

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

# Giving Greater Salina Community Foundation Matters

Volume 6, Issue 4  
December, 2008

## Our Mission, restated, but unchanged

At the Foundation board retreat in the fall of 2008, board members went through the important exercise of reviewing our mission. The consensus was that the mission still reflected the work of the Foundation, but that it could be restated to be shorter, easier to remember and more user friendly for publications.

A board task force was convened to review the true mission of the foundation, both in terms of the work we are doing and the work we hope to do. As a part of their work, the task force reviewed mission statements from other foundations.

The result is a revised mission statement that confirms the original mission, but restates it in a more concise way.

**Our mission is to meet charitable community needs through leadership, grants and donor services.**

See MISSION, page 3

## PET Project Serves At-Risk Youth



Heartland Programs students enjoy summer school and the manipulatives provided by the 2008 PET Project grant.

### The Project Celebrates Fourth Successful Year — Prepares for Year Five

Twenty preschoolers entered kindergarten this fall more prepared to learn and succeed thanks to a grant from the 2008 PET Project.

The PET Project enables young Salina donors to come together with the help of the Greater Salina Community Foundation to offer a significant grant to a program or project of their choice. Last year's donors selected Heartland Programs to be the 2008 PET Project

Grant recipient. The grant permitted Heartland to serve 20 state-funded at-risk 4 year-old students last summer who would not have otherwise received services. Summer school was held from June 2 to July 10, 2008.

A school district English Language Learner Consultant was hired to provide specialized serves to the children whose first language was not English. Manipulatives were purchased to enhance the work that teachers did with the children. These manipulatives

See PET PROJECT, page 3

# Foundation Announces Fall Grants

The Greater Salina Community Foundation is pleased to announce grant recipients for the fall 2008 Fund for Greater Salina grants. The Foundation received 34 grant applications with requests totaling more than \$114,000. Grant requests are capped at \$5,000. Fund for Greater Salina Grants are awarded twice a year through a competitive application process. The following grants were awarded:

- \$2,000 Kendra Baumberger – To provide funding to purchase sewing machines for a 4-H club.
- \$2,200 Salina Symphony – To provide funding for a Broadway theme outreach concert
- \$4,500 Rolling Hills Zoo – To build a small scale playhouse using “green” building materials and environmentally conscious landscaping
- \$500 Salina Human Relations Dept. – To provide materials printed in Spanish publicizing the new bus system
- \$2,000 Saline County Commission on Aging – To purchase a refrigerated salad bar cart as part of a Healthy Lifestyle initiative for residents age 50+
- \$1,225 Big Brothers Big Sisters of Salina – To assist with staff development and certification
- \$3,500 Salina Arts and Humanities Commission – To help fund a professional dance residency as a part of the community-wide celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- \$4,600 Coaching Boys to Men Task Force – To fund a program that provides education and materials to middle school coaches focusing on teaching young boys how to respect women
- \$5,000 Salina Soccer Club\* – To provide funding for participation scholarships for players with financial needs
- \$2,000 Saline County Breastfeeding Coalition\* – To purchase breast pumps and equipment to assist new mothers
- \$4,000 Kansas Children’s Service League\* – To support the Oasis program, serving families with youth age 10-18 who are at risk for running away from home
- \$4,000 Salina-Saline County Health Department\* – To purchase “Halo Sleep Sacks” to be distributed to new mothers in an effort to reduce infant deaths from SIDS
- \$2,500 Salina Child Care Association\* – To replace and purchase new equipment and furniture
- \$3,500 Child Advocacy & Parenting Services, Inc.\* – To provide funding for CAPS Bullying Prevention program
- \$1,000 St. Mary’s Grade School\* – To fund a new community service club for students
- \$5,000 USD 306 Southeast of Saline Elementary School\* – To expand the Bal-a-Vis exercise program to students at all grade levels

**Total \$47,525**

Since its inception, the Foundation has awarded nearly than \$275,000 in grants from the Fund for Greater Salina. Funding for this grant program comes from donations, memorials, and from Foundation investment income. Gifts of any size are welcome additions to this important community grant fund.

*\* These 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. Grant review, allocation of funding and grant administration is provided by the Foundation.*

## A Study in Numbers



Anne Gallagher from Wichita State University shares information on the Transfer of Wealth Study with professional advisers at a program sponsored by the Foundation in October.

## Get Ready to Get Fit, Salina!

The Greater Salina Community Foundation has begun work on a new project to encourage Salina citizens to be healthier. The Foundation was awarded a Nutrition and Physical Activity grant from the Kansas Health Foundation. The purpose of this project is to improve the health of our community by creating environments that promote and support healthy eating and physical activity.

This is a multi-year grant that supports local planning and then local grants through the Community Foundation that will improve the nutritional habits and increase the physical activity of Saline county residents.

A Steering Committee of knowledgeable community members has been established for this initiative. They are in the process of collecting and analyzing current community data. Once this information has been reviewed, the Steering Committee will develop a comprehensive community plan to increase healthy eating and physical activity. After completion of the plan, the Foundation will set criteria for community grants that support the goals of the initiative.

