Greater Northwest Kansas COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

AFFILIATE FOUNDATIONS

ACE Foundation
Bird City Century II Development Foundation
Cheyenne County Kansas Community Foundation
Gove County Community Foundation
GROW Decatur County Foundation
Sheridan County Community Foundation

Sherman County Community Foundation

AGENCY FOUNDATIONS

Logan County Community Foundation Norton County Community Foundation Wallace County Foundation

AGENCY PARTNERS

Developmental Services of Northwest Kansas Graham County Community Foundation Kansas Wildlife Federation Foundation Nex-Generation Round Up for Youth, Inc. Phillips County Community Foundation Thomas County Community Foundation

Keyhole, Monument Rocks, Gove County, Kansas Photographer: Casey Denneler, StargazerImagery





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Thank you to Casey Denneler of Thomas County for the use of his Monument Rocks photographs from Gove County, Kansas in our 2020 Annual Report. On the cover, he captures "Keyhole" at Sunrise. The Milky Way Galaxy peeks through "Keyhole" in the photo to the left.

Through the Eyes of Our Leaders

GNWKCF serves as the working arm of the Dane G. Hansen Foundation in Northwest Kansas, replicating philanthropy throughout each county and community. It is humbling to see the generosity, dedication, and energy people of Northwest Kansas give back to their communities.

~ Thomas Keller

GNWKCF Board Treasurer Cheyenne County Kansas Community Foundation Secretary

It is an honor to serve on the GNWKCF Board to represent Decatur County and the Northwest Kansas service area. This Board is committed to the GNWKCF Vision Statement: Bringing rural communities together for growth and success. It is exciting to see all of the great things happening in Northwest Kansas.

~ Joan McKenna

GNWKCF Board Member GROW Decatur County Foundation Chair

I choose to serve on the GNWKCF board because the opportunity to offer resources, specifically investment provisions and organizational documents, to other Northwest Kansas foundations is rewarding and the impact is visible.

~ Raelene Keller

GNWKCF Associate Board Member Logan County Community Foundation Board Member

I have had the opportunity to be a part of the Greater Northwest Kansas Community Foundation Board for several years now. It was a privilege to be asked to serve on this board. As a lifelong resident of Sherman County, I realize that by giving back to our communities, we are building a strong base for future generations. Each of the projects may seem small BUT as they all come together we are building a healthier and livelier future for generations to come! By our example we show that we can work together and prosper.

~ Cora A. House

GNWKCF Board Chair Sherman County Community Foundation Chair

Before I started in this profession,
I couldn't have envisioned how
working in the nonprofit sector
could be so self-rewarding and life-changing.
This marks my 12th year working for the
community foundation and 5th year as the
Director. I have found my passion is working
to help improve the lives of others and this
position allows for that in a number of aspects.
I couldn't ask for a better group of individuals
to learn from and work alongside of as we
pursue our mission here at the foundation.

~ Darci Schields

GNWKCF Foundation Director

It has been a pleasure to work with the generous communities and donors of GNWKCF. It is awesome to see the commitment to NW Kansas through the planned giving process and the vision that donors see in the future. ~ Gennifer Golden House GNWKCF Staff

GNWKCF Staff Members



Gennifer Golden House
Planned Giving
Coordinator



Darci Schields Foundation Director / CEO



Carol Sloper
Grants & Scholarship
Coordinator

Being born and raised in Cheyenne County, and returning after 30 years of living in cities throughout the U.S., I can honestly say that our corner of Kansas is the best place to live and raise a family. I am thrilled to be part of an organization that helps our rural way of life continue for future generations.

~ Carol Sloper GNWKCF Staff

Foundation Operational Funds

- ACE Foundation Operating Fund
- ACE Foundation Operating Endowment Fund
- Bird City Century II Operating Fund
- Cheyenne County Kansas Community Foundation Operating Fund
- Cheyenne County Kansas Community Foundation Operating Endowment Fund
- Gove County Community Foundation Operating Fund
- Gove County Community Foundation Operating Endowment Fund
- Graham County Community Foundation Operating Endowment Fund
- Greater Northwest Kansas Community Foundation Operating Fund
- Greater Northwest Kansas Community
 Foundation Operating Endowment Fund
- GROW Decatur County Foundation Operating Fund
- GROW Decatur County Foundation Operating Endowment Fund
- Logan County Community Foundation Operating Fund
- Logan County Community Foundation Operating Endowment Fund
- Norton County Community Foundation Operating Fund
- Norton County Community Foundation
 Operating Endowment Fund
- Operating Endowment Fund
 Phillips County Community Foundation
- Operating Endowment Fund
 Sheridan County Community Foundation
- Operating Fund
 Sheridan County Community Foundation
- Operating Endowment Fund
 Sherman County Community Foundation
- Operating Fund
 Sherman County Community Foundation
- Operating Endowment Fund

 Thomas County Community Foundation
- Inomas County Community Foundation
 Operating Endowment Fund
- Wallace County Foundation Operating Fund
- Wallace County Foundation Operating Endowment Fund

Designated Funds

- Cheyenne County Amusement Authority Fund (CCKCF)
- GNWKCF Planned Giving Initiative Fund
- Lillian G. Lawson Memorial Fund
- St. Francis Educational Foundation Fund (CCKCF)
- Wallace County Foundation Amusement Association Fund (WCF)

Donor-Advised Funds

- Bainter Family Fund (SDCCF)
- C.W. & Sandra Antholz Fund (BCCII)
- Colette and Mick Miller Family Fund (NCCF)
- · Domsch Family Fund
- Farmers State Bank Community Fund (LCCF)
- Gennifer Golden House Family Fund
- Jim and Lida Sharp Family Fund (NCCF)
- Junior and Deloris Knorr Family Fund

Donor-Advised Funds, Cont.

- Kale and Darci Schields Family Fund
- Kathy Bergin-Schiltz Memorial Fund (SDCCF)
- Mitch and Carlene Gillespie Family Fund (GCCF)
- Richard and Darlene Brubaker Fund
- Robert Brubaker Family Fund (BCCII)
- Youth on the Move Fund (SDCCF)

Field of Interest Funds

- · BCBSKS Pathways Administration Grant
- Big Kansas Road Trip Project Fund
- Bird City 150th Celebration Fund (BCCII)
- Bird City Century II Development Foundation Business Incubator Fund (BCCII)
- Bird City Century II Development Foundation Community Initiative Fund (BCCII)
- Bird City Real Estate Fund LLC (BCCII)
- Cheyenne County Impact Fund (CCKCF)
- Cheyenne County Kansas Community Foundation Unrestricted Fund (CCKCF)
- Cheylin E-Community Fund (BCCII)
- Cultivate Sheridan County Fund (SDCCF)
- Fund for Grainfield (GCCF)
- Gove County Community and Economic Development Fund (GCCF)
- Graham County Endowment Fund (GHCCF)
- Greeley Wallace County Healthcare Foundation Endowment Fund
- GROW Decatur County Foundation Fund (GDCF)
- Grow Gove County Fund (GCCF)
- Grow Gove County Investments Fund (GCCF)
- Hansen Community Clean-Up Fund
- Hansen Community Grant Funds (12 Counties)
- Hansen Community Grant Administrative Funds (12 Counties)
- Hansen Match Initiative Administrative Funds (12 Counties)
- Hansen Strategic Doing Initiative Administrative Funds (12 Counties)
- Harold and Eileen Frasier Memorial Fund (WCF)
- Logan County Endowment Fund (LCCF)
- · Neighbors Helping Neighbors Fund
- Northwest Kansas Museum Coalition Fund
- Norton County Endowment Fund (NCCF)
- Norton County Endowment Fund (NCCF)
 Oakley Parks Improvement Project Fund
- Phillips County Unrestricted Endowment Fund (PCCF)
- Rawlins County Future Fund (ACEF)
- SCCF Benefit Fund (SDCCF)
- Sheridan County Community Initiative Fund (SDCCF)
- Sherman County Community Foundation Endowment Fund (SHCCF)
- Sherman County Community Initiative Fund (SHCCF)
- St. Francis New Generation Fund (CCKCF)
- Thomas County Hansen Matching Endowment Fund (TCCF)
- Topside Trail Project Fund (SHCCF)
- Tri-County Leadership Fund
- Wallace County Foundation Grant Project Fund (WCF)
- Wallace County Foundation Unrestricted Fund (WCF)

Field of Interest Funds, Cont.

