

CIRCLE CONVERSATIONS

Welcome to the first edition of *Circle Conversations*, our new way of keeping you informed of the great work of the women serving other women in Southeast Kansas. Our hope is to help you stay connected to the Giving Circles throughout the year with updates on the nonprofits who have received our grants and personal stories about how our dollars are positively changing the lives of women and girls for the better. We will also keep you informed of any upcoming events and explore what being a part of the Giving Circles means to the ladies of our Circles. I can't wait to continue this journey with all of you as

- Together we are pooling our money
- Together we are deciding where we give our money
- Together we are learning about our community and philanthropy and
- Together we are helping women and girls in Southeast Kansas.

Now that's togetherness!

Lynda S. Wilkinson

Your sister in philanthropy



2021:
\$36,678
7 projects
All time:
\$300,000
65 projects



2021:
\$7,100
4 projects
All time:
\$43,600
34 projects

New Dates for Your Calendar

2021

- Nov. 10: CFSEK Grant Celebration

2022

- January: Next edition of Circle Conversations
- May: Onsite visit to grantee (details TBA)
- July: New Edition of Circle Conversations
- August: Annual membership donation due
- August - September: Women's Health Fund grant applications open
- October: Annual grant review + new edition of Circle Conversations

RJB Women's Health Fund History

In 2007 our founder Rita J. Bicknell brought together a small group of women to discuss the idea of creating a Women's Giving Circle in Southeast Kansas. Rita's vision was to establish a collaborative effort in which women could pool their money, work together to learn about women's health needs during challenging times, provide opportunities in awarding grants and make social investments in improving the lives of women and girls in the region.



With this in mind, the RJB Women's Health Fund Giving Circle was formed. To establish the fund more than a dozen women each pledged \$2,000 and became founding members of the Women's Giving Circle. The agreement was for \$1,000 from each pledge to go to establishing an endowed fund to ensure future grant funding in perpetuity to benefit women and girls. The remaining \$1,000 from each pledge would go to immediate annual grants.

Today, we find ourselves helping each other fill the emptiness we feel in our organization with the untimely death of Rita last year. We are finding a new sense of responsibility and energy and are committed to fulfilling our mission *"to improve the health and well being of women by supporting education, increasing awareness and sharing quality of life opportunities to benefit all women."*

Ways to Join the Women's Health Fund

Women's Giving Circle **\$2,000/year**

- We welcome women with the desire to support and promote healthy lives for women in need. We desire to build an endowed fund to ensure granting into perpetuity. \$1,000 is applied to the endowed fund. \$1,000 is immediately available for grants.

Circle of Friends **\$250/year**

- We welcome all women with the desire to support and promote healthy lives for women in need.
- This fund is immediately invested in grants to improve the lives of women and girls.

Both

- Participate in grant review and selection
- Choose to be part of other Circle activities to deepen your philanthropic learning
- Meet new friends and socialize!

Visit
SoutheastKansas.org/join-whf

or scan with
your smartphone:



The Rita J. Bicknell Women's Health Fund is a fund of the
Community Foundation of Southeast Kansas

100 S. Broadway St., Ste. 100 • P.O. Box 1448
Pittsburg, KS 66762 • (620) 231-8897

SoutheastKansas.org