

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
of SOUTHEAST KANSAS

100 S. Broadway, Suite 100 - P.O. Box 1448 - Pittsburg, KS 66762 - 620-231-8897
www.southeastkansas.org

July 2012

Many things new at CFSEK, yet it is business as usual.

Happy summer! What a great season to spend time with family and friends doing the things that make lasting traditions and memories. When talking with a trustee the other day, we both found it hard to believe I have been at the Foundation since February! "Where has the time gone?" I have been busy from the first day. We hosted a continuing education lunch/learn for the Crawford County Bar Association, a seminar for Professional Advisors from SE Kansas, awarded scholarships, and I have been meeting and getting reacquainted with some of the nicest people, living in the Southeast Kansas community! If you and I have not met, please know I am working through the names of people and making appointments. So, if I am moving too slowly, please help make that happen and give me a call.

When you call our office you may hear a new voice, it is Erica Kern, our Finance and Operations Director. Erica joined us in May and we are proud to have another PSU graduate on our staff. While we celebrate Erica's arrival, we are announcing that our Program Director, Jill Ward left CFSEK on June 22nd. Jill is choosing to spend the summer with her two little boys. We will miss Jill's talents and skills, though we greatly admire her for her choice.



A new feature is "In the Circle", updating you about the giving circles associated with CFSEK. Here you will read about events, grants, and opportunities to participate as a member of a giving circle. Also in this issue you can celebrate with us as you read the announcement of scholarship recipients from the area high schools.

Finally, we are making great strides keeping costs in check and in doing so we are hoping that we will be mailing fewer communications. Please know, if receiving your newsletter in the mail is your preference, we understand and will happily send yours in the mail. Want an electronic copy? Send an email to cathy.white@southeastkansas.org or erica.kern@southeastkansas.org telling us you want an electronic edition of the newsletter. We will then email your copy to you.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the CFSEK Newsletter. Tell your friends about us and how we work with people making charitable giving easier.

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In The Circle

The **Rita J. Bicknell Women's Health Fund** is proud to announce the 2012 grant recipients:

- **Angels Among Us**
- **Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas**
- **Elm Acres**
- **Horses of Hope Riding Center**
- **Labette Health Foundation**
- **Mount Carmel Foundation**
- **Women's Resource Center (Vie Medical)**



This year the Women's Health Fund granted **\$19,000** to local charities!

Our Newest Circle

We welcome the newest addition to our giving circles. **The Circle of Friends** was established in June, as part of the Rita J. Bicknell Women's Health Fund. Already off to a good start in membership, this giving circle too, will make grants in line with the mission of the Women's Health Fund. Membership is growing and what a great way to connect with women having a common cause of helping other women. Learn more when you call the CFSEK office, 620-231-8897.

Future Fund

As we go to press, the CFSEK staff sent out **Future Fund** renewal membership letters. Last year, the Fund accepted 85 membership donations. The endowment fund balance including interest earned, as of December 31, 2011, was **\$175,478.29**. This amount allows the Future Fund to direct **\$7,832.16** this year in charitable grants!

A grant committee will begin work in September to narrow the pool of grant applicants to a handful of finalists. In the Fall, all members will be given an opportunity to vote choosing the grant recipients for 2012.

There is strength in numbers help us become 100 members! You are invited to join, call the office, 231-8897 or go to our website, www.southeastkansas.org to join.

2012-2013 Scholarship Recipients Announced

The Community Foundation of Southeast Kansas has announced the recipients for the 2012 scholarships. CFSEK currently manages six scholarship funds. The recipients of the scholarship funds for 2012 are the following:

Commerce Bank—Pittsburg

Jonathan Wolfe and Andrew Joy

Short Family Fine Art Scholarship

Rico McKay

Craig Crespino Scholarship

Tyler Rusher and Garrett Kays

Pat Forbes Scholarship

Michaela Kinyon

Minnis Oral Health Scholarship

Carly Lallemand

Dylan Meier “Get Busy Living” Scholarship

Jack Wimmer and Kole Schankie

Congratulations to these students for their hard work!

Want to know more about establishing a scholarship fund? Contact the office at 231 8897 or email cathy.white@southeastkansas.org.



Community Foundation Hosts Community Conversations



As a part of the general grant cycle for 2012, the Community Foundation of Southeast Kansas hosted community conversations in each of the four counties that we serve. These conversations serve as a vehicle to learn about the concerns of the area's front line providers.

CFSEK staff attended the local county coalition meetings to have an open dialog with providers who work with people in need of services every day. These providers are asked about the specific needs in their county. Conversation topics can range from childhood obesity, assistance for the working poor, food scarcity, youth mentoring to poverty education. CFSEK staff and grant committee met to review the information and determine the areas of focus for 2012 general grant cycle. The focus areas for this grant season are **BASIC HU-**

MAN NEEDS and **YOUTH ACTIVITIES**. In Pittsburg only, an additional focus is arts and culture. CFSEK looks forward to working with local non-profits to impact the needs of our region.



