

GIVING Matters

Greater Salina Community Foundation

| Winter 2024



Mark your Calendar!

- 12/03- Match Madness Kickoff / Giving Tuesday
- 12/06 - First Friday, 4-6 pm
- 2/15 - GSCF Scholarships Due!
- 2/15- GSCF Grants Due!
- 3/13 - SAVE the DATE- Match Madness!

GSCF Celebrates 25 Years!

Over 200 people gathered to celebrate the Greater Salina Community Foundation's 25th anniversary on September 26th at Homewood Suites in downtown Salina. The evening started with a social hour from 4:30-5:30 pm, followed by a short program and the first ever Make Your Mark awards. A commemorative video was produced by Fili Creative highlighting the Foundation's history, growth, and partnerships with donors and nonprofits.

A Great Return on Investment
In 1999, over 100 Founding Do-

nors contributed \$25,000 each to establish a \$2.9M administrative endowment. Since then, that original investment has grown to over \$300M in assets, far exceeding the original goal of \$10M in 10 years. More importantly, however more than \$250M has been granted back to our community and region in the form of grants and scholarships with \$9.4M just in Saline County last year.

A Bright Future

During the program, the Foundation announced that it received the single largest gift to its Adminis-

trative Endowment—the fund that started it all—from the estate of Dr. Paul D. Ellison. Paul was a gifted ophthalmologist who performed countless eye surgeries during his decades-long career in Salina. He passed away in 2023 and will be remembered most for his love of medicine and helping people.

Paul believed in the power of saving, compound interest and endowment building. When asked to become a Founding Donor, he "enthusiastically said yes, giving more than the \$25,000 ask."

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AWIP Fund Story

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25th Anniversary (cont)

When Paul retired, he designated the Foundation as a charitable beneficiary of his investment accounts to create a permanent endowment fund to support six of his favorite charities, including the Administrative Endowment, the very fund he helped start 25 years earlier.

Make Your Mark Awards

The evening concluded with the Foundation's first ever Make Your Mark awards. "Make Your Mark," means to accomplish something that will be remembered or have a beneficial influence on the future. The Make Your Mark awards honor individuals, businesses, and nonprofits who are "making their mark," in our community through philanthropy in five different categories: Legacy, Contemporary, Professional Advisor, Business, and Nonprofit.

This year, each recipient was chosen based on their philanthropic contributions and involvement in the founding or sustaining of the Foundation.



Make Your Mark Awards

2024 Recipients:

Legacy

- Mark & Jane Berkley
- Larry Britegam
- Pete Peterson
- Sid Reitz
- Charlie Walker | Blue Beacon, Inc.

Contemporary

- Roy & Donice Applequist
- Ken & Karen Ebert

Professional Advisor

- Advantage Trust Company | Mark Miller & Julie Sager Miller
- Wedel Financial

Business

- The Bennington State Bank

Nonprofit

- OCCK

More information about the recipients can be found at gscf.org/impact/make-your-mark-awards



Award recipients & past board members.

Year-End Tax Planning



Make the most of your 2024 giving with these tax saving tips. In order to count towards this year's taxes, all gifts must be received or postmarked by **December 31, 2024. Start planning now!**

1. Bundle your 2024 and 2025 donations with a Donor Advised Fund. Give now, decide later. "Bunch" or bundle two years of your giving into a donor advised fund at the community foundation. Depending on your tax situation, this could help you maximize your deductions.

When you donate to a donor advised fund, you receive a tax deduction for the entire amount up front, then you can decide throughout the year where to distribute the funds. Because it is also invested, your donation will grow over time tax free, making this a win-win situation!

2. Donate with Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD) through your IRA. If you are 70.5 or older, you can direct up to \$105,000 from your IRA in the form of a QCD to charity while avoiding paying income taxes. IRA charitable rollover contributions may be made to any fund at the Foundation except donor advised funds.

You can also use your QCD to join the Give Back 5 Community Giving Pledge, pledging 5% of your QCD annually to charity until your death (Give While You Live), or by designating 5% of your IRA upon death to charity (Pledge Now, Give Later). The choice is yours!