- Wallace County Hansen Endowment Fund (WCF)
- Youth Skilled Therapy Assistance Fund (NCCF)

Organizational Funds

- Andy Betzen Memorial Endowment Fund (DSNWK)
- Black and Gold Booster Club Fund (SHCCF)
- Cheyenne County Village Fund (CCKCF)
- Cheylin Schools Foundation Fund (BCCII)
- Developmental Services of Northwest Kansas Fund (DSNWK)
- Fort Wallace Memorial Association Fund (WCF)
- Jim and Rose Blume DSNWK Endowment Fund
 (DSN/14/K)
- Joey Weber Endowment Fund (DSNWK)
- Kansas Wildlife Federation Foundation Fund
- Nex-Generation Round Up for Youth Endowment

 From 1
- Nex-Generation Round Up for Youth Program Fund
- Norton Area Child Care Association Endowment
- Fund (NCCF)
 Norton County Community Service Association Endowment Fund (NCCF)
- Norton County Health Department Fund (NCCF)
- Norton Theatre Association Endowment Fund (NCCF)
- Oakley Educational Foundation Fund (LCCF)
- Sheridan County Health Complex Fund (SDCCF)
- Thresher Association Endowment Fund (BCCII)

Scholarship Funds

- Bird City Century II Development Foundation Scholarship Fund (BCCII)
- Brianna Linin Memorial Scholarship Fund (SHCCF)
- Della Connell Scholarship Fund (NCCF)
- Durham Family Scholarship Fund (NCCF)
- Erma and Bob John Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Farmers State Bank Junior Bank Board Scholarship Fund (*LCCF*)
- Flora Elizabeth Boutz Edwards Endowment Scholarship Fund (GDCF)
- Flora Elizabeth Boutz Edwards Scholarship Award Fund (GDCF)
- Fox Still Memorial Scholarship Fund (WCF)
- Lisa Scott Scholarship Fund (WCF)
- Mac and Bill Jones Family Scholarship Fund (WCF)
- NCHS Alumni Association Scholarship Fund
 (NCCE)
- Norton Rotary Scholarship Fund (NCCF)
- Opal and Adolph Harris Estate Scholarship Fund for Hill City USD 281
- Opal and Adolph Harris Estate Scholarship Fund for Hoxie USD 412 (SDCCF)
- Ruth Jackson Memorial Scholarship Fund (WCF)
- Tim Kowalski Second Chance Scholarship Fund
 (1.00F)
- W. Paul Kirkham Memorial Scholarship Fund
 (MCF)
- Wingfield Scholarship Fund
- Youth on the Move Scholarship Fund (SDCCF)

Represents Active Funds During Calendar Year 2020

GNWKCF Financial Overview

Financial Statement

Statement of Financial Position Year-Ending December 31, 2020*

TOTAL ASSETS.....\$28,004,335.14

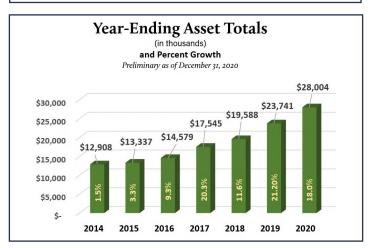
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$3,791,676.84
Investments	\$19,860,164.22
Other Assets	\$4,352,494.08

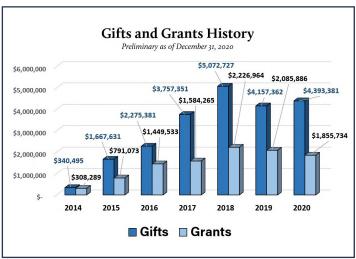
TOTAL LIABILITIES..... \$148,600.59

TOTAL FUND BALANCE\$27,855,734.55

TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE: \$28,004,335,14

*Preliminary (unaudited) financials as of December 31, 2020







Northwest Kansas Community Foundations Continue to Grow

2020 was a year we will never forget as we experienced a worldwide pandemic that challenged us all in many ways. Locally, GNWKCF pulled together in true Northwest Kansas fashion as our affiliated foundations were quick to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic with gap funding by getting creative with grants for relief before the national and state governments could respond. Our local foundations awarded a total of 36 grants for this purpose totaling \$220,393.14. The pandemic helped increase public awareness of the importance of local community foundations.

It has been exciting to see the continued growth in the GNWKCF asset portfolio and services that help strengthen our rural communities. Another area of growth has been the number of scholarship funds held under GNWKCF. We implemented an online application process in 2020 and 121 Northwest Kansas students applied for scholarships. A total of 41 awards were made totaling \$44,950.

The Dane G. Hansen Foundation continues to promote Northwest Kansas and offer programs and funds to our 12 counties within our region. The vision that the Hansen Foundation Trustees have to promote Northwest Kansas is progressive to say the least. We are honored to be a partner in this opportunity to improve our rural communities.

The *Strategic Doing* process started by the Hansen Foundation has proven to be successful in each of our 12 counties. Projects continue to come to completion and new ideas continue to incubate within communities through this process.

Each of our affiliated foundations exceeded the **\$50,000** matching donation challenge from the Dane G. Hansen Foundation (for the May 2020 through April 2021 cycle), even through a nationwide pandemic. The amount of giving was indicative of Northwest Kansan's desire to move forward even through the toughest of times.

The **NW Kansas Gives** program has continued to be successful with the help of John Griffin, a seasoned estate attorney and major gifts consultant. Each one of our affiliated foundations are working to establish a **Legacy Society** to ensure a successful future and self-sustainability.

Personally, I appreciate the ladies in our office who work hard for us every day to promote GNWKCF and our 12 counties. Thank you

to each foundation board member within our organization for continuing to enrich our lives through volunteering to make our communities the best.

> Cora A. House Board Chair



The Dane G. Hansen Foundation (DGH), established in 1965, has been a partner to GNWKCF since 2015. It has provided support through a number of initiatives for its 26-county territory to expand charitable activities in Northwest Kansas to: build a sustainable pool of dollars available to meet ongoing and future needs; empower



community members to confidently plan for the future of their hometowns; and increase community knowledge and visibility of local community foundations. GNWKCF works with 12 of the 26 counties, and Greater Salina Community Foundation works with the remaining 14 counties. In the list below, future changes to these initiatives were announced by DGH in September 2020 (highlighted in **BLUE** as "New in 2020").

Dane G. Hansen Foundation Community Foundation Initiatives

<u>Community Grant Funds</u> of \$50,000 twice a year will continue to be offered to county-wide community foundations through the end of 2021 provided the respective communities actively participate in the *Strategic Doing* process. In addition, DGH awards \$1,000 in administrative funds to each community foundation for administering the community grants each time they release a \$50,000 grant.

NEW in 2020: Beginning in April 2022, the community grant fund donations will be reduced to \$25,000 twice a year through September 2025. At that point, DGH will have contributed \$21 million to this initiative throughout their 26-county region.

<u>Matching Endowment Funds</u>, offered for a fifth year in 2020, will continue through 2021. The Hansen Foundation offers to match \$1 for \$1 up to \$50,000 during a community foundation declared *Match Month*. Not only does DGH the match dollars raised, it provides a \$1,500 administrative grant per county foundation per year to help offset expenses incurred for marketing the campaign.

NEW in 2020: Beginning in May 2022, the matching initiative will be extended for an additional four years and will sunset in April 2026.

<u>Operating Endowment Funds</u> were available for a fourth year as an additional incentive to community foundations participating in the *Match Month* challenge to help foundations build sustainability. Community foundations raising the full \$50,000 locally are rewarded with a **\$20,000** grant for an operating endowment fund. Amounts are prorated if the full challenge is not met.

NEW in 2020: Beginning in May 2022, the incentive endowed operating funds will be increased to \$45,000 (prorated if the full challenge is not met).

Operating Unrestricted Funds were presented for a fourth year as another incentive from the Hansen Foundation. For those community foundations raising the full \$50,000 during *Match Month*, they are also awarded a \$5,000 grant for unrestricted operating funds. Amounts are prorated if the full challenge is not met.

<u>Community Foundation Scholarships</u> to the Kansas Association of Community Foundations

Conference were available to the 26 Northwest Kansas area county-wide community foundations. The

DGH scholarship paid the registration fee for up to two people (board or staff) to attend the conference.

Due to COVID-19 the conference was held on a virtual platform in 2020 so no travel was required.

KACF Membership and CF Express Training fees were paid by DGH for all participating county-wide community foundations to ensure volunteer board members have access to best practice information and networking tools.

The Annual Dane G. Hansen Foundation Community Forum continued in 2020 as a virtual event.

NW Kansas Gives was introduced in 2019 to offer technical assistance and education to area community foundations to capture the transfer of wealth occurring over the next few decades.

Staffing Assistant Grant New in 2020: Beginning in April 2021 and sunsetting in September 2025, DGH is offering an optional operational grant to the 26 county-wide community foundations. Foundations can apply for a \$10,000 grant per year (in years 2021-2025) to provide funding for a staff or consultant position to assist the foundation with general operations.

Northwest Kansas Community Initiatives

Creating a Legacy for the Community

In addition to providing technical and educational assistance to community foundations, the Dane G. Hansen Foundation (DGH) has made it possible for donors wishing to make a charitable gift in their estate to meet with estate planning attorney **John Griffin** of **Stewardship Counseling** to help design a plan. John assists Northwest Kansas residents by developing an outline for a new or revised estate plan that includes a charitable gift. There is no charge to the donor for John's assistance, but when the draft is handed off to a local attorney to complete the document there may be fees from that attorney.

"The Hansen trustees believe that educating communities and individuals about the power of giving through their estates and offering assistance to get estate plans in place is one of the most important things the Foundation can do to secure a positive future for Northwest Kansas."

