

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

# Giving Matters

Greater  
Salina  
Community  
Foundation

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## Making a difference for kids Blueprint for Leadership

The winds of Hurricane Katrina may not have blown all the way to Kansas, but the effects were felt here, as they were all across our country. In a

classroom in Salina, the Blueprint for Leadership class wanted to help.

Putting learning into action is a big part of the Foundation's Blueprint for Leadership program. Following four workshops of intensive, interactive learning, each class selects a project that will benefit children and youth in our community. Through a special partnership with the Kansas Health Foundation, the Greater Salina Community Foundation has been able to provide each Blueprint class with \$2,000 to put toward their class project.

The fall class wanted to somehow support youth in our community, and help with the tragedy wrought by Katrina along our nation's Gulf Coast.



Tina Graham, a member of the September Blueprint for Leadership class, cuts a cake at one of the parties for hurricane victims and other residents at St. Francis Academy.

After researching several ideas, the class decided on a project to benefit several young boys relocated to St. Francis Academy in Salina from the St. Francis facility in Mississippi.

Discussions with a counselor from St. Francis brought to light the fact that these youngsters rarely receive any new clothing. The counselor thought getting something new would be very meaningful to these boys. The class also discussed the fact that the weather in Kansas was going to become cooler quite shortly, and the boys from the south would not be used to Kansas's brisk

# EDUCATION

## Students help with education program

Community members and staff from local nonprofit organizations exchanged roles with students at Salina South High School recently, courtesy of the Foundation.

Students became teachers and adults did the learning at two workshops offered to staff and volunteers from local nonprofit organizations. The Foundation worked with instructors Loren Banniger and Sue Montoy at the high school to provide training on how to use the laptop computer and video projector recently purchased by the Foundation.

In addition to use of the equipment, the workshops also covered use of the popular presentation software, Microsoft Power Point. Banninger and Montoy recruited students to teach the Power Point portion of the workshops. While one student led the instruction, other students walked around the room assisting attendees as they worked their way through creating a basic Power Point presentation.

The Foundation purchased the laptop and projector with a grant from the Sunflower Foundation: Healthcare for Kansas. The equipment is loaded with Power Point software and is available to use by nonprofit organizations to assist them in telling their story in the community. The Foundation is working with the Salina Area United Way to house and check out the equipment. Organizations interested in using the equipment should contact the United Way at 827-1312.

## Kitchen table giving

Gather your children or grandchildren around the family table and teach them how to make charitable gifts. That was just one of the messages shared by attorney, author and speaker Kathryn Miree at a donor luncheon held in October. In addition to talking about estate planning, tax rules and goal setting, Ms Miree shared her insights on charitable giving — family style.

She recommends providing young people with a sum of money and making them responsible for giving it to a charity. She told the audience to challenge the youth to research the work of local nonprofit organizations and decide which one they want to support with a charitable gift. This “kitchen table” approach to charitable giving can be exceptionally rewarding and set an important precedent for future philanthropy.

The Foundation’s new Make A Wish Come True Catalog could be a very helpful tool for families interested in this kind of giving project. (See related story on page 4).

# Celebrating success

## The PET Project 2005

Participants in the Foundation’s new young donor event gathered this month at the Salina Country Club to celebrate the success of their 2005 grant. While enjoying cocktails and food, participants heard from Allen Smith, pastor at St. John’s Missionary Baptist Church.

Rev. Smith shared information about the church’s summer camp for area youth. MADD camp focused on music, art, dance and drama. The presentation included a DVD set to music that included pictures of the students at work and play, and much of the art they produced.

Ramona Newsom, music director for the camp also spoke at the event. “The biggest benefit was that several young people with very low self esteem- kids with some serious issues at home and school- got to experience these four disciplines without pressure. I witnessed changes in attitudes and saw their self esteem raise tremendously.”

Project participants were invited to the final camp production. One participant who attended the show, commented “This is the most rewarding donation I have ever made.” For those who were not able to attend the performance, the DVD gave a good sense of the energy and enthusiasm present at the camp.

The PET Project began last spring when participants learned about the program at a social gathering in April. Each couple was asked to make a contribution of \$250 to the project, (or \$125 for an individual). Participants then voted on what general area of grant making they wanted the group to pursue. This year’s selection was Children and Youth.

Project participants then attended a grant selection luncheon to hear from four organizations vying for this year’s grant. That’s when St. John’s MADD Camp was selected. More than 30 couples and individuals participated this first year, providing a generous \$8,125 grant!

In addition to the annual grant, a very generous donor provided a gift to help establish the PET Project endowment fund. When fully funded, this fund will generate additional grant income for future PET Project grants.