Tax Year	Option 1 (standard deduction)		Option 2 (bunch giving)	
	2024	2025	2024	2025
Charitable Deduction	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$25,000	\$0
Other Deductions	\$13,000	\$13,000	\$13,000	\$13,000
Total	\$23,000	\$23,000	\$38,000	\$13,000
Standard or Itemized Deduction	Standard Deduction	Standard Deduction	Itemized Deduction	Standard Deduction
Deduction Amount	\$29,200	\$30,000	\$38,000	\$30,000
Total 2-Year Deduction	\$59,200		\$68,000 (\$8,800 higher in tax deduction!)	

This example compares the difference in tax savings over a 2-year period, assuming a married couple joint filing with a standard deduction of \$29,200 in 2024 and a \$30,000 standard deduction in 2025.

3. Donate appreciated securities or cryptocurrency. If you have stock or cryptocurrency that has grown in value (and you've owned for at least a year), consider donating it to charity. You'll avoid capital gains tax and receive a charitable deduction for the full market value of your asset. You can also deduct up to 30% of your adjusted gross income for these gifts and carry the remainder of their value up to five years.

Scan QR Code to donate Crypto!



Join others in the Give Back 5 Community Giving Pledge at www.giveback5.org

Adrienne Allen
Jim Allen
Danielle Brown
Eric Brown
Michael Chambers
Beverly Cole
Dale Cole
Doyle Comfort
Maureen Comfort
Brandon Ebert
Heather Ebert
Karen Ebert

Ken Ebert
Kelli Exline
Rob Exline
Rick Frisbie
Mark A. Gruenthal
Maggie Hemmer
Tom Hemmer
Jenell Hulse
Phyllis Johnson
Cathy Krug
Randy Krug
Pilar LaPointe

Jim Loader
Jerry Lonergan
Nancy Lonergan
Aaron Martin
Dave Martin
Jessica Martin
Casey McCoy
Melissa McCoy
Jake Mitchell
John Mize
John Mize
Karen Mize
Rita Northup

Dennis Oakes
Martha Oakes
J.J. O'Connor
Tammy O'Connor
Bob Peck
Cindy Peck
Pete Peterson
Rita Peterson
Katie Platten
Tom Platten
John Quinley
Mary Quinley

Jon Ramsey
Sharlene Ramsey
Martha Rhea
David Simmons
Mac Steele
Aaron Wedel
Carolyn Wedel
David Wedel
Mark Wedel
Sarah Wedel

Add your name here!

NEWS & Impact

Scholarship Bootcamps

The Greater Salina Community Foundation (GSCF) is starting its third year of hosting Scholarship Bootcamps at our local high schools. Applying for scholarships is something that students would like to pursue but most are not sure how to begin. The purpose of the Scholarship Bootcamp is to be a local resource to support high school students and counselors in their search for scholarships. Through these bootcamps, the Community Impact Team at GSCF shares tips on writing essays and resumes, show where to look for scholarships, highlights scholarships here at GSCF, and goes over what funders are looking for in an applicant.



Sacred Heart Scholarship Boot Camp Winner, Alex Ortiz. Alex plans to attend Kansas State University to study Business.

High School seniors who attend a scholarship bootcamp at their school have a chance to win a \$1,000 scholarship. This scholarship award is made possible through an anonymous donor who has a passion for education and wants students to succeed in their academic endeavors.

Upcoming Scholarship Bootcamp:
Salina Central High School –
December 5th



Ell-Saline Scholarship Boot Camp Winner, Miles Macy. Miles plans to attend Salina Area Technical College to study Automotive Technology.



Salina South Scholarship Boot Camp Winner, Baylee Castro. Baylee plans to attend Hutchinson Community College.



Southeast of Saline Scholarship Boot Camp Winner, Jacob Tonne. Jacob plans to study Business.

Scholarship applications are open until February 15, 2025. To apply and find out more, go to www.gscf.org/scholarships or scan the QR code.



“Scholarship applications open on November 1 for GSCF and our affiliate service area. High school seniors, college students, or non-traditional students can complete an eligibility assessment to see what scholarship opportunities are available to them. All applications are due on February 15th.”

~Jessica Fuller, Director of Grants & Scholarships

A Work In Progress: Building a Foundation for the Future



A Work In Progress (AWIP), is a thriving yogastudio in Salina, KS, which recently took a significant step towards securing its future by establishing an endowment with Greater Salina Community Foundation. Kylee Campion, AWIP's Executive Director said, "we've always aimed to be a prominent nonprofit in the Salina community, and our belief was that a robust endowment was a crucial step towards making that happen." Kylee also shared insights into the process: "Board members at AWIP



were contemplating starting an endowment and kicking around the idea of doing a fundraiser called, Foundation for The Future. They hoped they could open a fund with GSCF but didn't really understand how they could do that or how much money it would take to start a fund. They knew they could apply for grants through the GSCF competitive grant cycle but didn't really understand GSCF's Organization Funds and how those work."