"A Plan for Planned Giving," 2019 Winter | Volume 1, Issue 3 Northwest Kansas Today (magazine)

The *NW Kansas Gives* program has continued to be successful with the help of John's expertise in estate planning. Each one of our county-wide community foundations is working on establishing a *Legacy Society* to set the cornerstone for the respective foundation's future and self-sustainability. COVID-19 was challenging but for the most part the *NW Kansas Gives* program moved forward without a hitch in 2020. The use of Zoom for meetings helped facilitate meetings between John and planned giving donors.

The online training offered by charitable giving experts from **Generous Change** in May of 2020 was just a teaser of what will be offered to Northwest Kansas charitable organizations next year. The online training assisted board and staff members with how to approach and visit with donors.

Interested donors should contact their local community foundation or Gennifer Golden House at *gennifer@gnwkcf.org* or **785-734-2406**.



Strategic Doing Projects

The Hansen Foundation introduced the concept of *Strategic Doing* in 2017. It is an active, dynamic and continuous collaborative process to develop and implement asset-based strategic projects. By design, the process encourages new ways of thinking, behaving and doing. The ultimate goal is to DO something and not just plan, plan, plan.

In Decatur County, GROW Decatur County Foundation (GDCF) has actively promoted *Strategic Doing* over the past three years with much interest and success. In that time, 13 projects have been identified with varying degrees of progress. One success story, which began in 2018, concluded in 2020 with the creation of a *Dog Park* in Oberlin. With the help of several grants, a group of volunteers came together and made their dream of a dog park a reality. They continue to fundraise to add additional items to the "*Tails a Waggin' Dog Park*." *Photo above courtesy of GDCF*.

Match Month Endowment Campaign Results By Community Foundation

2019 Challenge Completed in Spring 2020

County	Match Month	Local	Hansen Match	Total Raised
Graham	May-20	\$ 32,855.00	\$ 32,855.00	\$ 65,710.00
Logan	Mar-20	\$ 55,926.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 105,926.00
Thomas	May-20	\$ 45,589.00	\$ 45,589.00	\$ 91,178.00

2020 Challenge Completed in Fall 2020

	menge complete		
Match Month	Local	Hansen Match	Total Raised
Dec-20	\$ 52,515.77	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 102,515.77
Dec-20	\$ 67,245.15	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 117,245.15
Nov-20	\$ 66,233.60	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 116,233.60
Nov-20	\$ 86,975.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 136,975.00
Oct-20	\$ 54,585.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 104,585.00
Dec-20	\$ 72,495.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 122,495.00
Nov-20	\$ 68,645.10	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 118,645.10
Dec-20	\$ 57,883.07	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 107,883.07
Dec-20	\$ 50,035.74	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 100,035.74
	Dec-20 Dec-20 Nov-20 Nov-20 Oct-20 Dec-20 Nov-20 Dec-20	Dec-20 \$ 52,515.77 Dec-20 \$ 67,245.15 Nov-20 \$ 66,233.60 Nov-20 \$ 86,975.00 Oct-20 \$ 54,585.00 Dec-20 \$ 72,495.00 Nov-20 \$ 68,645.10 Dec-20 \$ 57,883.07	Dec-20 \$ 52,515.77 \$ 50,000.00 Dec-20 \$ 67,245.15 \$ 50,000.00 Nov-20 \$ 66,233.60 \$ 50,000.00 Nov-20 \$ 86,975.00 \$ 50,000.00 Oct-20 \$ 54,585.00 \$ 50,000.00 Dec-20 \$ 72,495.00 \$ 50,000.00 Nov-20 \$ 68,645.10 \$ 50,000.00 Dec-20 \$ 57,883.07 \$ 50,000.00

Incentive Grant Results By Community Foundation

2019 Challenge Completed in Spring 2020

County	Operating Indowment	Operating nrestricted	T	otal Hansen Donation
Graham	\$ 13,200.00	\$ 3,300.00	\$	16,500.00
Logan	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$	25,000.00
Thomas	\$ 18,200.00	\$ 4,550.00	\$	22,750.00

2020 Challenge Completed in Fall 2020

County	Operating Indowment	Operating nrestricted	T	otal Hansen Donation
Cheyenne	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$	25,000.00
Decatur	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$	25,000.00
Gove	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$	25,000.00
Norton	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$	25,000.00
Phillips	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$	25,000.00
Rawlins	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$	25,000.00
Sheridan	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$	25,000.00
Sherman	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$	25,000.00
Wallace	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$	25,000.00

Note: Hansen Match Initiatives run from May to April each year. Counties not listed for the 2020 challege completed efforts in Spring 2021.

Cheyenne County

Edgar & Mabel Robertson Scholarship



This scholarship, in memory of Edgar and Mabel Robertson of Bird City, is available to Cheylin USD 103 graduating seniors with the primary emphasis being community service.

This scholarship is paid over two years (four semesters), providing a 2.5 cumulative GPA is maintained.

2020 Awards: Kaylynn Hendricks......\$2,500 Grace Sabatka\$2,500

Wingfield Scholarship

This scholarship was created by Owen and Phyllis Wingfield of McDonald to benefit Cheylin USD 103 graduating



seniors who wish to continue their education, but financial assistance is needed. This is a two-year (four-semester) scholarship with the possibility of being renewed for an additional two years (for a total of eight semesters), providing a 2.5 cumulative GPA is maintained.

2020 Awards: Kaylynn Hendricks.....\$2,000 Grace Sabatka\$2,000

Graham County

Opal and Adolph Harris Estate Scholarship for Hill City USD 281



Greater Northwest Kansas COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Opal and Adolph Harris made provisions in their estate to create this scholarship which benefits graduates of Hill City /

Graham County USD 281 or students who are home-schooled and live within the Hill City School District. Special consideration is given to students from the Penokee and Morland areas. Two scholarships in the amount of \$1,500 each, paid over the course of two semesters, are awarded annually.

2020 Awards:

Michael Blanks Jr.\$1,500 Jacob Lindenman\$1,500

Greeley County

Erma and Bob John Memorial Scholarship

This fund was established by the children and grandchildren of Bob and Erma John in honor of their dedicated service to and love of the community



of Tribune. Two graduating seniors from Greeley Public Schools / Tribune USD 200 will be selected to each receive a \$250 scholarship award annually based on good citizenship and commitment to outstanding character as determined by the scholarship committee. This fund was established in 2020 with the first scholarship awards to be selected in 2021.

Logan County

Farmers State Bank (FSB) Junior Bank Board Scholarship

This fund was established by The Farmers State Bank of Oakley to recognize Oakley High School USD 274 graduating seniors who have actively participated on the FSB Junior Bank Board. This fund was established in 2020 with the first scholarship awards to be selected in 2021.

LOGAN COUNTY

Tim Kowalski Second Chance Scholarship

Tim Kowalski grew up on a farm south of Oakley, and learned by doing, the basics of welding, electricity, plumbing, and working with his hands and wits. He established this scholarship to provide graduating students from Oakley High School USD 274, or students who obtained a GED and live within the school district, a chance to have financial assistance in seeking a two-year vocational, technical, or junior college degree. Students must demonstrate a financial need and a desire to obtain a certification or degree to prepare for the workforce. This fund was established in 2020 with the first scholarship awards to be selected in 2021.

Norton County

Della Connell Scholarship

This scholarship was established to assist graduates of Norton Community Schools USD 211 with continuing their higher education. It is a two-semester payout with the opportunity to apply for a second year renewal providing the minimum GPA specified is met.

2020 Awards: Leah David (2nd Year)\$1,500 Hadley Hauser (2nd Year)\$1,500

Cole Amlong.......\$1,000
Connor Hall\$1,000
Connor Haresnape ...\$1,000
Weston Hayes\$1,000
Carter Jones\$1,000

Lexi Kats.......\$1,000
Tucker Pfannenstiel...\$1,000
Mason Schulze......\$1,000
Brandon Vacura.....\$1,000
Judson Wiltfong.....\$1,000



Norton Rotary Scholarship

The Norton Rotary has established this scholarship to benefit graduates of Norton Community Schools USD 211 who have been actively engaged in community service activities during their high school career. Three \$400 scholarships are awarded annually.

2020 Awards:

Cole Amlong......\$400
Jaida McEwen....\$400
Tucker Pfannenstiel....\$400

Sheridan County

Opal and Adolph Harris Estate Scholarship for Hoxie USD 412



Opal and Adolph Harris made provisions in their estate to create this scholarship which benefits graduates of Hoxie Community Schools USD 412 or students who are home-schooled and live within the Hoxie School District. Two scholarships in the amount of \$1,750 each, paid over the course of two semesters, are awarded annually.

Youth on the Move Scholarship

Jodi Rogers of Hoxie established this scholarship to benefit graduates of Hoxie Community Schools USD 412 who have been actively engaged in the community, especially youth activities, during their high school career. This is the first year that two \$250 scholarships were awarded.

2020 Awards:

Parker Jones\$250 Dylan Weimer\$250

Scholarship Highlight

Flora Elizabeth Boutz Edwards Endowment Scholarship Fund

Flora Edwards was born on November 2, 1922, on the Albert and Theresa (Walkemeyer) Boutz family farm south of Jennings, KS. Born the second child of 13 children, she attended grade school in a one-room country school. She went on to graduate from **Decatur Community High School** in Oberlin, KS. After graduating, she left Kansas and married Ed Hicks in 1947. After continuing her education in nursing, she later married Carl Edwards in 1964. She loved gardening, sewing, and other needle work.

