

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

Giving & Matters

Greater Salina Community Foundation

Volume 7, Issue 1
March, 2009



Members of the first class of the retooled Leadership Salina program pose at their graduation celebration.

Leadership Salina Graduates “First” Class

Remodeling a children’s playroom; a video outlining opportunities for Salina youth; a science field trip; a

recycling program and an informational brochure.... what do all of these have in common? These community projects are the work of the recent graduating class of the “New” Leadership Salina.

On January 20 the first class of the retooled Leadership Salina program shared food, fun and stories at their graduation party at the Salina Country



Club. Class members presented information on the five class projects that have been completed or are currently in progress. The revised program is the result of more than a year’s work to bring together curriculum from the Blueprint for Leadership class formerly offered by the Greater Salina Community Foundation and Leadership Salina, offered through the Salina Area Chamber of Commerce. The result is

a comprehensive leadership training course for the community.

The course started with an overnight retreat. Sessions were held every other week and each session included usable leadership skills as well as a panel discussion with community leaders. Class members also visited various area businesses and organizations as a part of the program. The course work culminates with the selection and implementation of class projects.

Salinans Cindy Zimmerman and Carolyn Mikesell facilitate the class.

See LEADERSHIP, page 3

YGMC is up to the challenge!

The Youth GrantMakers Council (YGMC) is busy working on a challenge grant from the Darwin & Delma Sampson Fund. The Sampson Fund, one of YGMC's generous funding partners, will match what the council raises, up to \$1,500. This is the second year for the challenge.

Members of the council have been hard at work visiting local businesses and individuals to share information about YGMC and raising challenge dollars. Council members developed an informational packet explaining what YGMC is and how they use their dollars. The packet also outlines how YGMC has empowered the youth of Saline County since 2004 both through council membership and through grants awarded to other Saline County youth projects.



YGMC is funded by the Greater Salina Community Foundation with support from their funding partners: the Earl Bane Foundation; the Salina Regional Health Foundation; the Morrison Family Foundation; The Vanier Family Fund; The Darwin & Delma Sampson Fund; The Logan Foundation; and the Middlekauf Foundation.

YGMC has an annual grant making budget based on a portion of their funding partner contributions as well as income from the YGMC endowment in the Community Foundation. As the YGMC program has grown, they are receiving more grant requests. The challenge grant and matching dollars raised will be used to supplement the grant dollars. YGMC has two open grant cycles every year, one in the fall and one in the spring. Last fall, they granted \$4,975 to youth projects. The

Join YGMC!

Make a difference for youth!

The Youth Grantmaker's Council is currently accepting membership applications. Our goal is to find other young people that are ready to give their opinion and help their community! Many seniors are graduating in May, leaving spaces on the council for new members. In order to apply, students must be attending a Saline County high school for the 2009-2010 school year. Application forms may be found on our website at www.ygmc.org, click on Forms. The deadline for applications is April 20, 2009.

For questions or more information, please feel free to call the Foundation office at 823-1800.

challenge dollars will be used for the spring cycle, now in progress. All grant applicants are youth age 18 or younger.

For more information on YGMC, visit them on the web at www.ygmc.org.

The 2009 PET Project Is Underway

A 2008 Celebration and 2009 Kick Off event was held on January 31, 2009 at the Stiefel Theatre for the 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.

The PET Project
Philanthropy
Empowerment
Transformation

The event provided a fun evening for young Salinans to learn more about the

PET Project and hear a presentation from Heartland Programs, the recipient of the 2008 PET Project Grant.

Commitments for the 2009 PET Project have been received. This year's grant category will be Health and Human Services. Grant applications are due April 17, 2009.

If you are a PET Project participant, be sure to mark your calendars for the grant selection lunch. It will be held at Gutierrez Restaurant on May 6, 2009.



Angie & Scott Eck and Melissa & Kyle Kemper enjoyed the PET Project kick off event at the Stiefel Theatre.

LEADERSHIP, from page 1

Funding for Leadership Salina is provided by the Foundation and the Chamber. Administration is handled by the Chamber. A community advisory committee oversees the program.

