



REPUBLIC COUNTY
**community
foundation**
An Affiliate of Greater Salina Community Foundation

Journey to **GROWTH**

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

OUR MISSION

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.



ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

The Republic County Community Foundation was established in 2007 with the mission of benefiting the communities within Republic County. As a permanent source of charitable funds, the Foundation is dedicated to addressing both the current and future needs of our county. We operate as an affiliate of the Greater Salina Community Foundation, which provides us with additional resources and support to maximize our impact in Republic County.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dan Douglas – Board Chair
Deb Tipton – Vice Board Chair
Saunie Reed – Secretary/
Treasurer
Samantha Alexander
Bruce Ball
John Charles
Amber Nutsch

Lauren Field
Andrew Gritten
Tom Lesovsky
Phillip Poppe
Steve Scofield
Jerry Stump
Kendsey Trost
Bethany Wallin



DIRECTOR'S LETTER

This year marked my first complete year serving as the inaugural full-time director of the Republic County Community Foundation and what a year it has been. It has truly been a year of learning, growth, and impact.

I have been fortunate to learn from our host foundation, the Greater Salina Community Foundation, as well as from the Dane G. Hansen Foundation, the Patterson Family Foundation, and, most importantly, from our incredible board of directors. The resources and guidance made available for my own growth as a director have been nothing short of dynamic and in turn, transformative for RCCF.

Our growth as a foundation has been extraordinary. Overall assets increased by more than \$6 million, we held our most competitive grant cycles to date, and we hosted our very first Match Day, Fund the Future, where endowments for charitable causes in Republic County grew significantly.

The impact we achieved together is nothing short of inspiring. We welcomed new donors, received meaningful bequests, awarded record scholarship dollars, granted out the largest amount of grant funding in our history, and saw tremendous growth in endowments. Each of these milestones represents both immediate community impact and lasting investment in the future of Republic County.

The Republic County Community Foundation serves as a vessel for donors' wishes to charitable causes supporting both today's needs and tomorrow's opportunities. This year has been an incredible ride, and I am so excited to see what year two will bring.

With gratitude,

Molly Williams

Director, Republic County Community Foundation



Founding Donors

INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES

Ward & Ilene Auran
 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

BUSINESS ENTITIES

Arbuthnot's, Inc.
 Astra Bank
 The Citizens National Bank
 Crossroads Pharmacy, Inc
 Gottschalk & Company CPA's, 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

Board Members:
 Tom Lesovsky
 and Jerry
 Stump



Foundation Funds

ADMINISTRATIVE

Republic County Administrative Fund

DESIGNATED FUNDS

Chester Ambulance Fund *
 Chester Volunteer Fire Department Fund *
 Republic County 4-H Foundation *
 Republic County Schools USD 109
 Strnad Family Fund
 The Beverly J. Hyde Fund for the Courtland Covenant Church
 The Beverly J. Hyde Fund for the Pike Valley Foundation
 The J. Oran and Marguerite Hyde Fund for the Courtland Community Library
 The Lewis - Pruitt Fund *
 The Shirley Jean Hyde Fund for the Courtland Arts Council
 The Shirley Jean Hyde Fund for the Republic County Historical Museum

FIELD OF INTEREST CONT.

North Central Kansas Health Care Foundation
 Republic County Economic Development Fund *
 Republic County Health Fund
 Scandia Community Foundation Fund *
 Scandia Museum Fund *

ORGANIZATION FUNDS

Ada Lutheran Church *
 Belleville Public Library Fund
 Belleville United Presbyterian Church Fund
 Blair Center for the Arts Fund
 Church People Concerned Foundation, Inc. Fund
 Distinguished Young Women of Kansas
 High Banks Hall of Fame Fund
 Republic County Historical Society Fund
 Republic County Resource Council Earl A. Lash Legacy Fund *

TRADITIONAL SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

Amos & Joyce Blecha Scholarship Fund
 Bruce Bowersox Memorial Scholarship Fund
 Clara Dowell Legacy Scholarship Fund
 Clarence Goppert Family Scholarship Fund
 Florea Family Scholarship Fund
 Johnson-Granstedt Memorial Scholarship Fund
 Joyce & Jim Hill Scholarship Fund
 M.C. Hess and Margaret Hess Boyle Educational Fund for Republic County *
 Scott Family Scholarship Fund
 The Lewis - Pruitt Scholarship Fund *

