



*There's
no place
like
Home*

— 2020 Annual Report to the Community —



Republic
County
Community
Foundation

An affiliate of the
Greater Valley Community Foundation

Our Mission

is to help people invest in meaningful ways to make a difference in the community by building permanent endowment funds and meeting charitable community needs.

DIRECTOR'S LETTER

I would like to start by saying that, "There's No Place Like Home." Republic County has benefited greatly from the generosity of donors, fundholders and community members. The Republic County Community Foundation (RCCF) appreciates the contributions from our community and the Dane G. Hansen Foundation. Because of you, the RCCF has awarded over \$1 million in grants since our inception in 2007. What a great milestone for the foundation and our community!

The Republic County Community Foundation wants you to know that the contributions you make are endowed, enabling grants and scholarships to be available to the Republic County communities for years to come. Therefore, all donations large and small make a big impact. Also, the Dane G. Hansen Foundation has generously agreed to match each donation we receive in December, for they realize that "There's No Place Like Home."

This year we were able to grant over \$170,000 by supporting 24 projects in our communities. In addition, we granted the Republic County Hospital money to purchase a module to test for COVID-19. What a wonderful feeling to be able to help our hospital during this crisis. After all, "There's No Place Like Home."

The board would like to thank the outgoing members past Chairperson Steve Scofield and Nancy Holt for their commitment, leadership, and generosity to the RCCF. A special thank you to those that volunteer to serve on the board to make all of this possible. I feel humbled to serve as your chair.

Lesley Popelka
RCCF Chairperson





ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

The Republic County Community Foundation was founded in 2007 to benefit the communities of Republic County. The foundation is a permanent source of charitable funds used to meet both the current and future needs of our county.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lesley Popelka, Chairperson
Matt Dowell, Vice-chairperson
Tim Gottschalk, Secretary/Treasurer
Bruce Ball
Susan Childs
John Eickman
Kathy Johnson
Luke Mahin
Bill Navis
Jeff Thompson
Mark Tipton

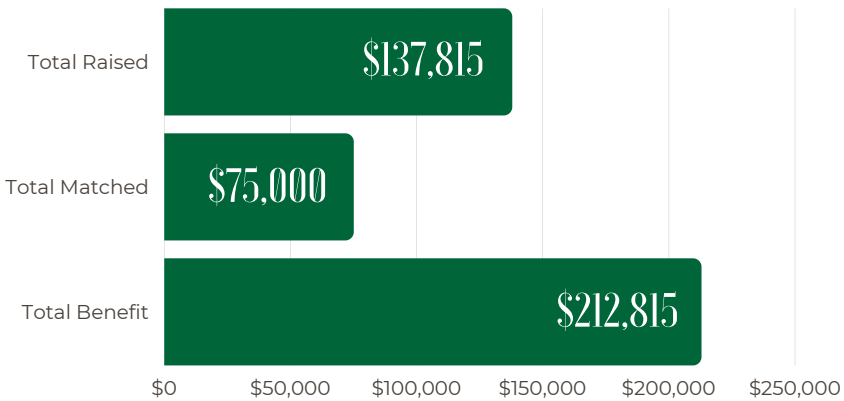
BOARD ALUMNI

Brad Boyer
Susan Boyer
Jane Couture
Sarah Hartung
Nancy Holt
Terry Jelinek
Lorna Lauritzen
Jackie Moravek
John Rhine
Jenny Russell
Steve Scofield
Brent Scott
Edward Splichal
Randy Wise



2019 MATCH MONTH SUCCESS

Through a month-long gift matching initiative in December, the community foundation raised over \$210,000 for community grants and operations. During Match Month, donors make gifts to the community foundation to support community grants. These gifts are then matched at 150% by the Dane G. Hansen Foundation. Over the last four years Match Month has raised \$663,232.



FOUNDING DONORS

Our founders inspired the creation and growth of the foundation. We are forever grateful for the support of these generous donors!