New Format Increases Community Projects

As a part of the new Leadership Salina Course, class members are divided into five groups. Each group develops a project to benefit our community. The members of the first class announced the following projects at the party on January 20.

A paper recycling program for St. Mary's Grade School

— The project includes purchasing and placing collection bins for plain and colored papers in the classrooms and arranging for paper pick up. Leadership Salina class members will provide education to the students and staff about recycling and hold a contest for students to create posters that encourage recycling. Prizes for the contest are also recycling related. Class members on this team include: Josh Ratliff, Stephanie Flanagan, Andrea Quill, Travis Sawyer and Darren Pittenger

A trip to the Kansas Cosmosphere for at risk students*

— Students who are participating in the XCEL after school program at The City enjoyed a special treat on February 12. Students had breakfast with Leadership class members, traveled to and toured the Cosmosphere, had lunch and received a t-shirt commemorating the day. Class members also are spending time with the students in the program, serving as adult mentors. Class members on this team include: Susan Young, Melissa Anderson, Eric Frank, John Hanley and Dan Gaston.

Promoting a plan to enhance the Smoky Hill River Channel

— Community members working to enhance the Smoky Hill River channel have received support as a result of the Leadership Salina Class. Class members have created a marketing plan for the project. The plan includes a DVD of a presentation from a Colorado consultant showing the possibilities for the Smoky Hill River in Salina. A printed brochure takes readers through the history of the river in Salina and the hopes for the future of the river.

**Funding assistance for these projects was provided through a grant from the Foundation.*

Second Grade Santas



Second graders at Meadowlark School did a first-rate job collecting change from their classmates throughout the building to purchase needed items for Ashby House, the Animal Shelter and the Community Theatre using the Foundation's Make A Wish catalog. This is the third year the school has used the catalog for their holiday gift project.



Students in the XCEL program enjoyed a day at the Cosmosphere with members of the Leadership Salina class.

Class members on this team include: Darrin Stineman, Jared Hiatt, Tricia Grace, Susan Hawksworth and Peter Browning.

A New Playroom for Displaced Children*

— Class members renovated the children's play room at the DVACK shelter in Salina. The room was showing the wear and tear from hundreds of children who have sought shelter from domestic abuse. The renovation included new paint, carpet, blinds, and toy storage, and was completed in February. Class members on this team include: Sophie Blackwell, Ramon Perez, Ann DuBois, Gary Bates and Daniel Craig.

Healthy Communities Healthy Youth

— Spreading the word about the many healthy choices for Salina's youth is the intent of a video being produced by Leadership Salina class members. The video features Salina children talking about healthy opportunities and healthy choices in our community. Class members hope the completed video can be used by local companies as a part of recruitment efforts to bring new families to our community. Class members on this team include: Andy Martin, Marnie Rhein, Ty Fuller, Terry Shank and Kindra Roudybush.

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Quick communications lead to \$27,000 for the local Salvation Army to distribute.

Quick action, generous response will provide help to local families

Captain Wolfe of the Salina Salvation Army had an opportunity. Raise \$6,000 and receive \$12,000 from the national office to be used locally for struggling families. Or, raise \$9,000 and receive \$18,000 for the same purpose. The only real issue with this opportunity was the time frame. It was short. Captain Wolf contacted the Community Foundation on a Tuesday. He had to have the money committed by Friday. It was an all or nothing challenge.

Thanks to some quick communication by the Foundation to our generous donors, the Foundation was able to contribute \$5,500 in just 24 hours. Captain Wolf raised the remaining dollars and before the deadline, the full \$9,000 was raised, meaning the local Salvation Army will have a total of \$27,000 to distribute.

The funds will be distributed to families where one of the wage earners has recently lost his or her job. Funds will be used for assistance with rent, utilities and other necessities for these local families.

“We will be able to help more than 100 families in our community that have been unemployed since October.” said Capt. Wolfe “We really appreciate the Foundation’s help.”

“We were happy to help in this situation. We put out the call to our donors and let them decide if this was a project they were interested in,” said Foundation President Betsy Wearing. “Because of the tremendous opportunity to get a 2:1 match on donations, we felt this was something we could share with donors. They were very generous in their response.”