Early this year, the board reached out to GSCF to find out how Organization Funds work and what was needed to start one. Bill Medina, AWIP board president shared that the board's decision to create the endowment was greatly influenced by a presentation from Michael Chambers, GSCF's Vice President of Community Impact. Bill shared that the presentation from GSCF convinced us that the timing was right and that we could do this! With this newfound knowledge, the board decided to invest their

initial \$1,000 to start the Organization Fund and use Match Madness 2024 as a tool to grow it. Their ultimate goal was to receive enough donations at Match Madness to have the fund fully endowed following the event, a goal they successfully achieved.



The establishment of this endowment marks a new chapter for AWIP, ensuring that they can continue to serve the Salina community for years to come. For more information about an Organization Fund, or any of the other types of funds available through GSCF, please contact Michael Chambers at michaelchambers@gscf.org.

We've always aimed to be a prominent nonprofit in the Salina community, and our belief was that a robust endowment was a critical step towards making that happen.

New GSCF Funds

(established 07/01/24-10/15/24)

- Robert & Aileen Button Fund
- Community Housing Development Corporation of Central Kansas Fund
- George & Jeanne Frisbie Family Designated Fund

- George & Jeanne Frisbie Family Field of Interest Fund
- Loader Family Fund
- LoVullo Family Fund
- Revive Community Fund

Funds for the Future:

- Jim & Adrienne Allen
- Randy & Cathy Krug
- Melissa & Casey McCoy
- Rita Northup
- Bob & Cindy Peck
- Marie L. Scott
- David Wedel & Pilar LaPointe

Connecting with Our Community

In 1999, I was a few years out of college and working at my first professional job. I had a few goals for the future and some vague ideas of what my life would look like down the road. GSCF had just been founded and many of us in Salina were wondering what this new thing was all about.

Over the past 25 years of working with nonprofit organizations in Salina, I've had the opportunity to learn about how donors have made an impact in our community through the Foundation. Because Salinan's care deeply about our community, more than 100 nonprofit organizations contribute significantly to our quality of life. There is no doubt that many of those organizations have grown and thrived because of the efforts of GSCF's founders.

I've been lucky enough to visit directly with some

of our founders and I've learned about the guiding principles and goals they had for the organization. Looking back over the past 25 years, I'm sure the impact made in the community exceeds their wildest expectations. Because our founding donors and others supported permanent endowments, the best is ahead for all of us.

Whether you want to learn more about GSCF's earliest days or learn about the ways GSCF can help you support the nonprofits you're most passionate about, we're here for you. GSCF's Community Impact Team is eager to connect.

~Michael Chambers,
VP of Community Impact



First Fridays & Educational Workshops

The Community Impact Team is always looking for ways to connect with our community, and First Fridays have become one of our favorite ways to do that. Each month, we host a mix-and-mingle event featuring the work of a talented local artist. In September, we were proud to showcase the stunning work of Connie Burkett. Connie is a former board member of GSCF and a talented artist. Next, we featured the vibrant creations of Veazy Welch in October.



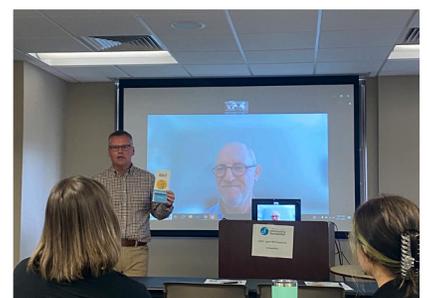
In November, we were excited to feature Rick Frisbie. These monthly events are a wonderful opportunity to engage with our community, connect with local talent, and support the arts.

Nonprofit Workshops

In addition to these creative gatherings, we've also focused on providing valuable learning opportunities for our nonprofit partners. Recently, we had the pleasure of hosting two insightful workshops. In August, Mari Tucker shared her expertise on grant writing and securing funds for projects of all sizes, offering practical tips to strengthen our nonprofit network. Following that, Bryan Clontz, a renowned expert in planned giving, provided a deep dive into legacy giving and how to engage supporters in meaningful, long-term ways.



