added Shea Sinclair as Executive Director, Melissa Gallegos as Operations Director and a part-time position with Troy Unruh as Program Officer. All have done an admirable job representing the WKCF!
- We moved from a single office space donated by Western State Bank to our present location at 402 N. Main Street, Garden City.
- Western Kansas Community Foundation was selected to participate in the Nutrition and Physical Activity Initiative funded by the Kansas Health Foundation. Through this initiative, WKCF was able to reach out to other western Kansas communities with leadership, collaboration and funding to promote healthy lifestyles.
- The Foundation now has over 120 different funds that support a wide range of initiatives, groups and organizations in southwest Kansas.
- We survived one of the worst financial recessions in our country’s modern history and still managed to increase assets and make grants.
- We have embraced 2 new affiliates, Grant County Community Foundation and Wichita County Community Foundation. Both affiliates have applied and been accepted into GROW II from the Kansas Health Foundation and will receive $300,000 each in matching endowment funds.
- Women of Purpose in Finney County and Grant County have established new funds to empower women in the future. The structure of these funds is different than anything we’ve done in the past and we anticipate big things from these funds in the future.

It has been my privilege to serve with the dedicated board and staff of WKCF. I am convinced that as they step into the future, embracing affiliates and supporting meaningful programs throughout southwest Kansas, Western Kansas Community Foundation will be a beacon for positive change, providing leadership and financial support to ensure success.
New fund to benefit Garden City Catholic Schools Alumni and Friends Association

Western Kansas Community Foundation welcomes a new fund to benefit Garden City Catholic Schools. The permanently endowed fund has been established by the Garden City Catholic Schools Alumni & Friends Association Foundation to support and promote Catholic education in Garden City, including St. Mary School, St. Dominic School and any future Catholic schools that may be built.

Donations to this or any fund held at the WKCF can be made in a variety of forms and gift options. The WKCF accepts several types of assets, including gifts of cash, stock, real estate, and life insurance as well as bequests in wills and trusts. Before making any gift, the Foundation strongly encourages donors to contact their financial advisor for advice regarding their individual contributions. Also, donors should contact the Western Kansas Community Foundation office to coordinate your contribution.

If you would like to make a contribution to the Garden City Catholic Schools Alumni & Friends Association Foundation Fund, you may do so simply by writing your check to “Western Kansas Community Foundation” and noting on the check that it is to go to the “GC Catholic Schools Alumni & Friends” Fund.

Experience the Commerce difference... for advice you can Trust.

Nick Burroughs, Kirk Olomon and John Maurer, Investment Advisors
WKCF Funds

AGENCY FUNDS
Finney County Farm Bureau
Finney County Humane Society
Finney County Public Library
Garden City Chamber of Commerce Leadership
Garden City Chamber of Commerce Leadership Children
Garden City Downtown Vision, Inc.
Garden City Family YMCA
Garden City Public Schools Foundation
Russell Child Development Center
Sublette Public Schools Foundation

FIELD OF INTEREST FUNDS

Arts & Culture
Dale J. & Carole Corley Gabel Fund
In Memory of Carole's parents
Dale & Jeanne Beach Corley Children
Kansas Health Foundation Children’s Fund
Kansas Health Foundation Our Children, Our Future
John & Elizabeth Scheopner Development
Grant County Fund
Haskell County Community Fund Education
Ralph & Marilyn Germann Fund
Garden City Sunrisers Kiwanis Club Health & Human Services
Healthy Lifestyles for Grant County
Carl & Carolyn Myers Fund
Mary Lou Spanier Fund
Dr. Max & Charlene Teare Fund
Unrestricted Grant Funds
Unruh Family Fund

DESIGNATED FUNDS
Bernadine Stitts Fund
Bob Wilson Memorial
Grant County Hospital Permanent Fund Bob Wilson Memorial
Grant County Hospital Foundation (non-permanent) Fund Builders of Hope City of Garden City/Steel Public Art Fund Erdene Corley Fund Jeanne B. Corley Hospice Fund Emmaus House Fund Dan & Chris Fankhauser Fund Finney County Library Fund Garden City Arts Garden City Catholic Schools Alumni & Friends Association Fund Kismet Library Fund Cecil and Frances O'Brate Family Fund for Youthville Satanta Lions Club Fund Unified School District #214, Ulysses, KS Unified School District #363—Holcomb, KS Dorothy M. & Louise Wampler Western Kansas Community Foundation Sustainability Fund Robert A. Whippo Fund