Business Entities

Arbuthnot's, Inc.
Astra Bank
The Citizens National Bank
Crossroads Pharmacy, Inc.
Gottschalk & Company CPAs, LLC
Jensik Insurance
Nesika Energy, LLC
New Century Bank
People's Exchange Bank
Republic County Historical Society
Rural Gas, Inc.
Strategic Asset Management, LLC
Swedish-American State Bank
Tibbetts Bros., Inc.

Individuals & Families

Ward & Ilene Aurand
Brad & Jill Boyer
Tony & Kim Bombardier
Collins Family: Jack, Sue, Jack Jr.,
Steven, Stephanie & Percy Jr.
Dorothy M. Fisher
Ken & Sue Fischer
The Maurice, Mark & Mike Gieber
Family & The Robert Morris Family
Fred & Lorine Gleue
Tim & Julie Gottschalk
Beverly Hyde
Kenneth & Jacalyn Moravek
Bill & Chris Navis
John & Dorothy Rhine
Sid & Pam Scofield
Steve & Jewelda Scofield
Brent & Rachelle Scott
Robert, Georgene & Steven Surber
Family
Dr. Andy & Vickie Walker



SUSTAINING DONORS

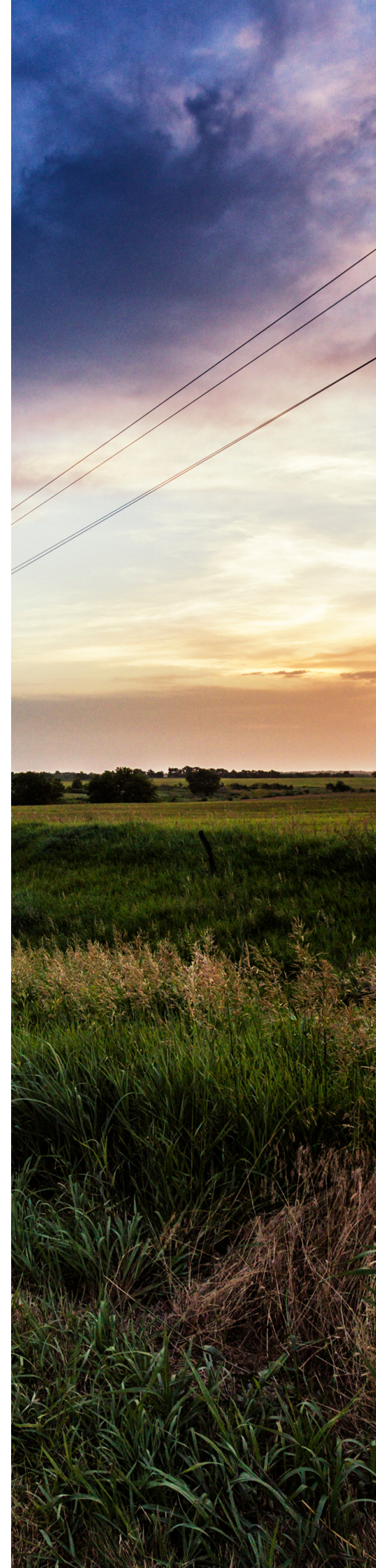
Sustainers made a significant financial commitment to the operations of the community foundation.

Business Entities

Gottschalk & Company CPAs, LLC

Individuals & Families

Alan & Lanie Engle
Tim & Julie Gottschalk
David & Janet Heyka
Jim & Lori McDonald
Steve and Jewelda Scofield
Surber Family



2019-2020 DONORS

Large or small, every gift contributes to the community foundation's ability to serve the community. We have made every effort to include all gifts from July 1, 2019, to June 30, 2020. If you believe there is an error or need to make a correction, please contact us.