DESIGNATED SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

Kansas Emergency Management Association, Inc. Scholarship Fund

UNRESTRICTED

Republic County Community Action Fund

DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

Susan & Barry Childs Family Fund *
 Hop for Heroes Donor Advised Fund
 Julie & Tim Gottschalk Family Fund
 Clifford & Betty Makalous Fund
 The Maya Project Fund *
 Pike Valley Foundation Fund
 Roger Simms Family Fund
 Schmidt Fund
 Mark & Debra Tipton Family Fund *

FIELD OF INTEREST FUNDS

Cuba Booster Club *
 Cuba Community Foundation *
 Dane G. Hansen Community Grant Fund for Republic County
 Kansas Health Foundation Fund for Republic County
 Munden Community Foundation *

*17 new funds
 for 2025!!!

2024-2025 Donor List

This list includes gifts made between July 1, 2024- June 30, 2025.

INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES

Brady E. & Samantha Alexander	Elijah Moore & Rana Cline	Leigh Gritten	Lana Knedlik
Lyle and Dot Anderson	Robert Cline	Don Grove	Kyle and Shea Kohman
Ryan and Jaime Anderson	John Combs	Larry & Amy Hadachek	Neely Kohmetscher
Susan Arbutnot	Darrell Combs	Merle & Debra Hadachek	Melroy Kopsa
May Kuhn and Ahmet Arsan	Joseph and Debra Corrigan	Mikel Hadachek	Coleen Larson
Ed Ball	Carroll & Jane Couture	Jeff and Tara Hake	Betty Larson
Gladys Baxa	Chris & Kathy Cox	Jeffrey Hammer	Brent Larson
Jason and Melissa Baxa	Nathan & Jennifer Craig	Loren and Linda Hammer	Don and Thema Larson
Richard & Shellie Baxter	Rebecca Craig	Joyce Hansen	Edward Larson
Steven and April Benne	Kenneth and Laura Cramer	Karen Hansen	Karen Larson
Emma Berggren	Carrie Cummings	Juanita Haukom	Kevin and Michelle Larson
Julia Blackburn	Kyle and Sarah Cyr	Lance and Rebecca Hedstrom	Lyle and Lisa Larson
Wes & Kristin Blake	Audrey Day	Steven Heiman	Don Lesovsky
David & Retha Blecha	Lindsey Deaver	Paul and Petricia Heltne	Nathan Lesovsky
Tony & Kim Bombardier	Tyson Douglas	Marvin and Kayann Herrman	Brandon Lesovsky
Brad & Jill Boyer	Dan & Monica Douglas Family	Deanna Hobelmann	Tom E. & Peggy L. Lesovsky
Mark and Loisann Brown	Matt & Tynan Dowell	Curt and Jessica Housholder	Connie Levendofsky
Rebecca Brown	Diane Dowell	Janet Loring	Nicholas Levendofsky
Valerie Brunsilius	Ledona Dowell	Caleb Mahin	Crystal Lieb
Donna Jean Bunch	Tobe & Robyn Duensing	Bill & Sheri Mahin	Janet Loring
Chad and Camille Burt	Judith Dunn	Melanie Mainquist	Robert Mainquist
Rosemary Burt	John & Kandy Eickman	Robert Mainquist	Gail and Donna Martinson
Lynette Campbell	Alan & Lanie Engle	Gary & Julie Housholder	Jamie (Kramer) Mast
Steven & Kari Champlin	Randall Erickson	Jeanette M. Huizenga	Robert and Noralee Matousek
Joshua Chapman	Dennis & Judith Erkenbrack	Carlene Hurtig	Gary McCarty
Wendy Lester & Walt Cardi	Ron Evert	Macy Hynek	Don & Karol McChesney
Edward and Jane Ann Carlgren	Robert & Diane Floersch	Dani Isaacson	Marc McChesney
Darrell & Jana Carlson	Kenneth and Tracy Forsberg	Terry & Susie Jelinek	Donald & Judith Melby
Michael and Marcia Casagrande	Ella Louise Foster	James & Jean Jensby	Richard and Marlene Melby
Jeff and Megan Cheek	Brian or Diane Freeman	Chris Johnson	Jim Miller
Lowell & Lorraine Chelberg	John and Dawn Fuhrman	Edward and Diana Johnson	Glenn & Nancy Millington
Harry E. & Shirley A. Chermak	Doug Garman	Felicia Johnson	Alan and Dianna Moberly
John Charles	Viola Garst	Tanner & Kathryn Johnson	Bill & Chris Navis
Chris and Karly Cherney	Phil & Brenda Gilliland	Shirley Johnson	Troy & Christy Newman
Barry & Susan Childs	Tim & Julie Gottschalk	Alan and Sandra Juneke	Jean Noble
	Jim & Kelly Gourley	Jay and Lynell Kallman	Les & Annalee Novak
	Josh and Sarah Greenwood	Paul Kallman	Amber Nutsch
	Andrew & Kyra Gritten	Gena Kearn	Becky Odell

INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES CONT.