Girard Area Community Foundation receives \$300,000 Kansas Health Foundation GROW grant

The Girard Area Community Foundation has been awarded a \$300,000 grant through the Kansas Health Foundation's GROW Healthy Kansas community foundation initiative. The Girard Area Community Foundation is one of 14 community foundations in the state to receive this funding, and is one of 39 total community foundations in Kansas involved with the GROW II program.

The GROW (Giving Resources to Our World) Healthy Kansas community foundation initiative was launched in 1999 as a 10-year grant of the Kansas Health Foundation, with the goal of starting and strengthening community foundations in Kansas. The intent was to work with community foundations to help build local philanthropic leadership and resources that would result in long-term, sustained health improvements in communities throughout the state. At the end of the first decade of the program, the collective resources of GROW community foundations had grown from \$19 million to \$95 million by the end of 2009.

"Community foundations play a vital role in the strength and growth of a community or region," said Steve Coen, president and CEO of the Kansas Health Foundation. "Through this initiative, the Kansas Health Foundation looks to help community foundations build their capacity and resources in order to make a positive impact on their communities for generations to come."

Improving health and quality of life are goals that fit well with the Girard Area Community Foundation's efforts to empower people to give back to their community and support growth by providing financial support to area schools, libraries, youth programs, parks, and other community projects.

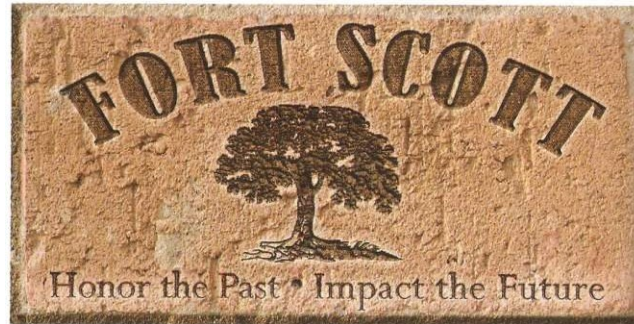
The goals of the Girard Area Community Foundation are to encourage private giving for public good, build endowments for community needs, and assist donors who seek to strengthen our communities now and for future generations. Individuals, families, businesses, and organizations may all create charitable funds or contribute to the Girard Area Community Foundation.



**Sign up to receive our newsletter on our website:
www.southeastkansas.org**



FORT SCOTT AREA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



Fort Scott Area Community Foundation Awards a “Surprise Grant”

The Fort Scott Area Community Foundation recognized a need in the community with a Surprise Grant on April 26, 2012. *Lee’s Paws and Claws Animal Shelter* was awarded a \$600 grant.

Fort Scott’s newest animal shelter was built in October and is located at 721 240th St., right outside Fort Scott, KS. An anonymous donor matched up to \$2,000 for all funds the animal shelter raised during the month of April. As a result of the matching funds, the \$600 FSACF grant grew to \$1200 for the shelter.

Lee’s Paws and Claws, named for donor Lee Weast, is now built and paid for. It is associated with the Shirley Yeager Animal Friends Foundation, a fund at the Community Foundation of SEK.

Since, since only the annual interest from that endowed fund may be used to pay ongoing expenses, the shelter is currently in need of contributions to help with operating expenses. FSACF was happy to lend a hand!

Carla Bryant Farmer (right), Vice Chairman of the Fort Scott Area Community Foundation, awarded Doloris Sonntag of *Lee’s Paws and Claws* (left) with a \$600 Surprise Grant on April 26 at the Chamber Coffee. Photo by Jason Silvers, Fort Scott Tribune.



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CFSEK Hosts 10th Annual Professional Advisor Seminar

“... this is an annual seminar for me to attend, I wouldn't miss!” It is common to hear attendees make this comment when signing in for the CFSEK Professional Advisor Seminar. This year we hosted 40 professionals from the region who received continuing education credits by attending. This year's seminar was at Holiday Inn Express. Tim O'Sullivan and Matthew Bish attorneys from Foulston Siefkin LLP, Wichita. presented the latest information on estate planning. CFSEK hosts the seminar as a courtesy to our professional partners.

Three CFSEK trustees were spotlight speakers. Wilda Pentola, CFSEK President spoke during a break about the reasons she believes in community foundations and the benefit to people who participate. During lunch CFSEK Asset Development Committee chair, Gordon Elliott enlightened those attending about the transfer of wealth facing Kansas in the next decades. CFSEK Treasurer, Vicki Dennett spoke with her peers about the positives for their clients when a community foundation is a part of their client's estate planning design. Cathy White, executive director, wrapped up the presentation with a few comments about the advantages of professional advisors and the Community Foundation of SEK teaming up. “It's all about partnership. Look to the Community Foundation of Southeast Kansas as another resource when working with your clients. We are an enhancement to your client relationships and we help with customizing solutions their charitable plans.”

Did you miss this year's seminar? If so, contact the CFSEK office 620-231-8897.

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of SOUTHEAST KANSAS



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