



Community Foundation of Southeast Kansas

Cultivating • Connecting • Creating

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www.southeastkansas.org

March 2011

CFSEK Welcomes New Affiliate: Girard Area Community Foundation

The Community Foundation of Southeast Kansas is pleased to announce the formation of the **Girard Area Community Foundation (GACF)**. CFSEK Trustees and staff have been working with a group of Girard citizens for several months. The result is a new community foundation serving the Girard area.

GACF Board of Directors include: Lisa Blair, Ron Breneman, Mary Breneman, Dale Coomes, Frank Dunnick, Janet O'Brien, Wilda Pentola, Jim Shetlar, Michelle Smith-Puckett, Tony Stonerock, Jim Vinze. The 2011 President is Lisa Blair, Vice President Jim Vinze and Secretary/Treasurer is Michelle Smith-Puckett.



Inaugural meeting of the
Girard Area Community Foundation

The Community Foundation of Southeast currently serves donors in Bourbon, Cherokee, Crawford, and Labette counties. CFSEK recognizes the need for individual communities within this service area to build long term community capital of their own. The CFSEK looks forward to providing technical assistance to the Girard Area Community Foundation in its endeavors to establish permanent funding for their community.

New Organizational Fund Announced: Friends of the Southeast Kansas Symphony



The Community Foundation of Southeast Kansas is pleased to welcome a new organizational fund. The Friends of the Southeast Kansas Symphony began working with CFSEK in January of 2011. Members of the Board for the Southeast Kansas Symphony are Terry Calloway, *President*, Selim Giray, *Music Director and Conductor*, John Ross, *Contemporary Music Editor*, Richard Samford, *Secretary*, Paul Carlson, Ellen Carter, Carol Cook, David Hurley, Russell Jones *members*. The Friends of the Symphony currently have giving level opportunities for everyone to support the symphony and any level. If you are interested in becoming a supporter of the Southeast Kansas Symphony, you can visit their website www.library.pittstate.edu/orch.

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Brownback Assists with CFSEK Grant at Family Resource Center

On January 5, 2011 Governor Sam Brownback made a stop at the Family Resource Center in Pittsburg to assist with the Baby 4 Baby project. The Governor, his wife, Mary, and Lt. Governor Jeff Colyer were at the Family Resource Center as part of the Heart of Kansas Project to highlight community service throughout the state. The Baby 4 Baby project is a collaboration between the Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas (CHC-SEK) and the Family Resource Center. The program is funded by a grant from the CFSEK 2010 general grant cycle.

The Baby 4 Baby process begins at the Family Resource Center where they are accepting, cleaning, sorting and repackaging baby and toddler clothes for families in need. CHC-SEK takes the next steps to identify infants and children (newborn-age 4) that might be in need of some clothing and other essential items. The doctors at CHC-SEK are able to hand out the gift bags at key well child appointments (6 months, 1, 2, 3, and 4 years) when it appears there is a need.



(Left to Right) First Lady Mary Brownback, Amber Ihrer, Lt Governor Jeff Colyer, Gov. Sam Brownback

CHC-SEK serves approximately 400 expectant mothers annually and 1,600 children newborn through 4 years of age. Statistics show that about a third of the mothers are teen mothers; nearly half are single and nearly half are uninsured. With the average cost to raise a child being \$250,000 not including college expenses, the need for support of this population is great.

Governor Brownback, his wife Mary and Lt Governor Colyer were able to assemble and distribute the first gift bags from this program to Amber Ihrer (pictured above). The Community Foundation of Southeast Kansas is excited to be able to support such a program. We are equally excited the Governor and his wife were able to participate and experience the great work that is done by Community Health Center of SEK and the Family Resource Center.



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What Does Our Organization Do?

The Community Foundation of Southeast Kansas helps people make smart philanthropic investments. By connecting donors, nonprofits and community leaders, we create resources and solutions to some of our communities most pressing issues. Working together, we strengthen philanthropy in our four county region leading to a better quality of life for all who live here.

WE ENGAGE OUR COMMUNITY

by providing extensive services to individuals and families interested in learning more about critical issues in our community and the nonprofit organizations making an impact on those issues.

WE STRENGTHEN NONPROFITS IN OUR REGION

through financial support of grants as well as targeted professional development opportunities to increase their ability to manage effectively.



WE ADVANCE PUBLIC WILL

by bringing community leaders, partners and others to a neutral table to discuss critical issues in our region and how we can approach those issues with a collaborative effort that encompasses many voices.

WE PRACTICE ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE

by building permanent charitable resources for our region and focusing on the internal strength of our staff, board and volunteers.

IRA Gifts Extended Through 2011!

Congress has extended through 2011 the legislation which allows donors to make tax-free gifts from their IRA accounts. If you are age 70 1/2 or older and do not need all or part of the distributions from your IRA, you can make tax-free gifts totaling up to \$100,000 in 2011 from your traditional IRA to qualified charities until December 31, 2011. If your spouse has a separate IRA account, you may each make a gift up to \$100,000. While you cannot claim a charitable deduction for IRA gifts, your gift amount will reduce your taxable estate, and you will not be required to pay federal income tax on any amounts you distribute to qualified charities.



Qualified charitable distributions:

- Can total up to \$100,000 in each tax year (if your spouse has a separate IRA account, you can each contribute up to \$100,000 per tax year);
- Can be excluded from your gross income for federal income tax purposes, however no charitable deduction is available;
- Are not subject to limitations on your itemized deductions.

2011 Brings New Officers and Trustees

The start of the new year means new trustees and officers on the CFSEK Board of Trustees. At our first board meeting, we welcomed three new trustees; Vicki Dennett, Montie Taylor, and Kevin Mitchelson. In addition, our new officers assumed their roles. Joe Hart is the 2011 CFSEK President and Wilda Pentola is the Vice President for 2011. Wendell Wilkinson will continue to serve in the Secretary-Treasurer role. We appreciate these trustees' commitment to serve the foundation in their new roles.



CFSEK Giving Circles Gearing Up For 2011



Rita J Bicknell Women's Giving Circle and Health Fund is accepting grant applications. Call for proposal and grant application are available on our website. www.southeastkansas.org

Future Fund Giving Circle is in the process of planning their Spring Event. More details to follow.

*Contact Jill Ward with any questions regarding either giving circle.
jill.ward@southeastkansas.org or 620-231-8897*

*Your local giving partners.
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