Ward Aurand
Kathryn Benz
Blair Center for the Arts
Michael Charles
Barry & Susan Childs
Church People Concerned
Foundation
Carroll & Jane Couture
Cunningham Communications, Inc.
Dane G. Hansen Foundation
Dr. Herbert D. Doubek M.D.
Matt Dowell
John & Kandy Eickman
Lanie Engle
Estate of Nadine Stutzman
Tim & Julie Gottschalk
Dr. Robert & Nancy Holt
Nicholas Jefferson
Tanner & Kathryn Johnson
Mark & Mary Koss
Thayne & Jeanne Larson

Bill & Sheri Mahin
Luke & Jennifer Mahin
Julie McCarty
Christy Newman
Wayne & Lynne Pachta
Barbara Popelka
Robert & Lesley Popelka
Rural Gas, Inc.
Lois Schmidt
Steve & Jewelda Scofield
Tony Strnad
Jerry & Kathleen Stump
Georgene Surber
Ann Swenson
Roger & Paula Swenson
The Citizens National Bank
Jeff & Regine Thompson
Mark & Deb Tipton
Larry & Mabel Woodman
Greg & Lesa Zenger



\$376,371

was donated from 40
generous donors in the
2020 fiscal year.

FORT RILEY TO FORT KEARNEY TRAILS

The path of the Ft. Riley to Ft. Kearney Road through Republic County, Kansas, holds a story of its own. The road was significant to the exploration and settlement of the west by the pioneers and the U.S. military. This road marks an important part of history that the City of Scandia believed should be preserved. With funding from the Republic County Community Foundation the City was able to install a historical sign that shows the path and tells the story of the road.

"We accomplished everything we planned to with the installation of the sign. In fact, in the days following its installation, and prior to this follow up report, we have already witnessed a few travelers stopping by and looking at it. With this project, a little more of the area's history has been preserved for future generations," said grantee Jared Gile.



"Thankfully the community foundation helped us purchase the replacement slide. This will be well used by hundreds of children for decades. Thanks so much."

ADAM ANDERSON

NEW SLIDE FOR CITY PARK

During a windstorm in Belleville, a tree blew over in City Park and destroyed one of the biggest slides. This was one of the more popular components of the park, where hundreds of youth use the park regularly. With the support from the Republic County Community Foundation, the City of Belleville was able to purchase and install a new tube slide.

"We were trying to decide how to replace it or what to do. Thankfully the community foundation helped us purchase the replacement slide. This will be well used by hundreds of children for decades. Thanks so much," said grantee Adam Anderson.





A UNIVERSE OF STORIES

It is proven that young readers who don't continue to read over the summer are likely to lose crucial ground. Taking a summer off can mean a whole school year of a struggling academic performance. Summer library programs are a huge component in addressing the problem of "summer setback." The program begins in late May and continues through the end of July for preschool and elementary students, as well as teens and adults.

The Republic County Community Foundation awarded the Belleville Public Library a grant to support their summer library program, "A Universe of Stories." This eight-week program's theme incorporates science, space and reading for all ages. "The grant helped us reward children, young adults and adults for reading," said grantee Katrina Sorell.

"One of our winners reinforced why we do this," said Sorell. "We gave away a big grand prize for the youth and adults. The youth winner was a young teenager who struggles with reading. After she won, her mom told us how much it meant to her and she was beginning to enjoying reading."



BRINGING ARTISTS TO THE ART ROOM

"Back in April, my students had a chance of a lifetime. They got to spend six days working with NIADA sculpture artist, Dustin Poche! I feel like this opportunity gave my students an appreciation and a little bit of knowledge into how and what a professional artist does for a living in small town America," said grantee Tranda Strnad.

With support from the community foundation, USD 109 was able to bring Dustin Poche into the art class as an in-house field trip. By hosting this type of field trip, students were able to participate in art lessons led by a professional artist, without having to miss out on the rest of their core classes. Students were able to work one-on-one with Dustin creating their own pieces, which led to a Halloween art exhibit that was held through the whole month of October.