Chris & Ella Pachta	Lyle and Brenda Ritterling	Bill and Julie Sherriff	Monica & Jordan Thayer
Brad and DD Peterson	Adam Robertson	Scott A. Sjolander	Gerry & Delores Thompson
Kristen Peterson	Catherine Runge	Jeffery and Pamela Smith	Mark & Deb Tipton
Tom and Linda Petersen	Jennifer and Jay Russell	Jerry & Gaylene Sorell	Justin Trost
Barbara Popelka	Kristine Ryan	Ann Sparke	Kendsey Trost
Robert & Lesley Popelka	Lois Sampson	Ronald & Susan Speier	Sara Van Horn
Phillip & Korin Poppe	Shannon & Kendra Short	Chris and Molly Springer	Dottie Vohs
Zachary and Brooke Poppe	Claygatt & Connie Shulda	Roger and Esther Stafford	Bethany Wallin
Donna & Melvin Pruitt	Greg Scofield	Nathan and Courtney Stensaas	Scott & Ruthie Waring
Jason & Julia Rabe	Steve & Jewelda Scofield	Debra Strnad	Tom and Molly Williams
Jim and Diane Reed	Brent & Rachelle Scott	Linda Strnad	David & Natalie Wood
Carol or Kathryn Reynolds	Bryan Scrivner	Lisa Strnad	Larry & Mabel Woodman
Jim and Kathy Richardson	Doane Sells	Josephine Strnad	Karen and Michael Woolsey
	Jana Shelfer	Jerry & Kathleen Stump	Rebecca Young
		Ryan and Amy Swartz	Chris and Trisha Zach
		Ann Swenson	Greg & Lesa Zenger

BUSINESSES & ORGANIZATIONS

Ada Lutheran Church	Dane G. Hansen Foundation	Los Primos Mexican Restaurant	Rolling Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Astra Bank	Distinguished Young Woman of Kansas	Mahin Insurance	Rural Gas, Inc.
Aurand for State Representative	Eager Beaver 4-H Club	Margaret Hess Boyle Trust	Scandia Antique Mall
Bachelor-Faulkner-Dart-Surber Inc.	Elle Stephens	New Century Bank	Scandia Methodist Women
Caleb Mahin	Estate of Arthur Dwayne Turner	Nutrien Ag Solutions, Inc.	Sherdahl Boosters 4H
Belleville Hometown Lumber	Gottschalk & Company, CPAs, LLC	PEO Chapter JA	Stephens Collision & Glass, LLC
Blair Center for the Arts	Heartland Gamebirds LLC	Pike Valley High School	Strategic Asset Management, LLC
Blecha Realty	Heyka Farm Inc.	Reliable Auto Service	Styleaire Beauty Salon
Bobo's Meats LLC	Highbanks Hall of Fame	Republic County 4-H Council	The Citizens National Bank
C & W Farm Supply Inc	Irrigation Ales LLC	Republic County Historical Society	Thompson & Thompson P.A.
City of Cuba	JDR Painting Services, Inc.	Republic County Resource Council	United Bank & Trust
Cloud Republic County Title, LLC	Kevin G. Johnson Memorial Fund	Republic Oil	Valley Point Farms-Charles Family LLC
Creekside Land and Cattle LLC	KREP-FM	Rocking OZ Tires LLC	Zion Cemetery Association
Cuba Booster Club		Rocky Pond Christmas	
Cunningham Communications, Inc.			

