



Photo by Robyn's Photography

2019 REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY
**YOU CAN MAKE
A DIFFERENCE**



Smoky
Valley
Community
Foundation

An affiliate of the
Greater Salina Community Foundation

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Board of Directors

- Cassie Johnson
Co-Chair
- Jeanne Lucas
Co-Chair
- Ryan Biegert
Treasurer
- Marc Anderson
- Bill Brock
- Sharon Bruce
- Joy Everhart
- Denise Peterson
- Caitlyn Rethorst
- Ken Sjogren
- Anna Waugh



From Our Board Chair

Dear Donors and Friends,

It has been an exciting year for the Smoky Valley Community Foundation. It is an honor to serve as the board chair. Our board and our donors are committed to enhancing the quality of life in the Smoky Valley through grants and scholarships.

The Smoky Valley Community Foundation is in its 17th year serving the communities of northern McPherson County and southern Saline County. Our endowment has grown to almost \$4.5 million. The total number of grants awarded is over \$1.2 million.

The 2019-2020 board aspires to continue the growth of the endowment so that we can meet the needs of our community both now and far into the future. When you give to the Smoky Valley Community Foundation, you can be assured that you will leave a brilliant legacy. Our board diligently strives to honor the requests of our donors by enhancing our community life, encouraging healthy lifestyles and promoting our unique heritage.

The Smoky Valley Community Foundation is grateful for our partnership as an affiliate of the Greater Salina Community Foundation. The GSCF staff is dedicated to our donors and our community and continually exceeds our expectations.

Blessings,

Jeanne Lucas
Board Chair



OUR **MISSION**

is to build permanent endowment funds
and meet charitable community needs.

.....



ABOUT **THE FOUNDATION**

The Smoky Valley Community Foundation was founded in 2002 to benefit the communities of northern McPherson County and southern Saline County. The foundation is a permanent source of charitable funds used to meet both current and future needs.

The Smoky Valley Community Foundation is an affiliate of the Greater Salina Community Foundation in Salina, Kansas.

HOW DOES THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION WORK?



IT STARTS WITH PEOPLE



WHO SHARE THEIR GIFTS



Cash, Check
& Credit Card



Retirement
Accounts



Grain, Livestock
& Property



Life
Insurance



Stocks, Bonds,
Mutual Funds

TO CREATE



Community
Grant Funds

The **Smoky Valley Community Enhancement Fund** is an unrestricted community grant fund. Gifts to this fund offer the most flexibility for meeting charitable community needs, both today and in the future.

BIG IMPACT!

Distributions from community foundation funds provide:



Grants to Charitable
Organizations



Scholarships
for Students



It Starts With **People**

Founding Donors

Our founders inspired the creation and growth of the foundation. We are forever grateful for the support of these generous donors!

Business Entities

Bethany College
Clark, Mize & Linville, Chtd.
Bethany Home
Lindsborg Community Hospital
Carlson Accounting, Inc.
Raymer Society
City of Lindsborg
Sandzén Memorial Art Gallery

Individuals & Families

Maleta Forsberg
Ronald & Marsha Rolande
Judy M. Neuschafer
Lee & Susie Ruggels

**Cover photo of Midsummer's Festival
by Robyn's Photography**



Who Love Their **Community**



Ericka Lysell shares how grateful she is for the community foundation's help funding local training in mental health:

The funding received from the Smoky Valley Community Foundation has literally been lifesaving. By offering the Applied Suicide Intervention Skills and Training for no cost, we have had a variety of members in the community take the course. Without having to pay the fee, employers only have to manage the cost of their staff member being gone from their job. This benefits everyone in the community because we have had people take the class from Bethany College, Bethany Home, the Lindsborg Hospital, Smoky Valley Schools, local churches, police department as well as other various organizations and individuals. They all are now more aware how to handle a

situation when they suspect or even know for sure that someone is thinking about suicide. One participant said it best in her evaluation; "This class gave me the confidence that I would be able to fully help someone that was thinking of suicide." Another participant said, "I had no idea that our local law enforcement was dealing with suicidal people in our community every week. I hope I can be someone that people can talk to."