"I feel like this opportunity gave my students an appreciation and a little bit of knowledge into how and what a professional artist does for a living in small town America."

TRANDA STRNAD



Home Is...

WHERE PEOPLE SHARE
THEIR GIFTS



"Cuba has 'pulled together' once again and has accomplished an amazing project, the Cuba Heritage Center."

MARILYN JUNEK

THE CUBA HERITAGE CENTER

In 1862, Sokol was founded in Prague, Czechoslovakia. In 1920 a Sokol organization was started in Cuba, Kansas where gymnastic equipment was then purchased or handmade. The organization was put together for small children, teenagers and young adults. It wasn't until 2004 during a community hall renovation project when the historic equipment was found. Since then, the old Sokol equipment was being stored between a barn and a garage, in need of a more permanent home,

The community foundation awarded the City of Cuba funding to support the construction of the Cuba Heritage Center. "Cuba has 'pulled together' once again and has accomplished an amazing project, the Cuba Heritage Center," said grantee Marilyn Junek. This building is both a tribute to the Sokol equipment as well as Dr. McClaskey (Doc), who came to Cuba in the 1920's. The families and community consider Doc a Cuba "legend." He served as the doctor in the community for 52 years. "Doc was a community man and always wanted the best for Cuba," said Junek. Turning his office building into the heritage center is just one of the ways the new space is paying tribute to him and his time served in Cuba.

The grand opening is scheduled for November of 2020. "We would not be able to financially conquer the project without the assistance of the Republic County Community Foundation and Dane Hansen Community Grant Fund," said Junek.

Planning Today to GIVE TOMORROW



Supporting your community, organizations, and causes you care about is an important part of your life and core values.

What if you could continue to provide donations to those organizations after your lifetime? What if you left something meaningful to the charities that you are most passionate about?

CREATE YOUR LEGACY THROUGH YOUR WILL!

Including the community foundation in your will or trust is a simple, significant way to support one or many causes close to your heart, forever.

When you make a planned gift to the community foundation, you plant an investment that will continue to **grow over time** and benefit your community, far beyond your lifetime!

IT'S EASY AND ANYONE CAN DO IT.

Giving through your will is easy and you don't have to be wealthy to do it. Whether your nest egg is large or small, your gift will ensure the good work of charitable organizations continues in your name.

To learn more about leaving a gift in your will or trust, contact your professional advisor or call us at **785-527-5631!**

2019-2020
Grant Recipients

The following organizations received either donor-directed or competitive grants from funds at the community foundation:

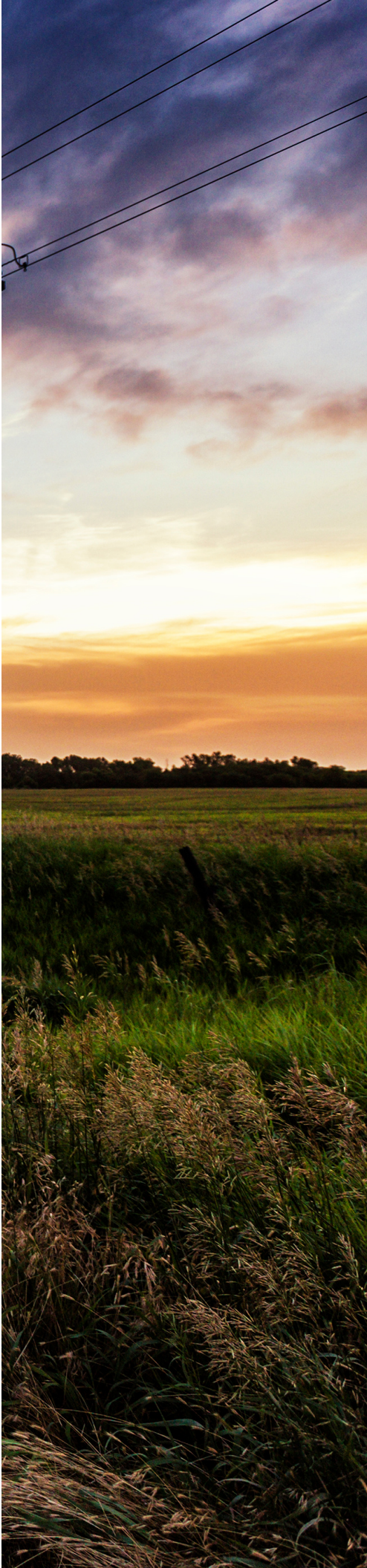
- Belleville Main Street, Inc
- Belleville Public Library
- Belleville United Presbyterian Church
- Blair Center for the Arts
- Church People Concerned Foundation
- City of Belleville
- City of Courtland
- City of Cuba
- City of Munden
- City of Scandia
- Cloud County Community College
- Denver Rescue Mission
- Food Bank of the Rockies
- Hays Academy of Hair Design
- Kansas Emergency Management Association, Inc.
- Kansas State University Scholarship
- KSU River Valley Extension
- MCT, INC.
- Mile High United Way, Inc.
- North Central Kansas Health Care Foundation
- Pawnee Mental Health Services, Inc.
- Republic County
- Republic County Historical Society
- Republic County Hospital
- Republic County Resource Council
- Republic RFD #9 Fire Department
- Smoky Hills Public Television
- USD 109 - Republic County
- USD 426 - Pike Valley
- Zion Evangelical Church

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COVID-19
RESPONSE GRANTS

The community foundation granted the Republic County Hospital Lab Department \$10,000 to purchase a COVID-19 Testing Module. This allowed patients to be tested in-house and receive test results in 45 minutes.

The hospital was awarded an additional \$5,000 in the spring grant cycle to purchase an additional testing module for added testing capacity.





2019-2020

Scholarship Recipients

The following students received scholarships through the community foundation's competitive scholarship program with funding from the Joyce and Jim Hill Scholarship, Amos and Joyce Blecha 4-H Scholarship, the Johnson-Granstedt Memorial Scholarship, Florea Family Scholarship and Scott Family Scholarship.

ADARA WARNER

Kansas State University

AMANDA BAXA

Bethany College

BRAILYN CARLGREN

Fort Hays State University

BRIANNA SJOLANDER

Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture

GRACE RIEKE

University of Denver

GRANT WHITE

Cloud County Community College

HAYLEY PIROUTEK

Kansas State University

HEATHER HANSEN

Cloud County Community College

HUNTER HARTNER

Kansas State University

JESSICA JENSEN

Kansas State University

MCKENNA REEVES

Hays Academy of Hair Design

SAMANTHA RATLIFF

Baker University

TOBI WILBER

Colby Community College

TREVOR MARTIN

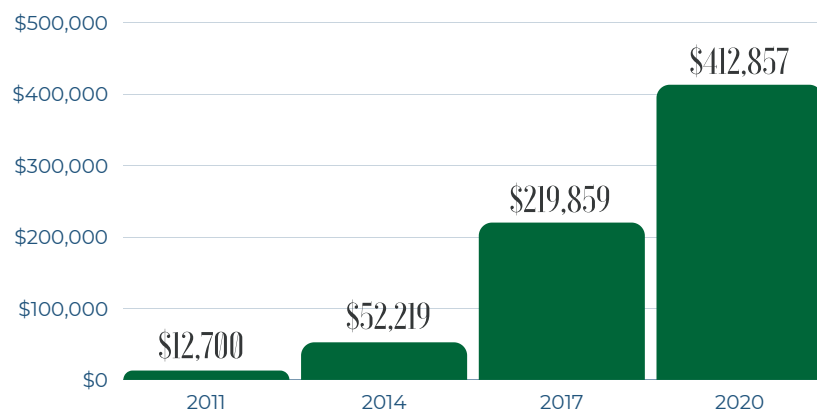
Creighton University



IMPACT NUMBERS

In 2020, \$412,857 total grants and scholarships were awarded to 68 organizations and people throughout the fiscal year. Since inception, \$1,303,628 has been awarded on behalf of generous donors, making our community a better place to live!

GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED PER FISCAL YEAR



FOUNDATION FUNDS

Endowed funds produce charitable income every year and help donors create a legacy of giving.

DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

Enable donors to recommend grants to the charitable organizations or programs of their choice.

Clifford & Betty Makalous Fund
Franklin J. Heyka Family Fund
Julie & Tim Gottschalk Family Fund
Pike Valley Foundation Fund
Roger Simms Family Foundation Fund

DESIGNATED FUNDS

Provide annual support for specific charities selected by the donor.

Kansas Emergency Management Association, Inc.
Scholarship Fund
Kansas Health Foundation Operating Fund
Republic County Schools USD 109 Fund
Strnad Family Fund

ADMINISTRATIVE FUNDS

Supports foundation operations.

Republic County Administrative Fund

PROVISIONAL FUNDS

Supports groups or organizations raising money for a specific community project.

Belleville Community Center Fund

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

Supports foundations community grantmaking.

Republic County Community Action Fund

FIELD OF INTEREST FUNDS

Enable donors to support a designated cause or geographic area. (e.g. the arts, a specific community, etc.)

Dane G. Hansen Community Grant Fund
Kansas Health Foundation Fund
North Central Kansas Health Care Foundation Fund
Republic County Health Fund

ORGANIZATION FUNDS

Provide annual income for nonprofit organizations in support of their charitable work.

Belleville Public Library Fund
Belleville United Presbyterian Church Fund
Blair Center for the Arts Fund
Church People Concerned Foundation, Inc. Fund
High Banks Hall of Fame Fund
Republic County Historical Society Fund

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

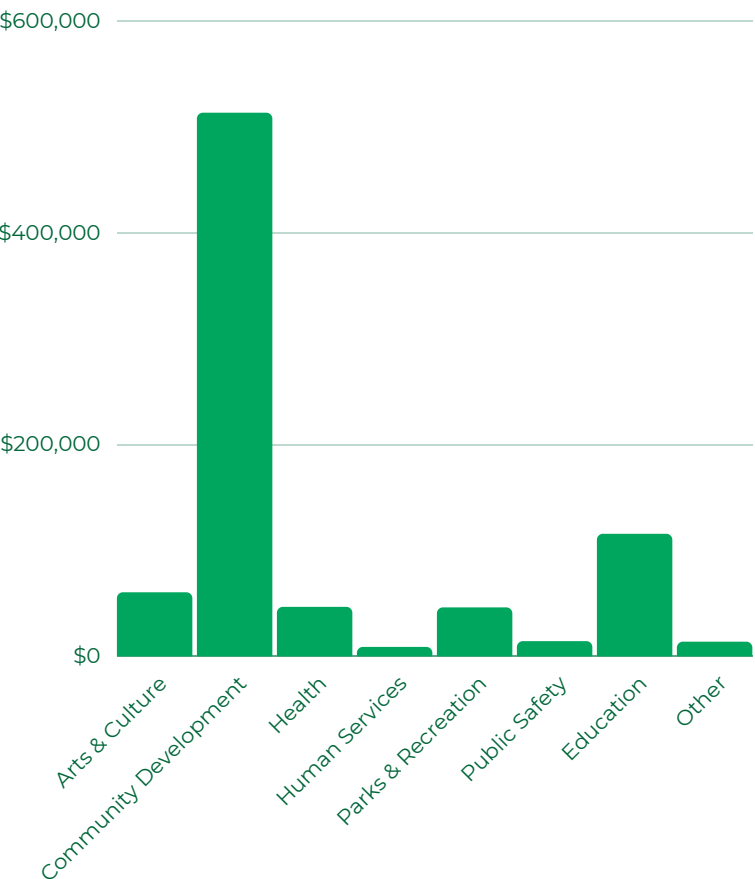
Assist and encourage promising students, including those challenged by educational costs.

