



**community**foundation  
*of* SOUTHEAST KANSAS

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

Winter 2015

## Grant Celebration 2015

Nearly 50 agencies received grant awards totaling \$121,700 on Tuesday, November 10 from the Community Foundation of Southeast Kansas in conjunction with the nationally recognized Community Foundation Week.

The awards were presented during a celebration at the Wilkinson Alumni Center at Pittsburg State University.

The celebration also honored the late Cathy White who served for three years as the executive director of the foundation until her death in March 2015. In her honor, eight agencies important to White, Wesley House, SEK Humane Society, Community Health Center of SEK, Angels Among Us, SEK Symphony, Horses of Hope, PSU Enactus, and Pittsburg Public Library, were presented with monetary gifts from her memorial fund.

Forty eight grants were made from the Foundation general grant funds, the Rita J. Bicknell Women's Health Fund, the Circle of Friends Giving Circle, and the Future Fund Giving Circle.



**PHS Musical Theatre Students**

One grant recipient, The Pittsburg High School Musical Repertory Theatre Class, performed an excerpt from the recent show, "Band Geeks."



**Cathy White Memorial Recipients**

## Photos from the 2015 Grant Celebration



Special Olympics Kansas grant recipients (Top Left)

Guests enjoy food & beverage catered by Angels Among Us (Top Right)

Women Helping Women and PCMS Interlocal #637 staff smile for the camera (Bottom)

## 2015 Grant Recipients

### **Rita J Bicknell Women's Health Fund**

*Angels Among Us Inc.*  
*Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas*  
*Horses of Hope Riding Center Inc.*

### **Circle of Friends**

*Interlocal #637*  
*Lowell Milken Center*  
*Mount Carmel Foundation*  
*Pittsburg State University Enactus Inc.*  
*Women's Resource Center of Southeast Kansas*

### **Future Fund**

*City of Pittsburg-Parks and Recreation*  
*Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas*  
*Crawford County Health Department*  
*Douglas County Kansas-Pittsburg Farmer's Market*  
*Mother to Mother Ministry Inc.*  
*Pittsburg Farmer's Market Inc.*  
*Safehouse Crisis Center Inc.*  
*Unified School District 250*  
*Wesley House*  
*Women Helping Women: A Fairy Godmother's Fund*

### **CFSEK General Grants**

*Catholic Charities Inc.*  
*The Center for the Learning Tree Institute*  
*Children's Advocacy Center*  
*City of Altamont*  
*Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas*  
*Credible Arts Therapies*  
*DCCCA Inc.*  
*Erie Community Foundation Inc.*  
*First United Methodist Church-Fort Scott*  
*Galena Unified School District 499*  
*Horses of Hope Riding Center Inc.*  
*Kansas Big Brothers Big Sisters-Crawford County*  
*KVC Behavioral Healthcare Inc.*  
*Labette County Emergency Assistance Center*  
*Labette Health Foundation*  
*Mount Carmel Foundation*  
*Pittsburg Family YMCA*  
*Pittsburg State University Enactus Inc.*  
*Public Health of Labette County*  
*Safe Haven*  
*Special Olympics Kansas*  
*Stilwell Heritage & Educational Foundation (Arts & Culture Grant)*  
*TFI Family Services*  
*Unified School District 250*  
*Wesley House*  
*Women Helping Women: A Fairy Godmother's Fund*  
*Women's Resource Center of Southeast Kansas*

**Follow the CFSEK Blog at [www.southeastkansas.org](http://www.southeastkansas.org)**



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## **Staff**

Kit Parks

**Executive Director**

Marlene Braker

**Office Administrator**

Sherri Stephens

**Program Coordinator**

## **Reflecting and Giving Thanks.....**

There have been changes at the Community Foundation of Southeast Kansas this year, yet it is business as usual working to improve lives and strengthen our community!

As I reflect on my first six months as the Executive Director of the Community Foundation, my first thought is how quickly the time has gone! When I began my new position I drafted a plan for myself anticipating there was much to learn and many people to meet. I have experienced many aspects of the job and checked off most on my initial list, although there is still much to learn and more people to meet.

My first impression of the work of the Foundation is how needed and valuable it is to our community. The agencies and projects that are funded through grant awards support and give opportunities to many individuals. I have spent time getting to know the agencies and the services they provide to people in our community. I am very impressed with the worthy projects and work done by these agencies.

In my first few months on the job, I have met and am still meeting generous donors who make the grants possible. Their charitable giving and belief in social investing for the improvement of their community is the reason the Community Foundation of Southeast Kansas is here and can offer assistance to agencies.

Another observation is the dedication of the Board of Trustees. They give countless hours and work to fulfill the mission of the Community Foundation. Their desire is to be a part of helping make our community stronger and a better place for all to live. We are so fortunate to have such caring individuals willing to volunteer their time and talent to serve their community in this way.

The staff are incredible! Office Administrator, Marlene Braker welcomed myself and recently hired Program Coordinator, Sherri Stephens and has helped us learn and transition into our positions. Both ladies are outstanding at their jobs! They are competent, enthusiastic and committed to their work.

We are a team... the Board, staff, donors and agencies and the success and betterment of our community depends on all of us! Thank you to all of you! It is a privilege to work for the Community Foundation and I look forward to 2016 working together on future goals of our charitable organization.

Tell your friends about us and how we work with people making charitable giving easier. *Together* we can continue the Foundations mission of "inspiring a passion for generosity".

**To you and your family, have a safe and wonderful holiday season!**

Kit Parks

Executive Director

## Year End Solutions for Charitable Giving

We have waited all year and now the **giving season** is here! This season, a favorite for many is filled with holidays, family and fun, plus many things to do. While Santa is editing his “naughty or nice” list at the Foundation we are reviewing our “to do’ list. Fortunately for you, when contacting the Foundation office we can help you with the **season’s charitable giving** on your list. At the Foundation we want to be your personal “Santa’s Helper” and help you with your **end of year giving**.

We can help the **very** busy person **needing a tax deduction now** who may be unsure of which charities to support. You can **transfer any amount** of cash or stock to a donor advised fund, immediately receive your **tax deduction**, and then **take your time** making decisions for the ways you want to distribute your charitable dollars when the excitement of the season passes.

We encourage you to **start your year-end giving early**, then enjoy spending extra time with family and friends. If you’re **mailing** a contribution, please make sure it is postmarked on or before December 31st. ***Stock transfers need to be received by Greater Kansas City Community Foundation before the close of business on December 31st.***

**Contact** Kit Parks by calling 620-231-8897 or by email [kit.parks@southeastkansas.org](mailto:kit.parks@southeastkansas.org) to make a contribution to your current fund or to establish a new fund.



## Happy Holidays & Best Wishes for the New Year!



*Marlene, Sherri, and Kit  
Community Foundation of Southeast Kansas staff*

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