This class has helped me specifically. We could get word out, get people trained and get people talking about suicide openly in hopes to reduce the amount of attempts people take on their own lives and to reduce the stigma that frequently accompanies people talking about mental health and suicide. Reducing stigma about mental health is something near and dear to my heart so any funding to help in any way is appreciated.

[Read more about this grant on page 8.](#)



Thanks to the support from the community foundation, the public is able to enjoy fun events throughout the community like the Lindsborg Landmark Concert Series held in previous years.



David Hay shares the importance of the relationship between the community foundation and the Lindsborg at Work Association:

Smoky Valley Community Foundation has become an important part of the Lindsborg at Work Association. The Lindsborg at Work Association partners with volunteer groups such as Lindsborg Adhoc Roundtable to provide fun and friendly family activities. Some of these activities are Lindsborg Water Fight, Vaffledalgen, Lindsborg in Bloom, Lindsborg Street Dance, Lindsborg Landmark Concert Series, and many more.

These do not come without insurance risk for those involved and that is where SVCF has come in to help. They are paying for the purchase of liability insurance at all of these events. It allows everyone to enjoy them at no cost, and for volunteers to feel that if something was to happen they would be covered.

We appreciate the SVCF being willing to do this on an on-going basis and the many other things that SVCF has provided for the Smoky Valley Area.

To Create **Big Impact**

Headstones for Smoky Hill Cemetery



Judy Pilewski, sexton of Smoky Hill Cemetery began a project last year to determine where each individual was buried in the cemetery. Using the cemetery's records, archives at Bethany Church and old newspaper articles, she soon found that 50 people buried at Smoky Hill were in unmarked spaces.

The cemetery was given a grant from the foundation's Community Enhancement Fund to place headstones at each of the unmarked graves. The Smoky Hill Cemetery board will continue enhancements to the cemetery through donations and sale of burial plots. "We run on volunteers," Pilewski said. "It's a labor of love."



Mental Health Awareness Program

The community foundation granted Bethany Lutheran church funding to host a youth mental health awareness class. Grant dollars were used for youth

mental health first aid books, snacks, drinks and supplies. The program was open to anyone who wanted to be better informed about youth mental health. It aimed to teach them how to be more aware, how to be a better advocate and how to help break down the stigma about mental health.

Because of the grant, the program was offered at no-cost to the community. "There is no way to estimate the number reached. But if each of the 20 who attended get the opportunity to help one person in the next year, that could be 20 lives that are made a little easier," said grantee Erka Lysell.

Grant Spotlight



A grant from the community foundation funded start-up supplies for “The Art Room.” A functional place for everyone to create.

Studio Art Space for the Marquette Community and Surrounding Areas

The Art Room is a studio space for the Marquette community and surrounding areas to create and store various arts and crafts. The space is located in the former Marquette Grade School art room. The program is operated by the City of Marquette's Recreation Department.

The community foundation granted the department an award from the Smoky Valley Community Enhancement Fund to purchase

start-up supplies to make The Art Room a functional place for everyone to create.

“Because of this grant, our facility has been transformed from a simple ‘work space’ to a community art resource,” said grantee Carol Baker.

The grant dollars allowed the program to purchase various items, including maintenance equipment and art supplies. ▶

The needed items provide a safe and purposeful space for participants of all ages.

The space is the only facility in the area that offers classes on a regular basis. Classes are offered in a wide range of skill levels and mediums. "Our room is a great space to be able to not only communicate with one

another, but to learn from each other," said Baker.

The Art Room's goal is to eventually create public art for the community. The support from the community foundation allows more classes and open studio time can be offered to the public.

"Our room is a great space to be able to not only communicate with one another, but to learn from each other."

- Carol Baker, grantee





Bethany College Presents “Sondheim on Sondheim” a Winter Production

A grant from the Heritage Fund was awarded to the winter production of Sondheim on Sondheim. The grant was used to purchase the rights to the production, which was a collaboration by Broadway RFD and Bethany College.