Grant Writing Workshop



Planned Giving Workshop

In the Region

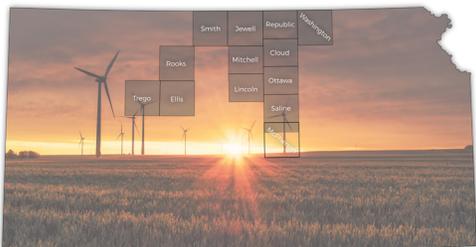
Affiliate News- Giving Around the Area

PRCF - When given the opportunity to “Double the Impact” this summer, Post Rock Community Foundation donors did just that! After reaching the matching challenge goal set by the Dane G. Hansen Foundation in February, Post Rock had a second chance match this summer to meet a full matching grant from the Patterson Family Foundation. With gifts and matching grants, PRCF is building their unrestricted grant fund to meet present and future needs in Lincoln County and the communities served by USD 298 and USD 299.

HCF - On October 10th, Heartland Community Foundation held its first ever Give Fest which was a day of giving for non-profits with endowed funds in Ellis, Rooks, and Trego counties. Wow, what a day! Multiple new funds were established in each county ahead of the event and Give Fest locations were set up in Hays, Plainville, & WaKeeney. There was a match pool of \$150,000 and while final numbers have not been announced at the time of this writing, donations far exceeded that amount. Kudos to all involved in this fun event!

SVCF - As Smoky Valley Community Foundation prepares to kick off a match event in November, they recently hosted Plane-ra & Givande, a Planning & Giving Roundtable. Along with GSCF staff, they presented information on various fund types at the foundation, giving from a tax perspective, and grant application tips. Besides providing valuable education, it was also an opportunity to thank donors and fundholders for their past and continued support of the community foundation.

Foundations around the area continue to expand capacity thanks to a staffing grant initiative. New staff can be found in Smith, Trego, and Rooks counties. Current staff capacity was expanded in Cloud County, Jewell County, and Solomon Valley (Mitchell County). These individuals, including the new staff in Ottawa and Republic counties, are ready to help donors meet charitable needs in their communities.



Serving 10 regional affiliates and 13 counties throughout north central and western Kansas.

New Regional Staff- Welcome Aboard!



The Patterson Family Foundation and the Dane G. Hansen Foundation teamed up to offer full-time staffing grants for our regional affiliates. With their help, Smith County Community Foundation hired their very first Director and Heartland Community Foundation hired their first Development Directors for Trego & Rooks County.



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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Maggie Hemmer,
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| John Quinley,
Past Chair, Community
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Hernandez |
| Kathy Schwerdtfager,
Vice-Chair | Brandon Cheeks |
| Ryan Commerford,
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| Dr. Rob Freelove,
Secretary | Lindsay Garber |
| Karen Black,
Grants & Scholarships
Committee Chair | Julie Goetz |
| | Bryan Herwig |
| | Josh Howard |
| | Denice Justus |
| | Mark Palen |
| | Bailey Ramsey |
| | Jon Ramsey |
| | David Wedel |

FOUNDATION STAFF

- | | |
|---|---|
| Jessica Martin,
President &
Executive Director | Jessica Fuller,
Director of Grants &
Scholarships |
| Michael Chambers,
VP of Community Impact | Natalie Wood,
Affiliate Relations &
Grants Coordinator |
| Rita Northup,
Executive Assistant | Julia Diaz
Community Impact Team
Assistant |
| Brandee Mayginnes,
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Marketing &
Communications Coord. |
| Kristin Blake,
Director of Finance | |
| Shanna King,
Staff Accountant | |

Director's Message

A friend of mine in the community foundation world, Steve Alley said, "The best community foundation is owned by the community. It's not because of what one donor has done, it's because a number of donors have come together to support what they want to support." Our 25th Anniversary event is proof that we as a community own this Foundation, and that together we can make a mark!



25 Years of Making a Mark

- \$284.7M in assets invested to meet current and future needs of our community
- \$254M in grants and scholarships on behalf of our donors
- 964 charitable funds benefiting over 25,000 local, national and international charities
- 10 regional affiliates serving 13 counties in western and north central Kansas

How will you make a mark? Impact Today, Transform Tomorrow!

Jessica L. Martin
Jessica L. Martin
President & Executive Director

Our mission is to build permanent endowment funds and meet charitable community needs.