

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

Giving Matters

Greater
Salina
Community
Foundation

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Members of the Youth GrantMaker's Council present a check to grant recipient Dakota Barleen.

YGMC announces grants

Dakota "Koty" Barleen wanted to help kids. And he wanted to repay those that helped him when he and his family needed it most. So he wrote a grant to the Youth GrantMaker's Council of the Greater Salina Community Foundation. Dakota wanted to supply quality children's bibles for use by children being served by

Domestic Violence of Cental Kansas, The Emergency Aid Food Bank, the Ashby House and the Salvation Army. In Koty's own

words, "Maybe if we give kids a bible they will learn how important life is."

Members of the YGMC were moved

by Koty's request, and by those of



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several other young people who submitted grant requests in this, the YGMC's first year. The council received 10 grant applications with requests totaling more than \$14,000. The Council awarded \$2,700 in grants to Koty's project and also to:

Boys Scouts of America, Troop 7 – Frank Thompson to build a ramp to help handicapped kids get on horses at the Post Rock Therapeutic Riding Center

St. John's Missionary Baptist Church Youth Group to construct a playground area for the younger children and to purchase and install an outdoor basketball goal for the older children to use before/after their youth night each Wednesday

Saline County 4-H-Evan Woolsoncroft to purchase equipment to facilitate a safe shooting sports and life skills program offered through the 4-H clubs

The YGMC is made up of local high school youth who have met throughout the year to learn about grantmaking, consensus building and leadership. The students designed the grant application, and publicized the grant opportunity to other youth in the community. They reviewed the applications and determined the recipients.

The council has big plans for next year, including recruitment of additional members in the fall, expanding their grant making to two cycles, looking at a teen citizenship award and volunteer opportunities.

Funding for the Youth GrantMakers Council program comes from the Foundation and our youth funding partners: The Earl Bane Foundation, The Morrison Family Foundation, The John and Barbara Hauptli Foundation, the John K. Vanier Foundation, the Logan Foundation and the Darwin & Delma Sampson Fund. Gifts of any size are welcome additions to this exciting program. ■



2005 Outstanding Citizen Becky Morrison visits with Kelan Arpke, a member of the Youth GrantMakers Council following the announcement of her award.

2005 Citizenship Award

In her presentation of the 2005 Salina Award for Outstanding Citizenship, Foundation president Betsy Wearing said of this year's recipient, "If I had a top ten list of great women I have known, she would be right up there."

Many in Salina would agree. The Foundation named Mrs. Rebecca Morrison as the outstanding citizen for 2005. Becky, as she is known to most everyone, came to Salina in 1964, and quickly began what has been a lifetime of service to this community.

For 19 years, she has served as a co-facilitator for a grief support group that she helped initiate. She has co-chaired numerous community capital campaigns, both in Salina and in McPherson. She served on the board of the Salina Public Library. She has served two terms on the advisory board for Salina's Presbyterian Manor.

Becky is not only a policy maker, but a worker as well. For more than 30 years, she delivered meals on wheels to home-bound members of our community. She has served her church on virtually every committee, and each week she writes personal notes to members of the church who have happy or sad events going on in their lives.

For more than 35 years, Becky served on the board of Salina Regional Health Center. She was the first president of the Health Foundation when it was formed, and continues to serve on that board today. Buildings are named for her and her husband in Salina and McPherson, in recognition of both her generous spirit and her generosity.

Becky's nomination summed up her good work, saying "Those who know this great lady will tell you that she is a good listener, a caring, selfless person. She has dedicated her life to her family and her community, and we are all the richer for it."

The Foundation has presented the citizenship award since 2003 as a way of recognizing some of Salina's truly outstanding individuals. The award was presented at the Foundation's annual grant celebration on May 10. ■



Pastor Allen Smith presents information on a new summer camp to donors in the PET Project at the grant selection luncheon.

PET Project

New program offers grant for children and youth

“Really? Woo-hoo!” was the cry from Rev. Allen Smith of St. John’s Missionary Baptist Church when he heard that his church was the recipient of the Foundation’s first ever PET Project Grant.

The PET Project, an acronym for Philanthropy, Empowerment and Transformation, is a new program to involve younger donors in the Foundation. “The goal of the project is two-fold” said Betsy Wearing, Foundation President, “to involve younger donors, in their 20’s to 40’s, and to offer a more significant sized grant to the community. Inviting a number of couples or individuals to make a modest contribution, they were able to be a part of a very significant

grant. It is a different approach to charitable giving, and one that is happening throughout the country.”

A steering committee created a list of potential participants in the project. All were invited to attend a cocktail reception held in April where they were introduced to the project. All those who participated voted on what area of interest they wanted to make this year’s grant. Children and youth was the choice. The Foundation then initiated a call for applications.

The celebration in Rev. Smith’s office was justified. The process was competitive. Eleven applications were received by the Foundation. The steering committee narrowed the field to four and invited those applicants to make a presentation to the donor group. The donors met for lunch to hear the presentations and then voted on which would receive this year’s grant. In November, the project donors will gather once again for a social reception and a presentation from St. John’s on how they utilized the grant and how the PET Project made a difference.

With more than 30 couples and individuals participating this first year, the grant was a generous \$7,875. The Foundation plans to include additional donors to the PET Project next year, and offer a grant to a new program or project in our community. The Foundation received a gift from an anonymous donor to help establish the PET Project endowment fund. When fully funded, this fund will generate additional grant income for project participants to use in their annual grant making.

St. John’s plans to use the grant to implement a new summer camp for area youth. Camp M.A.D.D., for music, art, dance and drama will be held at the church throughout the month of July.

If you are interested in learning more about the PET Project, or would like to be added to the mailing list for next year, please call the Foundation office at 823-1800. ■

Blueprint for Leadership

Now enrolling for fall class

The next Blueprint for Leadership class will be offered August 11 through September 15. The class will meet on Thursday mornings from 7:30 – Noon with the exception of the first class, which is an evening reception. All sessions will be held at Christ Cathedral Parish Hall, 138 S. 8th.

Blueprint for Leadership is a skills-based leadership program. Class members learn visioning, learning styles, how to build groups that work, collaboration, problem solving, consensus building, creativity and perform a community project. The sessions are quick-paced and interactive. This is not a “sit and listen” course! Tuition for the class is \$200, and some scholarship assistance is available.

For more information or a registration form, visit our website at www.gscf.org and click on Blueprint for Leadership.

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Grant Opportunities!

Continuing Education Grants

The Foundation has partnered with the Sunflower Foundation, Topeka, to offer a new grant program to assist staff from nonprofit organizations in receiving continuing education in their field. Already, individuals from five nonprofit organizations have received the grants. Organizations can receive up to \$500 per year to cover the cost of registration fees and lodging. The grants will be offered for three years.

Technology Grants

Also in partnership with the Sunflower Foundation, assistance is now available for nonprofit organizations to purchase digital cameras, color printers, etc. to use in marketing their services to the community. The grants are offered as a 50% match on the purchase of the equipment, and will be offered for three years.

Fund for Greater Salina Grants

The next round of grants from the Fund for Greater Salina will be given away this fall. Applications are due in the Foundation office by August 10. Grants are limited to \$2,000 each, and are available for charitable projects in the greater Salina area.

Seize the Moment Grants

Small grants, usually \$200-\$500, are available year-round through our Seize the Moment Grant program. These grants are reserved for sudden opportunities or sudden emergencies that occur throughout the year that require immediate funding.

For more information on any of these grant opportunities, please visit our website at www.gscf.org and click on Apply for a Grant. Additional information and applications are available there.