Bethany College and Broadway RFD worked together to make the production successful. The audience seats at Burnett Center were filled both nights of the show. There were over 40 college students involved, as well as many community members. “One college

student involved in the show said this didn't seem like a community theatre; it seemed like a professional theatre due to everyone's positive attitudes,” said grantee Morgan King.

“Members of the community were blown away with the talent we have right here in Lindsborg, Kansas. Without your support, we may not have been able to put on the show to the level that we did. We are so very appreciative to the Smoky Valley Community Foundation and your support!”

“Members of the community were blown away with the talent we have right here in Lindsborg, Kansas.”

- Morgan King, grantee





Exploring the World through Photos

"The Smoky Valley Middle School Library has become its own world to explore," said grantee Julie Martin.

USD 400 was awarded a grant from the Community Enhancement Fund to create a place for students, parents and community members to come and explore places and people from around the world. Funds were spent on a large lighted globe with a stand, two chairs, a computer research table and materials to hang numerous framed National

Geographic photos. National Geographic photographer Jim Richardson and his wife Kathy donated their time and talents to hang the framed and matted photographs. Each included an explanation of the photo.

"With this grant, the SVMS Library has not only become beautiful, but 'explorers' are finding it a wonderful place to learn about places and people they may never have known existed," said Martin.



"Several generations of the community were involved in donations of time, money, and skills to have a community center to enjoy,"

- Tahra Zenger, grantee

Bassbox Funding Provided to the Lindsborg Swedish Folk Dancers

The Lindsborg Swedish Folk Dancers were awarded a grant from the Community Enhancement Fund to purchase a Bassbox, strap with hinges and a protective cover for the group. Established in 1963, the folk dancers are a group of high school dancers and musicians. The group is dedicated to promoting the study and appreciation of traditional Swedish folk dance and music.

The dancers travel both nationally and internationally to perform, dancing to live music provided by their own musicians.

Within the ensemble, each instrument serves a distinct purpose.

The bass provides the primary tempo and musical foundation. Purchasing the smaller bassbox provided the group with a more practical instrument to travel with. "Aside from the impact on the LSFD participants themselves, the instrument will continue to assist the group in their ambassadorship and promotion of our Swedish heritage," said grantee Anecea Stambaugh-Groth.



2019 Midsummer's Festival Activities

With a collaboration from 50 sponsors and a grant from the Smoky Valley Community Enhancement Fund, the Midsummer's Festival hosted their 2019 event in June. "The Ad Hoc committee gave the Midsummer's Festival three cheers for being the best in years," said

grantee Julie Holt. Grant dollars were spent on sound equipment, a web page and a bouncy house with an inflatable obstacle course for the festival.

The festival has been held annually on the third Saturday in June since 1971 to celebrate the Swedish holiday that marks the start of summer. The celebration draws crowds from other cities, states and countries, with activities for all ages. Attendies learn about the town's Swedish roots through craft and cooking demonstrations, dancing and singing, live entertainment and language lessons.

"The energy, excitement and enjoyment of the festival cannot be measured only in head counts, dollars or hours; nor can the pride residents feel for their community and its heritage," said Holt.

2018-2019 Grant Recipients

The following organizations received either donor-directed or competitive grants from funds at the community foundation:



- ▶ Bethany College
- ▶ Bethany Home Association
- ▶ Bethany Lutheran Church
- ▶ Broadway R.F.D., Inc.
- ▶ City of Lindsborg
- ▶ City of Marquette
- ▶ Fort Hays State University Foundation
- ▶ Lindsborg Arts Council
- ▶ Lindsborg Community Hospital
- ▶ Lindsborg Senior Center
- ▶ Lindsborg Sesquicentennial Festival, Inc.
- ▶ Lindsborg Swedish Folk Dancers
- ▶ McPherson County Old Mill Museum
- ▶ Messiah Lutheran Church
- ▶ Midsummer Festival, Inc.
- ▶ Smoky Hill Cemetery
- ▶ Smoky Valley U.S.D. #400
- ▶ Sprout House Learning Center
- ▶ Stormont Vail Foundation
- ▶ Svensk Hyllningsfest, Inc.
- ▶ Trinity United Methodist Church
- ▶ USD 400 Smoky Valley

2018-2019 Scholarship Recipients

The following students received scholarships through the community foundation's competitive scholarship program.