When she passed away in May 2016, a portion of her estate was bequested to USD 294, Decatur Community Schools. In 2018, USD 294 established the Flora Elizabeth Boutz Edwards Endowment Scholarship Fund with GROW Decatur County Foundation, an Affiliate of GNWKCF. Per her Last Will and Testament, the donated assets were to be invested and the income from the fund used for the purpose of providing scholarships for Decatur High School graduates, based on a combination of need and merit.



Flora Edwards

The first scholarships were awarded in 2018 in which ten students received \$300 each. In 2019, \$450 scholarships were awarded to 13 students. The total assets of the scholarship fund have grown and made it possible to award ten graduating seniors each \$1,000 awards in 2020. This permanent scholarship, paid over two semesters, will continue to support Decatur Community Schools annually through the generous benefit and forward thinking of Ms. Edwards.

2020 Award Recipients:

\$1,000 Scholarship Each

Skyler Brown Anna Carter Dawson Kempt Alissa Sporn Colton Ketterl Sage Lohoefener Erin May Landen Macfee Alyssa Van Vleet Courtlyn Waterman



Sherman County

Brianna Linin Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship was established in memory of Brianna Danae Linin, who was diagnosed with a malignant brain tumor which claimed her life when she was just five years old. A local fundraising event, "Goodland's Got Talent," was started as an annual memorial to her and



her legacy, with proceeds each year building the scholarship fund. The first scholarships were awarded to graduating seniors of Goodland High School USD 352 in 2017, Brianna's classmates.

2020 Awards:

Lauren Cure\$1,00	0
Hannah Dechant\$1,00	0
Saige Newman\$1,00	0

Wallace County

Fox Still Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship was established to assist Wallace County High School USD 241 graduating seniors with continuing their education at a Kansas college with a major in Law Enforcement or Criminal Justice. No award was made in 2020.

Mac and Bill Jones Family Scholarship

This scholarship was created to assist Wallace County High School USD 241 or Weskan High School USD 242 former students continue their higher education working towards a bachelor's, master's, or doctorate degree in Nursing. No award was made in 2020.



Wallace County

Lisa Scott Scholarship

The family of Lisa Scott established this scholarship to honor her memory. Lisa grew up on the family farm south of Wallace and graduated from Wallace County High School. Graduating seniors from Wallace County High School USD 241 or Weskan High School USD 242 planning to continue their higher education at a college or technical school are eligible to apply for this \$500 scholarship.

2020 Award: Haylee Hennick\$500



Haylee Hennick

I was absolutely honored to be the very first recipient of the Lisa Scott Scholarship, and I am extremely grateful for their generosity! By receiving this scholarship, it has helped diminish some of the financial stress that comes with being a college student. I can now focus more of my time and attention towards my studies and becoming the best I can be in my future profession, an agricultural educator. Without the kind and generous individuals involved with the Lisa Scott Scholarship, I would not be where I am today; and for that, I am extremely grateful!

Ruth Jackson Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship was established to assist graduating seniors from either Wallace County High School USD 241 or Weskan High School USD 242 with continuing their higher education at a college or technical school. Applicants must demonstrate financial need, career potential, and have a GPA of 2.0 with no Fs on their transcript. One scholarship of \$250 is awarded annually.

2020 Award: Jace Mackley.....\$250

W. Paul Kirkham Scholarship

Dorothy V. Kirkham and the Kirkham Family established this scholarship to honor W. Paul Kirkham. This scholarship is to assist former graduates of Wallace County High School USD 241 or Weskan High School USD 242 with continuing their higher education at a post-secondary educational institution. Applicants must have accumulated a minimum of 30 credit hours from a college or university, preferably a junior or senior. One \$1,000 scholarship is awarded annually.

2020 Award:

Makayla Kuhlman\$1,000



Partnering with GNWKCF for Growth

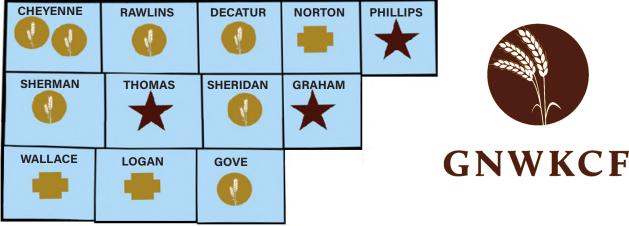
Greater Northwest Kansas Community Foundation (GNWKCF) was formed to increase exposure and opportunities for philanthropy throughout Northwest Kansas and the tri-state region. In 2009, realizing the benefits to regionalization, the Bird City Century II Development Foundation (BCCII) created and affiliated with GNWKCF. The vision of the regional structure is to help build strong, sustainable local community foundations that can provide financial support for their respective communities, together building rural resilience in Northwest Kansas. Since 2012, community foundations in 12 additional counties in the region have formed affiliated relationships with GNWKCF, and a number of organizations and donors have established funds, bringing our total assets to more than \$28 million.

GNWKCF is a public charity, a non-profit organization exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. GNWKCF manages a variety of fund types for individuals, families, businesses, organizations, and community foundations. Fund types include: administrative / operational, designated, donor-advised, field of interest, organization, and scholarship.

A **community foundation** provides a philanthropic vehicle to receive donations and bequests for their local geographic area. Both endowed and non-endowed funds are developed to provide financial support to 501(c)(3) and other qualifying charitable non-profit organizations including government, education, and religious entities.

GNWKCF offers three types of structured services for our foundations:

- An Affiliate Foundation operates under GNWKCF's tax-exempt umbrella, allowing donors to take the maximum allowable tax deduction available. They receive full back-office support from GNWKCF.
- An Agency Foundation is for community foundations who already have their own 501(c)(3) status. Their collection of funds are managed by GNWKCF but their assets remain tied to their own 501(c)(3) and are filed on their own 990. They receive back-office support from GNWKCF.
- An Agency Partner Foundation is for community foundations who already have their own 501(c)(3) status.
 GNWKCF manages their Hansen-initiated funds only. They receive individual fund support services from GNWKCF.





Affiliate Foundation

- ACE Foundation (*Rawlins County*)
- Bird City Century II Development Foundation
- Cheyenne County Kansas Community Foundation
- Gove County Community Foundation
- GROW Decatur County Foundation
- Sheridan County Community Foundation
- Sherman County Community Foundation



- Logan County Community Foundation
- Norton County Community Foundation
- Wallace County Foundation



Agency Partner Foundation

- Graham County Community Foundation
- Phillips County Community Foundation
- Thomas County Community Foundation

ACE Foundation

ACE Foundation became an Affiliate of Greater Northwest Kansas Community Foundation in August 2018. The Foundation gives residents and alumni of Rawlins County an opportunity to invest in their local communities through wills, trusts, life insurance, and other gifts. It is governed by a group of dedicated volunteers.

In 2020, ACE Foundation awarded eight Hansen Community Grants for Rawlins County totaling \$53,860.52, including \$14,435 in direct response to *COVID-19 needs*. Two grants from the Rawlins County Future Fund totaling \$9,160 were also awarded.

Rawlins County Health Center (RCHC) was awarded two grants totaling \$8,960 to purchase KINSA QuickCare Thermometers.

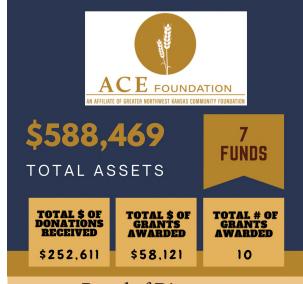
These "smart" devices are used by quarantined patients to take temperatures daily and log the data in the Kinsa app which automatically uploads to a database accessible to RCHC and Rawlins County Health Department. The app aggregates anonymous temperatures and symptoms to be shared with public health officials to serve as a local risk monitor. It also provides real-time messaging to notify patients running a fever on the steps they should take.

The Foundation also awarded **\$5,475** to the **Rawlins County Dental Clinic** to purchase a *UV sanitation system* with hands-free high-volume evacuation to help better protect both patients and staff from potential COVID-19 infection.



One of the larger grants, \$18,263.15, was made to the City of Herndon to replace playground equipment with upgraded equipment including a play-booster design for ages 5 to 12. As part of the Healthy Communities Initiative, the city held public meetings and gathered information from citizens on concerns and possible projects. It was determined that the city park was in dire need of new playground equipment due to the current equipment being worn out and in disrepair. Rawlins County Extension Office, Rawlins County Public Health and the LiveWell Northwest Kansas partnered with the city on this project.

Another large grant awarded was to the **City of McDonald** to *replace the roof on the old school building* that has been re-purposed as the voting center and library. The project included \$5,000 from the Rawlins County Future Fund and \$20,000 from the Hansen Community Grant for Rawlins County.



