

We are a rope — individual fibers braided together to make a stronger whole.

Giving & Matters

Greater Salina Community Foundation

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Make A Wish Come True

We've moved!

The Foundation has settled in to our new offices at 113 N. Seventh, suite 201. Renovation of the space in the historic Salina Coffee House Building took more than 6 months, Foundation staff made the move in January. An open house for members of the Salina Area Chamber of Commerce was held January 25 with approximately 100 people attending.

The new office includes space for our five Salina staff members, a kitchen and small and large conference rooms. The large conference room enables the Foundation host our board meetings and education programs on site. Come by and see us in our new space! ■



Members of the second grade class at Meadowlark Grade School show off some of the items purchased for local charities.

“The magic of Christmas is happening right here at Meadowlark Ridge!” so proclaimed a member of Susan Jordan’s second grade class at an all-school gathering before the students left for holiday break.

For the second year in a row, the second grade classes at Meadowlark Ridge Elementary School completed a Kid to Kid project to raise money for

charity. Second graders asked their fellow students throughout the school to lift their sofa cushions, check the glove compartments and empty their piggy banks looking for loose change. Coins were collected from a different grade each day of a selected week. The students then counted the change. The process took about an hour to two hours each day, Jordan said. “It takes

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The PET Project 2007

A week-long residency that changed lives and set the stage for a shift in culture at Salina's Public High Schools and a four-week summer camp that taught low-income children music, art dance and drama. Two significant projects funded through the generosity of young donors brought together through the Greater Salina Community Foundation's PET Project. What will the Project do this year? Only the donors can decide.

Introduced in 2005, the PET Project brings young donors, loosely defined as those ages 20s to 40s, together to pool their contributions and make a single significant community grant. All administrative costs are paid by the Foundation, so that 100% of the contribution goes to support current and future PET Project grants.

PET Project will begin with an opening cocktail party on March 30. This social event will feature food, drink and good company. That night, participants will choose the area of focus for this year's PET Project grant. Will it be arts, children and youth, human service, seniors?

Once the area of interest is determined, the Foundation will put out a call for applications. PET Project steering committee members will meet to review the applications and select 3-5 that will be presented to Project participants at a luncheon held May 9. After hearing the presentations, each participant will vote to determine this year's grant recipient.

If you or someone you know might be interested in PET Project 2007, give us a call and we'll add you to the invitation list. To learn more about PET Project, visit our website at www.gscf.org. ■

Spring 2007

Fund for Greater Salina Grants Announced

Members of the Foundation Grant Committee poured through more than 30 grant applications totaling more than \$106,000 in requests to award this spring's Fund for Greater Salina Grants. These unrestricted grants are offered twice a year to support community programs and projects. Funding for these grants comes from community donors.

\$2,500 Salina Education Foundation

Provide funding for a matching grant for the Loan Initiative for Future Teachers (LIFT), a program to encourage talented students to enter the teaching profession and then return to teach in Salina Public Schools.

\$1,000 American Red Cross NCK

Chapter Provide funding to a capital campaign to relocate into a newer building.

\$4,200 Rolling Hills Wildlife Adventure

To install broadband pipeline that will enable the zoo to broadcast distance learning content to K-12 schools and other community education settings.

\$1,000 Salina Emergency Aid/Foodbank

To purchase bread that will accompany each food order and help fulfill nutrition needs for clients.

\$1,500 KWU Project Hero To purchase supplies and meals for an event that brings college students together to perform numerous community service projects in a single day.

\$1,000 The Land Institute Funding to support the National Systems Agriculture Research Program to study the production of an ecologically sustainable food supply by developing a perennial grain.

\$5,000 Hospice of Salina Purchase a patient lift for the safe transfer of large patients from bed to chairs at the Kaye Pogue Hospice Center.

The following grants were made possible through a partnership with the Salina Regional Health Foundation Community Health Investment Program (CHIP). Grants funded through this partnership meet specific funding criteria established by CHIP committee members. Grant

review, allocation of funding and grant administration is provided by Community Foundation.

\$1,000 Assaria Summer Youth Program

Provide funding for transportation to activities for a for K-8 summer camp program that provides quality educational and recreational opportunities for children.

\$1,000 Smoky Hill River Festival

To purchase buttons as a part of the Festival Scholarship program for families who otherwise could not afford to attend the Festival.

\$1,100 Reps & Sets Team Salina

To purchase weightlifting equipment for a program allowing young athletes to increase physical strength and develop character, integrity and life skills.

\$2,000 Big Brothers Big Sisters of Salina

To fund the cost of background checks and administrative support for a new partnership with the YMCA after school program to match local college students with USD 305 elementary students.

\$5,000 CAPS/Saline County Smart Start

To provide test materials and administrative support for a pilot research program looking at early detection and possible prevention of some childhood psychiatric and behavioral illnesses.

\$2,500 St. Francis Academy

Provide funding for a lighted outdoor basketball court for residential students to promote participatory skills and physical fitness.

\$1,300 Salina Child Care Association

Assist with transportation and admission costs for low income children to attend Rolling Hills Zoo.

\$2,500 St. John's Missionary Baptist Church

Funding for Kid's Kare staff. Kid's Kare is an after school program designed to help at-risk school-age children improve their behavior and academic performance.