- ▶ **Carson Byers, Lindsborg**
Kansas State University
- ▶ **Avery Dauer, Lindsborg**
Bethany College
- ▶ **Cort Elliott, Lindsborg**
Kansas Wesleyan University
- ▶ **Lindsey Gerlach, Lindsborg**
Undecided
- ▶ **Kaylee Hansen, Falun**
Kansas State University
- ▶ **Luisa Junqueira, Lindsborg**
University of Kansas
- ▶ **Gracie Lott, Lindsborg**
Grand Canyon University
- ▶ **Ethan Oestmann, Lindsborg**
Salina Area Technical College
- ▶ **Joshua Peterson, Lindsborg**
Kansas State University
- ▶ **Lane Schrag, Lindsborg**
Hutchison Community College
- ▶ **Haven Sjogren, Lindsborg**
Kansas State University
- ▶ **Kaj Sjogren, Lindsborg**
Hutchinson Community College
- ▶ **Adam Tillberg, Lindsborg**
Friends University

2019 Impact Numbers

59 Number of Grants & Scholarships Awarded

\$112,400 Total Grants & Scholarships

24 Competitive Grants Awarded

\$36,713 Competitive Grants

13 Donor-Directed Grants Awarded

\$30,879 Donor-Directed Grants

22 Scholarships Awarded

\$44,808 Scholarships Awarded

Foundation Funds

Endowed funds produce charitable income every year and help donors create a legacy of giving. **New funds created in fiscal year 2019 are in blue.**

Donor-Directed Grant Funds: Established by someone to support their unique charitable wishes. The foundation board does not determine grants.

Donor Advised Funds

Enable donors to recommend grants to the charitable organizations or programs of their choice.

Chester G. & Jeanette G. Peterson Fund
Don & Dorene Anderson Fund
Rotary Club of Lindsborg Fund
Smoky Valley Athletic Association Fund
Smoky Valley Education Fund

Designated Funds

Provide annual support for specific charities selected by the donor.

Clyde & Glenn Lindstrom Fund
Designated Fund for Lindsborg Arts Council
Designated Fund for Trinity United Methodist Church
Jordan Heimer Allied Health Memorial Scholarship Fund
Joyce Challans Memorial Fund
Kansas Health Foundation Operating Fund for Smoky Valley
Korbe Family Nursing Scholarship Fund
Lindsborg Art Council Scholarship Fund
Lindsborg Playground Improvement Fund
McPherson County Old Mill Museum Fund
Messiah Lutheran Church Fund
The Roth Family Fund

Organization Funds

Provide annual income for nonprofit organizations in support of their charitable work.

Bethany Home Fund
Broadway RFD Fund
Lindsborg Arts Council Fund
Lindsborg Community Health Care Foundation Fund
Lindsborg Community Hospital Fund
Lindsborg Community Library Fund
Lindsborg Swedish Folk Dancer Fund
The Associated Churches of Lindsborg Fund

Foundation Funds

Competitive Grant Funds: Awarded through an application process; grants are made at the discretion of the community foundation board.

Community Fund

Support the foundation's community grantmaking.

Smoky Valley Community Enhancement Fund

Field of Interest Funds

Enable donors to support a designated cause or geographic area. (e.g. the arts, a specific community, etc.)

Heritage Fund

Kansas Health Foundation Fund for Smoky Valley

Smoky Valley Healthy Living Fund

Scholarship Funds

Assist and encourage promising students, including those challenged by educational costs.

A. Jay Steinberg Music Scholarship Fund

Brandon Rogers Technology Scholarship Fund

Clyde & Glenn Lindstrom Scholarship Fund

Dorothy J. Ziegler Music and Art Scholarship Fund

Dr. Charles Englund Memorial Scholarship Fund

Judith K. Burch Scholarship Fund

Louis, Ron & Tom Westman Scholarship Fund

Mona Peterson Community Service Scholarship Fund

Smoky Valley Elementary Education Scholarship Fund

Other Funds:

Administrative Fund

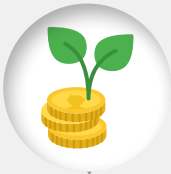
Supports foundation operations.