Board of Directors

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Main Street Arts Council (MSAC) received funding for a second year to produce the Summer Theater Festival in Atwood via a \$8,335 grant. The program provides performance opportunities free of charge to area youth. MSAC has developed this summer program and, based on available funding, strives to put on local programs in as many counties in Northwest Kansas as possible. In addition to getting hands-on experience with all aspects of theater production, participants build confidence and improve communication skills. The COVID-19 pandemic forced modifications to how the summer program was executed, but the "show must go on" and did via Zoom.

Bird City Century II Development Foundation



Board of Directors

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Teryn Carmichael, Foundation Director Coleen Jensen, Administrative Assistant

Cheylin Playground Project

If We Build it, they will PLAY!



Bird City Century II Development Foundation (BCCII) was founded in December 1985 with the remaining cash from the Bird City Centennial Celebration. The Foundation was organized for the betterment and benefit of the Bird City community and Cheylin School District USD 103. In 2009, BCCII became the founding Affiliate of Greater Northwest Kansas Community Foundation.

In 2020, the largest grant awarded was for the *Bird City Street Project*. BCCII awarded \$65,000 for the streets and an additional \$25,000 for curbs and gutters. These funds were added to \$50,000 allocated by the city and \$65,000 granted by BCCII in 2019 to complete the project. The streets were in poor condition and in some cases disrepair. The city budget limits what and how much can be accomplished each year. With the collaboration of BCCII and the City of Bird City, this project was ascertainable in two years.

A total of \$31,000 was granted to help offset the day-to-day operation expenses for the Cougar Cub Daycare. This is a value-added asset for the community to have a daycare locally available.



Cheylin USD 103 Preschool was awarded \$12,500 for

the continuation of the successful preschool program initially implemented in the 2008-2009 school year. The school district does not receive state funding for preschool-aged children. This grant affords the district to continue to offer this early childhood educational opportunity.

USD 103 took on the ambitious project to *renovate the old playground*. Fundraising efforts began in 2018 and the Foundation awarded a \$30,000 grant. Then BCCII challenged the school to raise \$40,000 via a match campaign. That challenge was met in 2020 and added to an **additional** \$30,000 grant in 2020 for a total investment of \$100,000 in the new playground. *A picture of the improvements is to the left.*

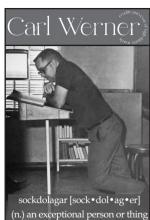
Each year on National Giving Day BCCII holds a *Match Day* fundraiser. This year, donations made on Match Day for one of the approved organizations were matched up to \$50,000 (prorated by total raised). The community contributions totaled \$60,176.76. Grant awards that were made as a result are listed below.

2020 Bird City Match Day Grant Awards \$116.959 Awana \$5,389 BC Swimming Pool\$18,214 St. Joseph Catholic Youth.....\$64 BC VanDoren Park\$1,114 BC Area on Aging.....\$1,150 Thresher Assn Endowment......\$4,790 4th of July Celebration\$2,264 **Tri-State Antique Engine &** BC Cemetery Board\$4,750 BC Community Club \$4,084 Cheylin Playground\$2,475 Thresher Association\$43,209 BC EMS.....\$2,750 Cheylin Preschool\$2,264 United Methodist Church.....\$25 BC Fire Department.....\$2,720 Cheylin Rec Commission.....\$614 St. John Lutheran Church......\$4,150 BC Go-Getters 4H\$900 Cheylin Wellness Center \$1,014 Redeemer Lutheran Church\$2,000 BC Historical Association.....\$595 Community Youth Group\$1,765 Zion Lutheran Church\$2,000 BC Housing Authority\$425 Cougar Cub Daycare\$3,410 St. Joseph Catholic Church.....\$50 Cheylin Schools USD 103.....\$250 BC Library.....\$2,764 JAMS (Just Among Moms).....\$714 BC Ministerial Alliance.....\$800 St. John Catholic Youth\$200 City of Bird City\$50 #GI**₩ING** Amounts are rounded up to nearest dollar. Organizations listed in italics were not matched. **TUESDAY**

Cheyenne County Kansas Community Foundation

Cheyenne County Kansas Community Foundation (CCKCF) became an Affiliate of GNWKCF in December 2017. In the past three years, the Foundation's assets have grown more than \$700,000 as a result of the annual match month challenge issued by the Dane G. Hansen Foundation and generous donors that truly care about the future of Cheyenne County.

In October 2020 **Carl Werner**, one of six founding board members and the only member to serve continuously since the Foundation's inception in 1988, retired from the CCKCF Board. Carl spent more than 40 years at St. Francis Public Schools USD 297. His tireless pursuit of ensuring quality education and a robust athletics program for the school district was significantly impacted forever when he founded the **St. Francis Educational Foundation Fund** in December 2015 with his initial personal donation of **\$100,000**.



Carl intends for others, not just himself,

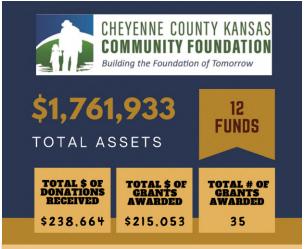
to donate to this endowed fund to make the net income available annually to USD 297 for grants to benefit the school district. That fund has grown to more than \$140,000 and has paid \$15,500 in grants to the school since inception. The CCKCF Board honored Carl's dedication by naming him an *Emeritus Board Member*.

CCKCF was quick to respond to the *COVID-19 pandemic* and set aside \$25,000 for grants to support community needs as a result of the pandemic. One large grant of \$18,000 was made for a *sterilization fogger (decontamination system)* for Cheyenne County EMS and became a critical piece of response equipment when the county faced a COVID-19 outbreak at the skilled nursing facility.

Also, Cheyenne County Hospital received \$2,500 for personal protective equipment (PPE) during COVID-19 outbreak. Both the Cheyenne County Food Pantry and Bird City Food Bank were awarded grant funds to help with the increased food distribution needs. Also, a grant was made to the United Methodist Church (UMC) in St. Francis for the UMC Thrift Store to provide assistance to individuals facing hardship as a result of COVID-19.



The pandemic also impacted annual holiday activities in the county, but volunteers came up with a safe way to share the joy of Christmas. CCKCF joined a number of local businesses and individuals in sponsoring "Happy Holidaze" in St. Francis. Santa and Mrs. Claus cruised Main Street with an entourage of elves, donning the appropriate masks and gloves, safely delivering packages to all the children and a gift bag to every car parked on Main Street.



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Carl Werner, E

Cliff Leach

Dara Carmichael Penny Gienger

Carl Werner, Emeritus

Janet Jensen, *Board Assistant* I Glorianne Milne, *Board Assistant*

Douglas Sloper, Webmaster

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CCKCF awarded \$53,202 to Cheyenne Center for Creativity's 202 on Washington project. It began as a vision in 2017 and was tackled as a Strategic Doing project to create a local community event center. Volunteers have raised funds, including receiving \$100,000 from the Dane G. Hansen Foundation, for the project which is expected to cost between \$500,000 - \$750,000. A grant of \$20,000 was awarded from the Cheyenne County Hansen Community Grant Fund to be used for the roof replacement and first phase of the HVAC installation; \$10,000 was awarded from the St. Francis New Generation Fund for the HVAC system; and \$3,000 from the Cheyenne County Impact Fund provided help for network technology in the community center. In addition, the Foundation and former resident Bill Keller and family, issued a \$2 to \$1 challenge grant of \$20,202 which was met and resulted in \$60,606 in donations for the 202 Project.

Gove County Community Foundation



Board of Directors

Stephanie Manhart, *Chair* Sue Machen, *Vice-Chair* Mitch Gillespie, *Secretary* Roger Ringer, *Treasurer* Steve Nicholson Cheryl Remington Duane Vollbracht Dusty Zerr





Gove County Community Foundation (GCCF) affiliated with GNWKCF in November 2012 with the goal to increase economic and community development opportunities in Gove County. Since that time, GCCF has grown to nearly a million dollars in assets.

Grainfield Community Development Committee (GCDC) was awarded a \$755.34 grant for 2nd Street Place Financial Assistance. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the annual Cruise, Shoes & BBQs fundraiser was canceled. This fundraiser has always been a source of income for GCDC to help fund projects in Grainfield.

For the second year, GCCF was able to award grants from the **Grow Gove County Fund**, the endowment fund that has grown to \$552,284 thanks to the Dane G. Hansen Foundation's match month challenge and generous local donors. Four grants totaling \$11,557 were made to help fund the *City of Grainfield's city park restroom and concessions building*; *Gove County Fair's outdoor event center*; *elementary playground equipment for USD 293 Quinter Public Schools*; and the *City of Gove for electrical and floor work in the new fitness center*.

Gove County Medical Center (GCMC) received a grant of **\$7,500** to *remodel two birthing suites* within the hospital to better accommodate mothers, babies, and families in a more homelike

atmosphere. GCMC provides maternal and fetal obstetric (OB) services to women and infants in an area of Kansas that is lacking such services. One year ago, GCMC went from a single labor and delivery room within the surgical area to a suite of two rooms for labor, delivery, recovery and postpartum and a single room for C-section mothers. In doing so, two patient rooms were converted but not given the upgrades of a homelike atmosphere. The remodel helped make the rooms more comfortable for new moms and their families while retaining the necessary medical features.