MADD Camp was about opportunity and experience. Sixty-three first graders through eighth graders attended daily throughout the month of July. Nearly all of the children who participated had never played the piano, never been trained in the basics of art, and never had a dance or drama lesson. MADD Camp changed all that. According to Miss Newsom, “Every child left with the ability to play a song and read music. I believe they will carry that with them forever.”

PET Project will start again in the spring of 2006. If you are interested in participating, please call the Foundation office at 823-1800. ■



YGMC members pictured above at their team building retreat are: (Top Row, L-R) Brian O'Leary, Luis Lopez, Brett Halderman\*, Ayoung Jeon, Kameko Felix, Kayla Matt\*, Paige Britegam\* (Bottom Row, L-R) Tanner Heaton\*, Gracia Johnson\*, Sarah Wallace, Kellan Arpke, Remington Smith\*, Alex Trower, Adam Weishaar\* Not Pictured: Molly Martin, Caitlin Cox, Karla, Jimenez\* (\* New members)

# YGMC Expands for 2005-06

The Youth GrantMakers Council (YGMC) is off and running for a second year. After reviewing applications and interviewing applicants, nine new students were selected to join the founding members of the Council. This year the Council includes youth from five different Saline County high schools.

Students gathered for a team building retreat to kick-off the year on Saturday, September 10, and began their regular meetings the following Monday. The Council will meet twice a month throughout the school year. The Council elected officers to help run meetings and lead YGMC initiatives. Officers are: Kellan Arpke, chairman, Alex Trower, co-chairman and Caitlin Cox, secretary.

Council members have already started working toward their primary goal of making grants to support youth-led initiatives in the community. A call for grant applications for the first of two grant cycles went out in October. YGMC members sent letters and made follow up calls to youth organizations announcing the grant opportunity. A press release was sent to local media.

The Council is working on consensus building and decision making skills as they await the return of applications. A second grant cycle will be in the spring of 2006.

For more information on Youth GrantMakers Council, visit them on the Web at [www.ygmc.org](http://www.ygmc.org) ■

*BLUEPRINT* from Page 1  
north wind.

The class worked with St. Francis staff to obtain sizes and color preferences for each boy in residential care- not just the boys from Mississippi, but all the children living at St. Francis. New hooded sweatshirts were ordered for each child. Class members then went to work planning a celebratory event to give the shirts away.

Three pizza parties were held to accommodate the boys at both residential campuses. Class members, St. Francis staff and the boys enjoyed pizza, soda and cake at the shirt parties. In addition, class members purchased new sporting equipment to donate to St. Francis for the boys to use. New basketballs, footballs, soccer balls and baseball gloves and bats were donated.

Though the weather was warm the

day of the party, most of the boys wore their new sweat shirts while they played outdoor games with Blueprint class members.

One staff member from St. Francis noted how meaningful it was for these boys to have someone do something special for them, as they often feel shunned by the community. This project truly made a difference in the lives of these young men. ■

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## Holiday shopping made easy

You know who they are... those people on your holiday shopping list that are just... difficult! It isn't really their fault. Either they have everything they need, or you don't know them well enough to know what to buy, or they are finicky... Relax. Holiday shopping just got easier courtesy of the Greater Salina Community Foundation.

We can help you give the gift that keeps on giving. Make a contribution to the Foundation in honor of friends, colleagues or loved ones. We'll send a personalized holiday card announcing your gift made in their name. You can even direct your contribution to benefit a particular organization or fund within the foundation. Here's how it works:

### You

- Make a contribution of \$25 (per card) or more to the Foundation
- Give us the name & address of the person, family or group you wish to honor
- Select the fund you wish your gift to support

### The Foundation

- Creates and sends the card
- Provides you with a tax receipt for your charitable gift

You never have to search for a parking place, wait in line, look for sizes or check your list. We make shopping easy. No wrapping, no mailing, no returning. This gift fits everyone, every time. Your gift can benefit any existing fund in the Foundation.

For a complete list of funds, or more information on how to send a holiday gift card, visit our website at [www.gscf.org](http://www.gscf.org) and click on current events. Or give us a call at 823-1800. ■

## Make a Wish Come True

*A different kind of catalog  
for this season of giving*

This time of year, mailboxes overflow with holiday catalogs. Page after page of all the things you can wish for and pictures to circle and leave laying out for gift buyers to see. This year, a different kind of catalog may arrive in your box. Instead of a catalog designed for making a wish, this catalog is full of ways you can make a wish come true.

The Foundation has put together a catalog to help donors make wishes come true for the nonprofit organizations that serve our community day in and day out. The catalog contains information about each nonprofit organization as well as a wish list.

You'll find their needs vary from boxes of crayons or cleaning supplies to new buildings and vehicles. Whatever your ability to help- you'll find a need. Contact information for each agency is listed, so you can contact them directly with questions or more information on how to make a wish come true!

A copy of the catalog is available by calling the Foundation office at 823-1800.