Amos & Joyce Blecha Scholarship Fund
Bruce Bowersox Memorial Scholarship Fund
Florea Family Scholarship Fund
Johnson-Granstedt Memorial Scholarship Fund
Joyce & Jim Hill Scholarship Fund
Scott Family Scholarship Fund

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

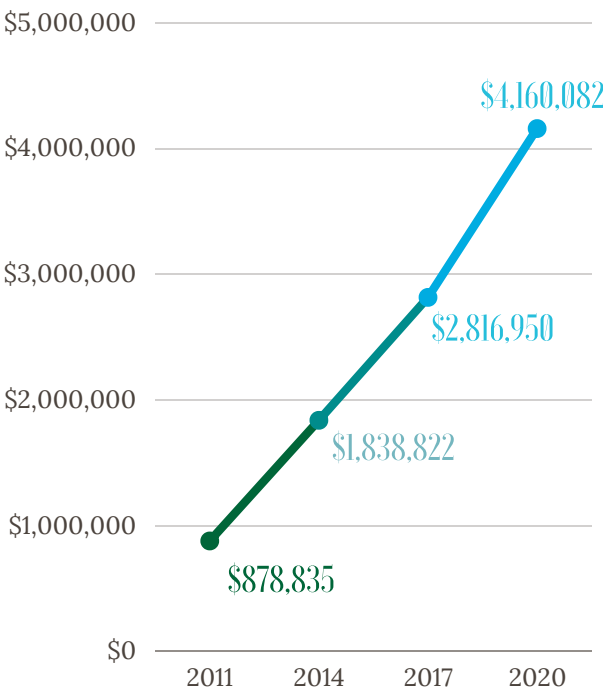
None of this would be possible without people like you! Your support makes a meaningful difference in Republic County, both now and in the future.

COMPETITIVE GRANTMAKING SINCE INCEPTION



ASSET GROWTH SINCE 2011

As of June 30, 2020, the foundation's total asset size reached \$4,160,082 with 28 funds.



GIVE. GROW. GRANT.



By creating a permanent fund at the community foundation, you can accomplish your charitable goals, now and forever. As your partner in giving, we will always take special care to honor your wishes and protect your gift's value.

Your gift to the community foundation will grow over time, just like a tree! Whether you plant a seed by starting a new fund or help a fund grow by giving to an existing fund, every gift to the community foundation helps provide “fruit” for the community through grants and scholarships.



Today...

You decide to make a permanent gift of **\$10,000**.



After 15 years...

Your gift has grown to **\$15,000** and given **\$10,000** to charity.



After 25 years...

Your gift has grown to **\$18,600** and given **\$19,000** to charity.



After 50 years...

Your gift has grown to **\$51,000** and given **\$35,000** to charity.

OUR AFFILIATION



We are a member of the Greater Salina Community Foundation's affiliate network in north central Kansas.

This network helps us effectively pool resources with other foundations for community growth. We benefit from experienced investment and administration services, marketing support, ongoing training and technical assistance from GSCF staff. Our local advisory board provides leadership on decisions that directly impact our community!

Community Foundation for Cloud County
Heartland Community Foundation
Jewell County Community Foundation
Osborne County Community Foundation
Ottawa County Community Foundation
Post Rock Community Foundation
Republic County Community Foundation
Russell County Area Community Foundation
Smith County Community Foundation
Smoky Hills Charitable Foundation
Smoky Valley Community Foundation
Solomon Valley Community Foundation
Washington County Community Foundation



KATY KITCHEN

Director of Regional Affiliates
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ANGELA KERNER

Affiliate Operations Coordinator
angelakerner@gscf.org

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR AFFILIATION

visit www.gscf.org
or contact one of our affiliate staff members



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