\$1,250 Cottonwood Elementary PTA

Furnish funds to continue the "Character Education Program", teaching values that help children be better members of their community.

\$2,400 OCCK Provide support for a disability education project for middle schools. A group of young adults from OCCK will make classroom presentations at local middle schools to help teach others about disabilities.

\$36,250 Total

Smoky Valley Community Foundation



Grant recipients from the Smoky Valley Community Foundation gather for a group photo following the presentation event in Lindsborg in December. Leon Burch, volunteer executive director of the Foundation presented the awards. More than \$4,000 was granted. The Smoky Valley Community Foundation is an affiliate of the Greater Salina Community Foundation.

YW Legacy Fund

Calling for Grant Applications

The Foundation is pleased to announce a new grant program for initiatives that support the mission of the former YWCA in our community. Approximately \$15,000 in grant funds are available this year. Grants will be considered and awarded on a quarterly basis.

The YW Legacy Fund was established in 2006 by the board members of the former YWCA of Salina. Assets from the sale of the YWCA building, an endowment for the YWCA and funds previously established for the YWCA at the Community Foundation were combined to create the YW Legacy Fund. Former supporters of the YWCA have also contributed to the fund. As the fund continues to grow, more grant dollars will be available.

Grant requests should address one or more of the following criteria:

- Encourage women's growth, leadership and power in order to attain a common vision for peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all people
- Help children attain their greatest potential
- Create an environment to assist in the physical and mental health and well-being of women and their families
- Pursue the elimination of racism wherever it exists

Applications are available on the Foundation's website at www.gscf.org, or by calling the Foundation at 785-823-1800. Applications are due by April 25, 2007. ■

Foundation Provides Additional Video Equipment to the Community

The Greater Salina Community Foundation has purchased a second laptop computer and video projector and made it available to nonprofit organizations in the community. The Foundation partners with the Salina Area United Way, which houses the equipment and checks it out to nonprofit organizations. (An organization does not have to be a United Way agency to use the equipment.) The laptop is equipped with Microsoft Power Point software, an easy to use program that allows the user to create polished presentations.

The Foundation purchased a laptop and video projector with assistance from the Sunflower Foundation in Topeka in 2002. The increased useage of that equipment as well as additional requests from nonprofits seeking grants to purchase similar equipment lead to the Foundation's decision to purchase additional equipment. ■

Foundation welcomes new staff

The Foundation is pleased to welcome Michelle Griffin as our new Affiliate/Scholarship Coordinator. She will



work with school counselors, students and donors to manage the Foundation's more than 35 scholarships. In addition, Michelle will work with the Foundation's existing and new affiliate foundations in communities surrounding Salina.

Michelle graduated from Kansas State University with a Bachelor's degree in Human Resource Management and a Master's degree in Counseling and Student Development. She is a lifetime resident of Salina, along with her husband Scott, and their four children, Nick, Baleigh, Kaden and Keegan. In her spare time, Michelle volunteers for Ell-Saline Elementary, coaches youth sports at the YMCA and attends her children's many activities and events. ■

Spring Workshop for Non-profits

The Foundation will be offering an outstanding program for nonprofit organizations titled *The Human Side of Governance*, on April 3, from 8:30-noon. Sandy Hughes will be our speaker. Sandy is well known throughout the country for her work with nonprofit organizations on board governance.

Watch for more information on this program coming soon!

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Our Affiliates

The Smoky Hills Charitable Foundation, serving Ellsworth County
The Russell County Area Community Foundation
The Smoky Valley Community Foundation, serving Lindsborg
The Community Foundation for Cloud County



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a long time to count to a dollar two hundred times!”

At the end of the week, the students had collected \$713.11. Using the Make a Wish Come True Catalog produced by the Greater Salina Community Foundation, the students selected three local charities. Second grade parent Heidi Brown volunteered to do the shopping.

From their collected coins, the students purchased a digital camera, portable crib and children’s toys for Hospice of Salina; a DVD/VCR player and two commercial coffee makers for the Rebecca A. Morrison House; and eight sets of new sheets, towels, blankets and pillows for the Ashby House. The students presented the gifts at the school assembly to representatives from the charities.

Other charitable organizations also received gifts from the catalog. The Salina Art Center received a microwave for their kitchen and Big brothers Big Sisters received gifts for children on their waiting list. Other organizations received items and cash donations as well. The Foundation publishes the wish catalog annually in November with a list of nonprofit organizations and needs ranging from small items like office supplies to significant needs such as vehicles or appliances.

The catalog is available for use year-round. For a copy, call the Foundation at 823-1800. ■

The Difference-Makers

On the lookout for Outstanding Citizens

You know who they are...those ordinary folks doing extraordinary things and in turn, making our community a better place. They make a difference every day. We need your help in finding these outstanding citizens and recognizing them for their good work. Nominations for the annual Salina Award for Outstanding Citizenship are being accepted through April 4.

Information and nomination forms are available on the Foundation’s web site at www.gscf.org, or by calling the Foundation office at 785-823-1800. Any person or organization in the community can submit a nomination. Nominees can be of any age. The award includes a prize of up to \$1,000. The award will be presented at a celebration luncheon sponsored by the Foundation and open to the community on May 16, 2007 at the Salina Country Club. ■