One of the larger grants awarded was \$12,500 to the City of Gove to help create a community building and emergency shelter. The city purchased the Methodist Church building, which has always served as an emergency shelter in the past but was not ideal as it did not have handicap access, a generator, and escape window. The grant helped fund materials for remodeling, a chairlift, generator, exit from the basement, egress windows, and modifications to create a handicap accessible restroom. Volunteers helped with labor to make the improvements and haul old materials to the landfill. In addition, the community building will also serve as a satellite location for the Castle Rock Wellness Center. The photos to the left show community building improvements in progress.

GROW Decatur County Foundation

GROW Decatur County Foundation (GDCF) joined GNWKCF as an Affiliate in November 2016. The acronym "GROW" in the Foundation's name stands for Growing Rural Opportunities Within. Every board decision and grant awarded is focused on "GROW" to help Decatur area communities to grow and thrive.

Of the many grants awarded by GDCF, several have helped local nonprofit organizations improve their facilities. The Bargain Box is a nonprofit volunteer-run thrift store that supports many community



organizations and groups with their proceeds. An award of \$2,000 was given from the GROW Decatur County Fund in July of 2020 for the purchase of a storage shed to store seasonal merchandise and provide capacity in the store to offer a wider selection of items.

The Jennings Clinic also received a grant to update the office with the potential to allow a doctor to come to Jennings once a week. The clinic has not been used for several years. The two grants, \$3,111.20 community grant and \$2,000 from GROW Grant, funded a handicap accessible sidewalk with ramp to enter the clinic and replacement of the old carpet.

When COVID-19 began to impact Decatur County, GDCF helped inject money into local businesses with the Decatur Double Dollars Project. A \$5,000 grant was awarded to the Decatur Area Development Fund with the goal to help get local shoppers into area small businesses that were negatively affected by the pandemic. With the support of area banks, which committed funds to be used as a \$2 for \$1 match, citizens could purchase \$100 in Chamber Bucks and in return they received \$200 to spend at Decatur County businesses. Shoppers had 90 days to use the Chamber Bucks to ensure the funds would get into circulation as soon as possible.

The global pandemic also prompted GDCF to hold a unique match month fundraiser in December. With the mandate of masks and social distancing, a drive-in movie was shown as an opportunity for families to social distance in their own vehicles but still enjoy the drive-in movie experience. In cooperation with Rocking M Media and other business sponsors, the movie "Elf" was shown to 66 paid vehicles. Pizzas were also pre-sold with drinks from the Sunflower Recreation Center. The event brought in \$2,496 with the concessions going back to Sunflower Recreation for support of the Sunflower Cinema. With drive-in movies disappearing from the landscape in Northwest Kansas, many parents and grandparents wanted the next generation to see first hand the 50-foot screen used to show movies. Participants tuned into the local radio station for excellent sound.

GDCF board members helped set up and take down the inflatable screen, take tickets, direct vehicles to their viewing stations, deliver pizzas and drinks all in cooperation with the local fire department, law enforcement, fair board, City of Oberlin and Decatur County. It was the community event of the season!



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Sheridan County Community Foundation



Foundation Pandemic Response

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and spring shutdown of businesses and organizational activities, SDCCF created an **Emergency Grant Fund Pool** of \$10,000 utilizing funds from the local Dane G. Hansen Community Grant Fund, which SDCCF manages. Area organizations showing need as a direct result of the pandemic were eligible to apply for up to \$1,000 in assistance.

Overall, \$6,750 was awarded to seven organizations:

- Hoxie Recreation, \$1,000, to assist with operational needs;
- Hoxie Area Chamber of Commerce, \$1,000, to assist with credit card fees incurred from the gift card program;
- Main Street Arts Council Inc., \$1,000, to assist with operational needs;
- Sheridan County Benefit Walk, \$1,000, to offset funds which would have been received through a canceled fundraiser;
- Hoxie Christian Church, \$750, to help cover expenses towards a mask project;
- Sheridan County Health Complex, \$1,000, to assist with the purchase of interactive message display boards for hospital visitors and employees; and
- Golden Plains Elementary, \$1,000, to assist with resources needed for the safe reopening of school.

Sheridan County Community Foundation (SDCCF) joined GNWKCF in November 2012 as an Affiliate. The mission of the Foundation is to encourage, prudently manage, and distribute charitable contributions to improve the quality of life for Sheridan County residents, now and in the future.

SDCCF funded many grant projects during 2020, but one grant grabbed the board members hearts and begged to be funded.

Golden Plains Elementary School USD 316 had the vision to start a daycare, *Little Paws Daycare*. The school received a large grant of \$118,000 from the Dane G. Hansen Foundation to cover the cost of the building, cement, and dirt work. SDCCF awarded \$9,400 to help purchase *fencing*, sod, and essential household items.

Little Paws Daycare, which opened August 3, 2020, now eases the stress of Selden area parents when it comes to finding local and credible daycare services for their children. The facility is located across the street from the elementary school providing easy access for families to drop-off and pick-up. It features a full kitchen, bathroom, indoor and outdoor play areas, nap room, and an office.

Brandy Spresser, a teacher at Golden Plains, spearheaded the daycare project with the support and partnership of the local school district. She also serves as the daycare director. The daycare can accommodate up to 12 children. It is managed by three full-time care providers. Educational activities are conducted daily with breakfast, lunch, and an afternoon snack provided.

Other contributors to the project include: Midwest Energy (\$500) to help purchase kitchen equipment, and the Pete Henry Foundation (\$10,000) for furnishings and additional startup costs. *Below are pictures of the new daycare.*





Sherman County Community Foundation

Sherman County Community Foundation (SHCCF) became an Affiliate of GNWKCF in December 2012. The volunteer board members strive to meet the Foundation's goal of "Honoring the Past and Building the Future."

SHCCF spent a good portion of 2020 helping fund a variety of community needs related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Foundation set aside \$25,000 from the Hansen Community Grant Fund for *COVID-19 relief*. Local charitable organizations could submit grant applications for up to \$2,500 dollars, with no limit as to the number of times the entity could apply. SHCCF granted \$34,260 to help Sherman County weather the pandemic storm.



Topside Aquatics, which offers indoor swimming and water therapy, had just opened its doors in early 2020 when the pandemic shutdown hit. As a *Strategic Doing project*, SHCCF made three grant awards totaling \$10,900 in order to help keep Topside Aquatics afloat during the pandemic restrictions.

The **Goodland Activities Center** offers a recreation center for people of all ages and runs the **annual**

summer baseball/softball program. In addition to a COVID-19 grant, the Foundation also underwrote the entire expense for the summer baseball/softball program in terms of equipment along with purchasing t-shirts for all youth participants. SHCCF also provided grant funding for the **Goodland Baseball Club's** concession stand to offset its closure during the 2020 baseball season.

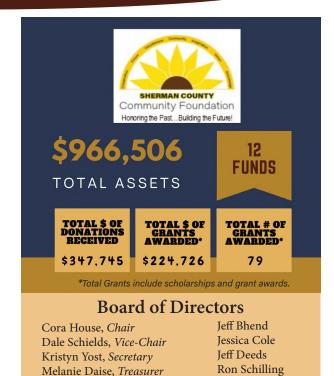
With the cancellation of the *county fair's home-owned carnival* games and rides, SHCCF awarded a grant to the **Sherman County Community Services** organization to help recoup financial losses.

The **Goodland Arts Center** also received funding for its **summer arts program**, along with a grant to assist with day-to-day operations.

Goodland Public Schools USD 352 received a grant to plan and develop a new *teacher retention program* in 2020. The district had to hire over 20 new teachers in one year due to retirements. Also, as the annual fall musical was not open to the public due to COVID-19; and SHCCF provided funding so that the play could be presented online for parents and relatives to watch the performance.

A grant of \$2,500 was provided to the "Save the Sherman Theatre" fund drive and was truly invaluable in helping to accomplish that goal.

One other notable COVID-19-relief project was the **Sherman County Health Department's** *KINSA QuickCare Thermometers* to help better manage and monitor patients with possible COVID-19 exposure. A grant of **\$8,260** funded the purchase of 413 smart thermometers. County Health Nurse Jennifer Cure, RN, noted how valuable the thermometers were to county health providers in diagnosing patients and assisting residents who tested positive with COVID-19. *Pictured to the right are Sherman County Health Department and Goodland Regional Medical staff members displaying the smart thermometers.*



In addition to helping charitable organizations, SHCCF partnered with **Sherman County Community Development** to create "Go Goodland" for a fun

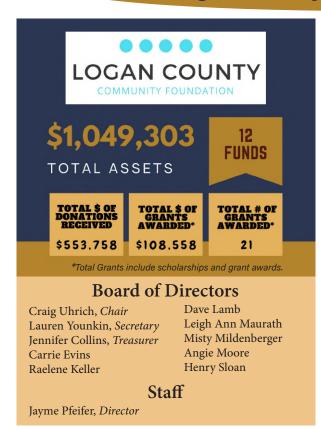
family activity
that also helped
inject money
into local
businesses.
Families were
encouraged to
complete all of
the activities to
make a Bingo
on the card to
be entered to
win one of 30
\$100 gift cards to
local businesses.