Smoky Valley Administrative Fund

Grow Your Gift

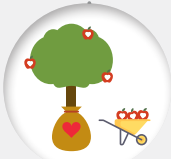
Your gift to the community foundation will grow over time, just like a tree!

Whether you plant a seed by starting a new fund or help a fund grow by giving to an existing fund, every gift to the community foundation helps provide “fruit” for the community through grants and scholarships.



Today...

You decide to make a permanent gift of \$10,000.



After 15 Years...

Your gift has grown to \$15,000 and has given \$10,000 to charity.



After 25 Years...

Your gift has grown to \$18,600 and has given \$19,000 to charity.



After 50 Years...

Your gift has grown to \$51,000 and has given \$35,000 to charity.

**For demonstrative purposes only; these numbers were calculated on a 5% annual payout, 1% administrative fee and 8.5% rate of return.*

Give **Now or Later**

Everyone has a gift!

No matter what or how you give, you can make a difference. Everyone has different assets, and the community foundation can accept many types of gifts, including:



Cash, Check
& Credit Card



Retirement
Accounts



Grain, Livestock
& Property



Life
Insurance



Stocks, Bonds,
Mutual Funds

You've enjoyed a good life in a great community. What will you do to ensure that future generations can say the same?

Do you have children or grandchildren who were born and raised in our community but have since left? Chances are, when you pass away, the money in your estate will leave this area forever.

Through your will, you can leave a gift that impacts our community far beyond your lifetime.

Every day, people just like you leave incredibly meaningful marks on our world through these types of gifts. By leaving just **5% of your estate** to our hometown needs, you could help provide **permanent funding** for our schools, hospital, parks, churches, charities, libraries and so much more. The process is simple and the impact of your generosity will live on for generations!



Your professional advisor will help you document your charitable wishes in your will.



The community foundation will take special care to honor your wishes and protect your gift's value.



Your favorite organizations will receive annual support from your gift, **forever**.

To learn more about leaving a gift in your will, contact your professional advisor or the community foundation.

2018-2019 Donors

Large or small, every gift contributes to the community foundation's ability to serve the community. We have made every effort to include all gifts from July 1, 2018, to June 30, 2019. **If you believe there is an error or need to make a correction, please contact us.**

The Associated Churches
of Lindsborg
Leon & Judy Burch
Clark, Mize & Linville, Chtd.
Bill & Gay Lindholm
Lindsborg Community Library

ONEOK, Inc
Salina Regional Health Center
Smoky Valley U.S.D. #400
Wimer Family Charitable
Foundation, Inc.

FY2019 Giving Breakdown by Gift Type:



Gifts of Cash
\$119,052



Gifts of Grain
\$0



Other Gifts
\$0

Financial Information

Asset Growth

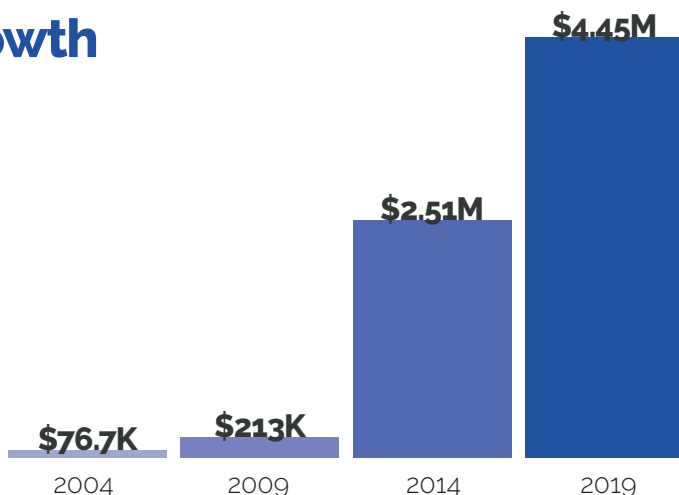
(cumulative)