MEMORIALS

George Brzon Memorial
Cortney Clark
Kaylene Clark
Ines Dejmal
Diana Elyea
Joyce Hostinksy
Michael Johnson Memorial
Claude and Marie McConnel Family
Bill & Janice Selby

HONORARIUMS

Gary and Sara Bartak
Paul and Teresa Bartak
Catherine Kuhn
Marilyn and Terry Sullivan

Our Grants. Your Stories

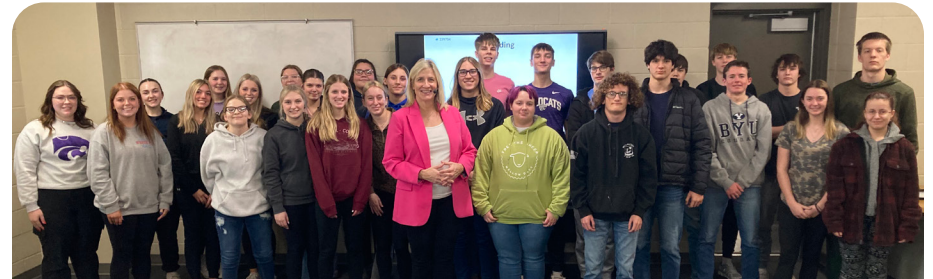


BRINGING THE LOST STORY OF MINERSVILLE TO LIFE

In 2015, three local historians began sharing presentations about the lost town of Minersville, located on the Republic – Cloud County line. Audience reactions were overwhelmingly positive, sparking the idea of telling this forgotten story on film. With a 2024 Republic County Community Foundation grant of \$2,000, along with support from the Cloud County Community Foundation, Humanities Kansas, individual donors, and generous landowners, the Minersville documentary came to life. Local volunteers and partners contributed countless hours of research, filming, and production expertise to make the project possible.

CELEBRATING CZECH HERITAGE TOGETHER

The Czech Club brought rich cultural experiences to our county this year. Grant funding of \$3,000 made a variety of events possible; the Mollie B Polka Band Concert, a traditional vest-making workshop, a Czech egg decorating demonstration, and a special museum exhibit. The results have been inspiring! Growth through these events has increased excitement, interest, and members. An exciting step for a group that relies on volunteers to keep traditions alive!



INVESTING IN STUDENT SUCCESS AT USD 109

USD 109 juniors participated in an ACT prep class led by Carolyn Devane of PowerPrep Inc. The workshop helped students strengthen skills in every section of the ACT, with the goal of boosting confidence and improving overall scores. A special lunch was provided so students could focus fully on the class.

Students who may not have sought out a prep class on their own had access to valuable test strategies right at school.

Students shared that the experience was both helpful and motivating. The class gave these juniors the tools to approach test day with greater confidence, an important investment in their future college and career paths.

PACKING HOPE IN REPUBLIC COUNTY

USD 109 came together in March to pack over 15,000 meals through a Meals of Hope event at the high school. Students worked in small groups, enjoying music and teamwork as they prepared meals that will stay in Republic County, supporting local families through the food bank, churches, and Blessing Box stations.



The event gave students hands-on experience in giving back while learning the power of collaboration and service.

Because of you, our students packed over 15,000 meals to support neighbors in need right here in Republic County.



WHITE ROCK CEMETERY GETS A FRESH LOOK

White Rock Cemetery received a major update! Dead and damaged trees were removed, fencing along three sides was repaired, and the cemetery directory was refreshed with a new coat of paint and an updated map.

The cemetery is safer, more welcoming, and ready to honor loved ones for years to come.



INVESTING IN THE FUTURE OF 4-H AT THE NCK FAIRGROUNDS

The NCK Free Fairgrounds continue to grow and improve for generations of Republic County families. Each year, the Fair board selects areas to upgrade, and this year, attention focused on the Poultry Barn, Swine Barn, and Bucket Calf area in the Beef Barn, spaces critical to the county's thriving 4-H livestock programs. Because of you, 4-H youth can continue learning responsibility, teamwork, and leadership in spaces that are safe, well-equipped, and welcoming.

FIREFIGHTER SAFETY STRENGTHENS IN REPUBLIC COUNTY

Grant dollars totaling \$45,000 enhance firefighter safety in the Belleville, Agenda, Cuba, and Munden-Narka fire departments. Funds provide updated breathing apparatus, air packs, and personal protective equipment for local volunteers. These investments replace outdated gear and improve readiness across the county. By supporting those who respond first in emergencies, the Republic County Community Foundation ensures safer, stronger communities throughout Republic County.