DONOR ADVISED FUNDS
Esther Smith-Bennett & Webb Smith Fund
Erdene Corley Fund
Herman & Marjorie Cooper Fund
Phil & Sheryl Dick Fund
Luther & Ardis Fry Family Fund
Eltrude Elliott Hall Fund
In Memory of Eltrude's Brothers
Dorsey Elliott and Merton Elliott
Henselman Family Fund
Henry & Nellie Hall Fund
Kansas Children's Service League Healthy Families Finney County Fund
Kenneth & Judith Keusler Family Fund
Leo and Eldora Kleysteuber Fund
Lee Construction, Inc. Fund
Ed & Nelda Lewis Family Fund
M & S Fund
Carol & Kent Nanninga Family Fund
Pauline and Orville Patterson Family Fund
Gary & Carolyn Salyer Fund
Matha Sherman Fund
Eugene and Ruth Wright Fund

UNRESTRICTED ENDOWMENT
James A. & Christina Becker Fund
Community Betterment Fund
Finney County Farm Bureau
Garden City Company
Dale J. & Carole Corley Gabel
Katherine C. Jones
Harold R. & Sadie Kleysteuber
Bob & Barbara Kreutzer Fund
Max & Marianne Miller Family Farm Fund
In Honor of Max's parents Ralph & Idell Miller
David C. & Judith A. Stanard
Mathews/Stanard Fund
In Honor of Judy's parents Robert & Cleo Matthews

COMMUNITY LEGACY SOCIETY
Helen Batchelder
Robert A. & Lujuana C. Baker
Ed & Alice Banning
Joe & Betty Benson
Jeffrey D. & Shonda J. Collins
Robert & Brenda Drees
Dorsey & Marjorie Elliott
Dick & Sheila Fankhauser
Earl & Dora Fry
Dale J. & Carole Corley Gabel
Ralph N. and Marilyn L. Germann
Dr. Gerald L. and Phyllis Greene
George & Lori Hopkins
Danna L. Schaller Jones
William M. Jones, Jr.
Lisk Family
Bryan & Geneen Love
Doral & Vincent Mancini
Ray & Geraldine Mann
Don & Wauneta Messenger
Roger & Donna Morris
Carl & Carolyn Myers
Martin & Judy Nusser
Mary Lou Shea
David & Judy Stanard

Western Kansas Community Foundation Affiliates

Grant County Community Foundation
Grant County Community Foundation Operating Fund
Grant County Fine Arts Fund
Grant County Healthy Lifestyles Fund
Grant County Women of Purpose Fund

Wichita County Community Foundation

FUNDs FOR THE FUTURE
Richie McNaught
Prudential Life Insurance Matching Gifts Policy
Report from Executive Director
Shea Sinclair

The start of a new year brings about the perfect time to say “thank you” to those who have made our success possible. Truly, the Western Kansas Community Foundation owes its success to the donors, supporters, board members, volunteers and others interested in seeing southwest Kansas thrive now and into the future.

The Foundation has grown significantly over the last few years to now include over 120 funds with assets of over $18 million. This substantial growth can be attributed to new funds, the Foundation’s participation in initiatives that have offered matching incentive for every dollar raised, a board of directors passionate about nurturing and growing the support we can offer to the area and of course, you!

You have made it possible for children to receive gifts at Christmas this year, for area arts initiatives to continue programming despite cuts in state funding, for seniors to participate in physical exercise classes at no cost, the opportunity to bring training and educational classes to those in need or scholarship funding for college bound students. These and so many more examples of your generosity remind us of the power of philanthropy. Your support is a constant reinvestment in our community’s future. Thank you for believing in the Western Kansas Community Foundation. We look forward to working together to benefit western Kansas for many years to come.

Estate Planning Services

Stewardship Counseling, LLC offers comprehensive estate planning for you and your family.

John W. Griffin, Esq. travels across Kansas to offer this service through a wide range of community and private foundations.

He will review your existing plan free of charge. No products are sold or endorsed through this counseling process, only the opportunities to gain ideas. Garden City Community College Endowment Association, Commerce Trust Company of Garden City, and Western Kansas Community Foundation are proud to sponsor this program.
Western Kansas Community Foundation made grants in the amount of $24,816.00 to the following organizations in the Foundation’s fifteen county service area through the quarterly unrestricted grant award program:

1. Deerfield Recreation Commission - Deerfield Activity Center Remodeling project
2. Garden City Arts - Wichita Children's Theater & Dance program
3. Kansas Humanities Council - The Way We Worked in Hugoton exhibition
4. Friends of Lee Richardson Zoo - Cat Canyon Viewing Glass project
5. Miles of Smiles - 2011 Continuing Education for Instructors and Volunteer Board Members
6. Russell Child Development Center - Technology for Teachers and Therapists
7. Smoky Hills Public Television - Literacy Leadership: Share a Story Events in SW Kansas
8. String Academy of the Plains - Instruments for Children in String Classes