Total Assets:

\$4,446,906

Number of Funds:

39



2019 # Donors:

9

2019 Total Gifts:

\$119,052

2019 # Gifts:

14

2019 New Funds:

2

Grants Awarded

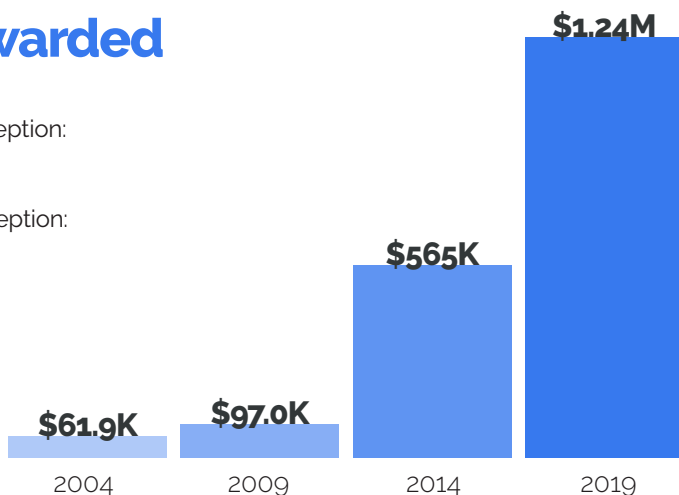
(cumulative)

\$ Awarded Since Inception:

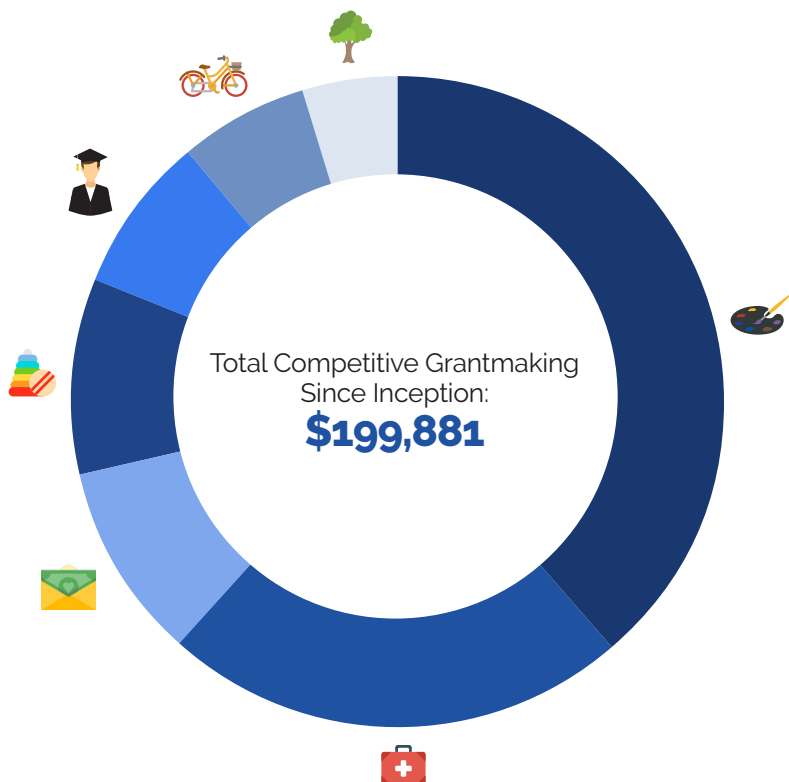
\$1,236,044

Awarded Since Inception:

467



Financial Information



Arts & Culture

\$77,414 • 39%



Education

\$15,715 • 8%



Health & Human Services

\$45,904 • 23%



Parks & Recreation

\$12,738 • 6%



Other Needs

\$19,637 • 10%



Community Development

\$9,196 • 5%



Youth Development

\$19,277 • 10%

THANK YOU

None of this would be possible without people like you! Your support makes a meaningful difference in the Smoky Valley area, both now and in the future.





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Find us on Facebook!