2025 Grant Recipients

DONOR-DIRECTED GRANTS

Church People Concerned Foundation	North Central Kansas Health Care Foundation
City of Courtland	Republic Community Church
City of Munden	Republic County Historical Society
Courtland Community Arts Council	Republic County Hospital
Courtland Covenant Church	Republic County Mental Health Coalition
First United Methodist Church	USD 109
High Banks Hall of Fame	USD 426
Kansas Emergency Medical Services Association	Zion Evangelical Church

COMPETITIVE GRANTS

Belleville Main Street Program Inc.	Mount Pleasant Cemetery
Blair Center for the Arts Foundation	Norway Township
City of Agenda	Rae Hobson Memorial Library
City of Belleville	Republic County
City of Courtland	Republic County 4-H Council
City of Cuba	Republic County Czech Club
City of Scandia	Republic County Hospital
Community Access Television of Salina, Inc.	Smoky Hills Public Television
Courtland Community Arts Council	USD 109
Desire Tobey Sears Chapter, NSDAR	USD 426
High Banks Hall of Fame	White Rock Cemetery
K-State Research & Extension River Valley District	

44 projects
24 organizations
\$196,430.88



Director Molly Williams, Ethan Ines, Benedict Baxa and Board Chair Dan Douglas

AMOS & JOYCE BLECHA SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Sean Morgan
Avery Stindt

BRUCE BOWERSOX MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Ethan Ines

CLARA DOWELL LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Abigail Knoll

CLARENCE GOPPERT FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Ethan Ines
Benedict Baxa
Kadence Henke *

Emma Hubert *
Rachel Patel

FLOREA FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Abigail Knoll
Benedict Baxa

JOYCE & JIM HILL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Sean Morgan

M.C. HESS AND MARGARET HESS BOYLE EDUCATIONAL FUND FOR REPUBLIC COUNTY

Hanna Orr
Olivia Strnad

SCOTT FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Brandon Allen *
Hattie Brzon
Kiersten Morgan *
Ethan Ines

Camryn Reynolds *
Brianna Maldonado *
Rachel Patel

THE LEWIS - PRUITT SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Avery Stindt
Keirra Bates

*notes renewable scholarships

23 students = \$45,853



Key Contributors Astra Bank and United Bank & Trust

MATCH MONTH 2024

RCCF's 2024 Match Month was a record-breaking success, raising \$169,426.32 from 135 donors. With \$100,000 in matching funds from the Dane G. Hansen Foundation and \$70,000 from the Patterson Family Foundation, the campaign's total impact reached \$339,426.32. Match Month is an annual giving campaign designed to grow the Foundation's unrestricted grant endowment, increasing funds available for local grants that support nonprofits and community projects throughout Republic County. This year, RCCF focused on building relationships by engaging donors at community events and local cafés, demonstrating the power of connection and the impact every gift can make in shaping a stronger, more vibrant county.



FUND THE FUTURE: MATCH DAY 2025

RCCF hosted its inaugural Fund the Future campaign, raising \$76,889.93 from 359 gifts from donors! Twenty-three local nonprofits set up booths, allowing attendees to learn about projects, ask questions, and direct donations to the causes most meaningful to them. Individual contributions were matched proportionally up to 50%, from a \$40,000 match pool. The event strengthened endowment funds across the county, supporting youth leadership programs, historic preservation, infrastructure improvements, and community arts initiatives. Seeded by the Patterson Family Foundation, Fund the Future demonstrated the power of strategic matching to encourage giving and build long-term endowment support for Republic County.



Statement of Activities

JUNE 30, 2025

REVENUE

Gifts & Bequests	\$4,639,165.62
Investment Income	\$1,959,941.74
Miscellaneous & Grant Income	\$178,576.39
TOTAL REVENUE	\$6,777,683.75

EXPENSES

Grant Expense	\$349,281.57
Scholarship Expense	\$45,853.00
Foundation Administrative Fees	\$77,223.55
Operating Expenses	\$96,165.05
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$568,523.17

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS

TOTAL \$6,209,160.58

Statement of Financial Position

JUNE 30, 2025

ASSETS

TOTAL ASSETS \$17,076,706.16

LIABILITIES

TOTAL LIABILITIES \$10,185.91

TOTAL NET ASSETS \$17,066,520.25



REPUBLIC COUNTY
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foundation**
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USD 426 students and teacher standing in their upgraded greenhouse thanks to grant dollars from the RCCF Action Fund.

CONTACT US

785-527-9006

molly@republiccountycf.org

republiccountycf.org

1806 M Street Suite 101
Belleville, KS 66935