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MAKE A SNOW ANGEL	MAKE CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR NURSING HOME RESIDENTS	DONATE A TOY TO TOYS FOR TOTS	HAVE AN UGLY CHRISTMAS SWEATER PARTY	TAKE A SELFIE WITH CHRISTMAS LIGHTS
LEND A HAND TO A NEIGHBOR IN NEED	PAY IT FORWARD FOR THE PERSON BEHIND YOU IN LINE	DECORATE A GINGERBREAD HOUSE	MAKE A SNOWMAN	DONATE TO A LOCAL NONPROFIT OR CHARITY
DONATE TO THE GENESIS FOOD PANTRY	GO CHRISTMAS CAROLING WITH FRIENDS OR FAMILY	PREE SPACE	BE A SECRET SANTA FOR A DESERVING PERSON	GO SLEDDING WITH A FRIEND
BUY A GIFT CARD FROM A LOCAL BUSINESS	COMPLETE A RANDOM ACT OF KINDNESS	DECORATE YOUR HOUSE WITH CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS	BE THERE FOR SOMEONE WHO LOST A LOVED ONE THIS PAST YEAR	MAKE CHRISTMAS COOKIES
WATCH A CHRISTMAS MOVIE	DELIVER BAKED GOODS TO A FRIEND	ORDER CARRY- OUT OR DINE IN AT A LOCAL RESTAURANT	MAKE A CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT	DRIVE AROUND AND LOOK AT CHRISTMAS LIGHTS
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Megan Thomas



Logan County Community Foundation





Jayme Pfeifer

In 2020, the Foundation hired its first ever *Director*, **Jayme Pfeifer**. As LCCF has grown, the board recognized the importance of having a dedicated staff member to maximize the positive impact of the Foundation to the community.

Jayme brought over ten years of experience to the position. Previously she worked for the Colby

Community College Endowment Foundation starting as an employee, then a board member, and concluded her tenure as the Interim Director. Jayme has been an active Logan County Community Foundation board member, serving as the secretary in 2019. With her combined experience, she was able to hit the ground running and took the Foundation to the next level.

Jayme and her family moved to Oakley in the summer of 2009 so that her husband could take over the management of what is now American Implement. Her husband, Jason, is originally from Oakley and Jayme from Colby. They have two children, Jackson and Grace, both attending Oakley Public Schools. Jayme is a graduate of Fort Hays State University and has spent most of her career working for Colby Community College and USD 274.

Logan County Community Foundation (LCCF) joined GNWKCF as an Agency Foundation in June 2017. The Foundation's mission is to engage donors to encourage planned giving, award grants, and support projects to create lasting community growth solutions for the betterment of Logan County. LCCF is committed to progress and improvement within Logan County for the longterm growth and well-being of individuals and organizations.

When LCCF began the *Strategic Doing* process in 2017, one priority that rose to the top to address was the lack of community and recreation centers in the smaller cities in the county. A group of people from the small community of Winona, population of 159, took on that challenge and made it a reality.

The **City of Winona** re-purposed the old ambulance garage that was no longer in use to become a **wellness center**. Funding for the project came

from many sources: Dane G. Hansen Foundation (\$15,000), Hansen Community Grant for Logan County from LCCF (\$15,000), the City of Winona (\$5,000), Chamber of Commerce (\$500), and donations from community members and businesses.

The Winona Wellness Center is available to the community 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The center contains nine pieces of professional grade equipment, an open fitness room to host classes or watch a workout video using the provided TVs, restrooms, and a security system for monitoring of the facilities.





Outcomes from this project include improving the community by reviving an abandoned building, providing a facility accessible for all ages to increase overall health and wellness, and promoting physical exercise to aid in weight management and to help protect against many chronic diseases including high blood pressure and high cholesterol.



The Oakley Instrumental
Music Program was
awarded a \$5,081.57
Hansen Community Grant
for Logan County for the
growing program at Oakley
High School USD 274. The
students had expressed
interest in learning to play
drum-line instruments for
multiple years; however, the

existing equipment was old and most in disrepair. This grant afforded the purchase of *new percussion instruments* including marching snare drums, tenor drums, bass drums, sticks, cymbals, marching carriers, and stands. The new equipment has peaked the interest of many students and is used at all home football and basketball games where the community can see the results of this investment.

Norton County Community Foundation

Norton County Community Foundation (NCCF) was founded in 1994 and joined GNWKCF as an Affiliate in 2013. NCCF change its affiliation with GNWKCF in 2018 and became an Agency Foundation. The Foundation has 20 funds managed by GNWKCF in addition to other funds managed in-house at NCCF. It has two full-time staff members who work to fulfill the mission: "Dedicated to serving today for tomorrow, to make our community a better place in which to live."

Like many other community foundations, NCCF made responding to the local impact of the *COVID-19 pandemic* a priority. Upon state mandated stay-at-home orders, NCCF reserved \$25,000 of the Hansen Community Grant for Norton County Fund for direct COVID-19-related relief for agencies in the county. Those funds were used to provide \$2,500 grants to six organizations:

- Norton Theatre Association,
- Norton Area Child Care Association,
- Norton Travel & Tourism,
- Nex-Generation Round Up for Youth,
- Norton County Horse Council, and
- Valley Hope of Norton. Valley Hope staff members are pictured below receiving the grant check.



NCCF staff members were amazed at the overwhelming program support at the federal and state levels and were able to release **\$10,000** of the reserved funds to be used for other grants. The COVID-19 relief grant funds did provide immediate gap-funding before government programs were established.

Economic development was also a priority for NCCF in 2020.

In October, a \$10,000 Hansen Community Grant was awarded to Norton City/ County Economic to support the county's new housing program. Through its eight grant-funded incentive options, the Fresh.New.Norton County program challenges all residents to flip, renovate, repaint, or build a brand-new



home. Incentives were established for developers, home or property owners, seniors, new home purchases or construction. For more information about this ongoing program, go to **www.** freshnewnortoncounty.org.



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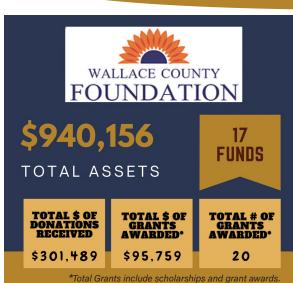
Staff

Tara Vance, Executive Director
Bethany Shirk, Director of Operations & Communications

Norton Regional Health Foundation was awarded a \$600 Hansen Community Grant for the Stepping On Program. The initiative's ultimate goal is to reduce the number of fall-related traumas to senior citizens in Norton County. The training is designed to give seniors who have fallen recently, or are at risk of falls, the tools and confidence to prevent future injury. Stepping On Program data shows a 31% reduction in fall-related traumas nationally. Norton County Hospital is initially helping 24 participants per year in two courses. It is expected to take several years to reach a reduction in fallrelated traumas to mirror or even exceed the national data. The hospital will continue making the program available to keep improving and helping the Norton County senior population. One of the first Stepping On Programs held is pictured below.



Wallace County Foundation



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Wallace County Foundation (WCF) was created in 1998 by a group of local leaders wanting to improve the quality of life in Wallace County and to facilitate gifts for community improvement projects. WCF joined GNWKCF as an Agency Foundation in September 2018.

In 2020, the Foundation awarded six grants to the **Fort Wallace Memorial Association** (FWMA) from the Hansen Community Grant
Fund for Wallace County. Projects ranged from educational programs,
physical improvements, and travel brochures to conducting a joint
project with Logan County to pinpoint historic unmarked graves
among the two counties. FWMA has been hard at work bringing
much value to Wallace County.

A grant of \$4,635 was awarded for *Historical Symposium Speakers* and a *Kitchenette Counter* for the museum. The program was planned prior to COVID-19 hitting the United States. Unfortunately, the event occurred the very weekend in March that the lock-downs began. Due to COVID-19 and a large snowstorm that struck the area that week, not all of the planned speakers were able to attend, but the symposium was still held. The funds were used to compensate guest historians and the additional costs to house the speakers during the lock-down weekend, as well as for the banquet meal.

A project that will extend into 2021, funded with a \$7,000 grant, is the *Historic Cemeteries Radar Survey*. An additional grant of \$2,800 from the Logan County Community Foundation allowed the scope of the *survey to be extended to both Wallace and Logan counties*. The Fort Wallace Cemetery is the only visible remnant of Fort Wallace, which served along the Smoky Hill Trail from 1865-1882. After the Fort's decommissioning, the U.S. Army exhumed the remains of soldiers to be re-buried at Fort Leavenworth, except for soldiers who died of cholera (those graves were left behind). The civilians buried in the Fort area were also left behind. The goal is to mark these graves. By partnering with GeoModel Inc. they expect to "see" the location of graves to document. Permission was also obtained to use ground-penetrating radar to pinpoint the location of the Sheridan Cemetery in the ghost town of Sheridan in Logan County.