For more information, contact Jenny Stack, Program Coordinator at [jennystack@gscf.org](mailto:jennystack@gscf.org), or call the Foundation office at 823-1800.

## Foundation Grant Supports Salina's 150th Birthday Celebration



More than 6,500 people turned out for the birthday parade. The Budweiser Clydesdales were the biggest draw.



Calibre Pesado performed at the street dance.



## YGMC Accepting Grant Applications

The Youth GrantMakers Council (YGMC) is accepting applications for the spring grant cycle. The applications are due March 1. Applicants must be youth no older than 18.

Applications are available on the YGMC website at [www.ygmc.org](http://www.ygmc.org). YGMC funds youth-led projects that address community issues and challenges in Saline County. Proposals for group trips and projects that solely benefit an individual are not accepted.

YGMC members are happy to visit with groups to help them participate in the grant process.

For more information on the YGMC grant application or to schedule a presentation, please contact Youth Coordinator, Caitlin Cox, at 823-1800.

### PET PROJECT, from page 1

enhanced learning in the areas of math and position concepts as well as language and literacy skills. Children who were served in summer school showed better interaction and stronger socialization with peers. Teacher's anecdotal data also showed improvement in social skills. The Heartland assessment tool showed improvement in all needed transition skill areas as compared to scores from the end of the regular school year.

Plans are underway for the 2009 PET Project. We are combining the 2008 Celebration and 2009 Kick Off in one great event. Please save the date – 6:30 PM on January 31, 2009 at the Stiefel Theatre. Come hear more about the success of the 2008 grant, mingle with friends, and gear up for 2009!

Join with other young Salinans, willing to make a little commitment, to be part of something big. In these uncertain economic times, it is exciting to pool our contributions and be more powerful, more helpful, and make a bigger difference in our community than we can on our own.

## Looking for Great Grant Ideas

Beginning December 15, the Foundation will be accepting grant applications for the Fund for Greater Salina. Grants will be awarded to selected non-profit organizations, or individuals or groups with a charitable project that will benefit those in the greater Salina area. Approximately \$40,000 will be available.

Those interested in applying can find the application, grant guidelines and supporting information on the Foundation's web site, [www.gscf.org](http://www.gscf.org), or can write or call the Foundation office for a grant application form, P.O. Box 2876, Salina, KS 67402-2876, (785)-823-1800. Applications must be received between December 15, 2008 and February 12, 2009 to be considered. Awards will be announced in April.

### MISSION, from page 1

When appropriate, the following supporting language can also be used:

The Foundation achieves its mission by:

- Building permanent endowments which benefit local communities
- Inspiring and enabling donors to fulfill their charitable desires
- Facilitating prudent management and care of funds
- Increasing the capacity of nonprofit organizations to fulfill their individual missions
- Advocating for issues which promote community philanthropy
- Facilitating grants, awards & scholarships

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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 the Lindsborg area  
The Community Foundation for Cloud County  
The Heartland Community Foundation, serving central western Kansas  
The Republic County Community Foundation  
The Catholic Community Foundation of the Diocese of Salina  
The Smith County Community Foundation



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## IRA Rollover Extended

### Make gifts from your IRA before December 31

A special IRA rollover provision that expired at the end of December last year has been extended through December 31, 2009, allows individuals who are 70½ or older to take tax-free withdrawals from their IRAs as long as that money goes directly to charity, such as the Greater Salina Community Foundation. Although the donor cannot claim the gift as a tax deduction, the IRA withdrawal that's donated directly to a charity is excluded from income. And there's another benefit: the withdrawal counts against the required minimum distributions for the year. IRA owners who are 70½ or older are required to withdraw a minimum amount every year and pay taxes on the money, even if they don't need it. By donating the money to a charity, that requirement can be fulfilled without incurring a tax bill. Important things to know if you want to take advantage of this tax break:

- The provision is limited to withdrawals from IRAs. Money in a 401(k) or similar plan will need to be rolled into an IRA before a direct contribution can be made to a charity.
- The IRA distribution must go directly to the charity. If the check is made out to you, you'll owe taxes on the withdrawal.
- Private foundations and donor-advised funds are not eligible for tax-free IRA distributions. A gift to any existing fund at the Foundation other than a donor advised fund is eligible.

For more information, call your financial adviser, or the Foundation office at (785)823-1800.

### Help with Holiday Shopping

This year, give a gift that will give forever. Make a contribution to the Greater Salina Community Foundation in honor of friends, colleagues or loved ones. We'll send a personalized holiday card announcing your gift made in their name. It's a great gift for that person on your list who is tough to buy for. And it's easy for you.....no searching for a parking place, waiting in line or looking for sizes. Visit our website ([www.gscf.org](http://www.gscf.org)) for an order form.

### Make a Wish Catalog Returns

The Foundation has again produced the Make A Wish Come True Catalog to help gift-givers complete their holiday shopping. The catalog provides information and a wish list for more than 25 local nonprofit organizations. Items on the wish list vary from items as small as children's puzzles to office supplies to computer equipment. Copies are available at the Salina Public Library, or by calling the Foundation office at 785-823-1800. Pick up a catalog today and use it to help support the good work of our nonprofit organizations this holiday season.