Another educational event, *Harvesting the Plains Education Day and Exposition*, was funded with a \$2,930 grant. The exposition included an extensive outdoor encampment, demonstrations of food-gathering on the Plains, and highlighted buffalo hunting. Also showcased were 19th Century skills, such as blacksmithing and wheelwrighting. There were periodic firearms demonstrations, including a cannon crew from Missouri. Volunteers and re-enactors were able to teach 900 school students from Tri-Plains, Sharon Springs, Cheylin, Weskan, Lakin, Hoxie, St. Francis, and Colby schools including home-schooled students. *The photos to the left are from the education day.*

A grant of \$1,031 was awarded to update the *Western Vistas Historic Byway brochures*. Wallace County is one of three counties that are included in the byway. *Samples of the brochures are pictured below.*





Agency Partner Foundations

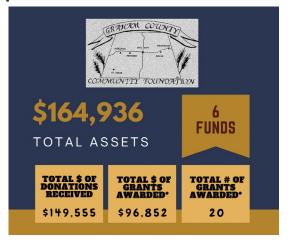
Graham County Community Foundation

Graham County Community Foundation (GHCCF) became an Agency Partner to GNWKCF in August 2018 with the establishment of the Dane G. Hansen Community Grant Fund for Graham County, Graham County Endowment Fund, and the Graham County Community Foundation Operating Endowment Fund. This partnership enables GHCCF to participate in initiatives offered to area community foundations by

the Dane G. Hansen Foundation through oversight and due diligence provided by GNWKCF.

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Phillips County Community Foundation



Phillips County Community Foundation (PCCF) became an Agency Partner to GNWKCF in August 2018 with the establishment of the **Dane G. Hansen Community Grant Fund for Phillips County, Phillips County Unrestricted Endowment Fund**, and the **Phillips County Community Foundation Operating Endowment Fund**. This partnership

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Staff

Morris Engle, Executive Director

Thomas County Community Foundation

Thomas County Community Foundation (TCCF) became an Agency Partner to GNWKCF in August 2018 with the establishment of the Dane G. Hansen Community Grant Fund for Thomas County, Thomas County Hansen Endowment Fund, and the Thomas County Community Foundation Operating Endowment Fund. This

partnership enables TCCF to participate in initiatives offered to area community foundations by the Dane G. Hansen Foundation through oversight and due diligence provided by GNWKCF.

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Nex-Generation Round Up for Youth, Inc.

The mission of Nex-Generation Round Up for Youth, Inc. (Nex-Gen) is to educate Northwest and North Central Kansas students about local career opportunities by providing and supporting programs in career development, entrepreneurship and internship. These efforts foster a positive sense of community and encourage youth to remain or return home to prosper. Established in 2013, the organization's goal is to help youth maximize all available opportunities in the regional area we serve and help them discover a career they love while living where they love.

In 2019, Nex-Gen partnered with GNWKCF to create two funds. The **Nex-Generation Round Up for Youth Endowment Fund** was established with a \$10,000 gift, which grew to \$12,673 in 2020, to create a lasting fund in which the annual net income may be used to benefit Nex-Gen projects and programs. The **Nex-Generation Round Up for Youth Program Fund** was created with an initial gift of \$15,000, which has grown to \$18,499 in 2020, of which principal or income may be used as necessary to help further the organization's mission.

Nex-Gen offers four main program areas for 28 counties in Kansas:

- Career Development: Educate students about the variety of local career opportunities through career fairs and workshops on interviewing and resume writing.
- Entrepreneurship: Educate rural youth about starting their own business through offering YouthBiz® (an entrepreneurship curriculum available for middle and high schools) and hosting

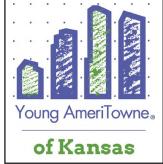
hands-on business plan workshops.

- Internships: Match high school and college students with local businesses throughout Northwest and North Central Kansas for work-study opportunities during the school year and paid summer internships.
- Young AmeriTowne® of Kansas: Partner with area rural schools through a four to six week financial literacy curriculum, designed for 5th to 8th grades, that teaches basic economics, banking, money management, government, communications, entrepreneurship, philanthropy and employment.

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The Young AmeriTowne® of Kansas program, which couples classroom exercises with hands-on skill development, enables students to immediately put processes and concepts to work. This curriculum is designed to show students many of the opportunities available to them in their hometown. The program culminates with a field trip to Young AmeriTowne® of Kansas in Lenora, KS, where students-turned-citizens fill real-world roles as mayor, judge, police officers, mail carriers, managers, accountants, key employees, and volunteer fire fighters. *Pictured below are 8th grade students from Lakeside Junior High School who attended AmeriTowne® in 2020.*

Young AmeriTowne® of Kansas and YouthBiz® in the Northwest Kansas area are being administered by Nex-Generation Round Up for Youth, Inc., via licenses from Young Americans Center for Financial Education in Denver, CO. "Young AmeriTowne," "Young Americans Center for Financial Education," and "YouthBiz" are registered trademarks of Young Americans Center for Financial Education, Denver, CO, and the Young AmeriTowne logo is a trademark of Young Americans Center for Financial Education, Denver, CO.





Kansas Wildlife Federation Foundation

The Kansas Wildlife Federation (KWF) joined GNWKCF as a partner in 2013 when the Kansas Wildlife Federation Foundation was established. This was created to accept planned gifts to ensure the future of the Kansas Wildlife Federation and its programs. The Kansas Wildlife Federation Foundation raises funds to further the mission of the organization: conserving and protecting wildlife and habitat; advocating for wildlife, sportsmen, and outdoor enthusiasts; and informing and educating Kansans of all ages about nature and the outdoors.

KWF's mission is to support the sustainable use and management of fish and wildlife and their habitats through education, partnerships, outreach and policy oversight. The Kansas Wildlife Federation is an affiliate chapter of the National Wildlife Federation (NWF). KWF consists of multiple board members and working staff who are currently collaborating to rebuild the organization. As an affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation, Kansas Wildlife Federation belongs to NWF's South Central Region.



Developmental Services of Northwest Kansas

Developmental Services of Northwest Kansas (DSNWK), founded in 1967, has been a story about people: serving, advocating, supporting, educating, and simply helping people. In 1967, a group of spirited parents decided that their children who had intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) deserved normal lives. They banded together and started a movement. This action is still visible today because of one element: its mission. The mission that graced the movement back in the 60s has undergone changes through the



years; however, the purpose has remained the same: "To advocate with persons with disabilities and those who care about them by planning and supporting a life of dignity, interdependence and personal satisfaction in the community."

DSNWK has been a partner organization to GNWKCF since 2014 with the establishment of the **Developmental Services of Northwest Kansas Fund.** In 2017, to celebrate 50 years, DSNWK launched a fundraising campaign to build the **Jim and Rose Blume Endowment Fund** which was established in February 2018. Also in 2018, the **Andy Betzen Memorial Endowment Fund** and the **Joey Weber Endowment Fund** were established. Each of these funds help support the continued DSNWK mission. The total assets for these funds managed by GNWKCF are currently **\$466,028**. For more information, visit the website: **https://dsnwk.giftlegacy.com**.

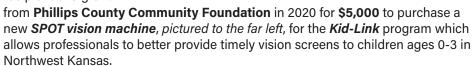
DSNWK offers support to meet the needs of individuals who experience lifelong mental or physical challenges that are diagnosed before the age of 22. Support includes instruction and help with self-care, skill building, communication, mobility, and employment so individuals can live and be active in their communities. DSNWK serves all age groups in the counties of: Cheyenne, Decatur, Ellis, Gove, Graham, Logan, Norton, Osborne, Phillips, Rawlins, Rooks, Russell, Sheridan, Sherman, Smith, Thomas, Trego and Wallace. Visit its services website at: *https://www.mydsnwk.org* for more information.

Northwest Kansas Community Foundations Support DSNWK

Norton County Community Foundation awarded \$4,750 towards the purchase of new kitchen cabinets and a new front door at one of the group homes in Norton. Administration determined that upgrades to the door and kitchen cabinets were essential to continue to offer the individuals that reside in the home a pleasurable living experience. Residents of the home were excited about the new changes. The photo to the right is one of the residents enjoying the upgraded kitchen.



DSNWK was the recipient of a grant





Graham County Community Foundation awarded \$6,800 to upgrade the equipment and technology for the engraving program run by persons served in Hill City. Staff and persons served are excited about the new equipment and have many new ideas on its use. Pictured to the left is an example of a project using the new engraving program.









2020 GNWKCF Board of Directors: (L to R) Mitch Gillespie; Cindy Burr; Travis Rickford; Cora House, *Chair*; Thomas Keller, *Treasurer*; Raelene Keller, *Associate Board Member*; Harry Joe Pratt, *Vice Chair*; Joan McKenna; and Mike Posson. Not Pictured: Rebecca Antholz, *Secretary*; Clint Bursch; Scott Sproul, *Associate Board Member*.

Our Vision Statement Bringing rural communities together for growth and success.

Our Mission Statement To revitalize our communities and enhance the wellbeing of present and future generations.



Greater Northwest Kansas COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

105 West 4th Street PO Box 593 Bird City, KS 67731 Tel: 785-734-2406 Fax: 785-734-2412

E-mail: info@gnwkcf.org www.gnwkcf.org