

Winter 2021

*The*  
**CHARITABLE CONNECTION**

newsletter of the Community Foundation of Southeast Kansas

**In this issue...**

- **Match Day Results!**
- **Year-End Giving Strategies 2021**
- **Introducing... Our Newest Funds!**
- **Thank You To Our Board of Trustees**



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Community Foundation



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of SOUTHEAST KANSAS

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# Celebrating a Record-Breaking Match Day

The Community Foundation of Southeast Kansas has announced a record-breaking Match Day 2021 grand total of \$223,190.37 raised for SEK charities!

On November 30, CFSEK hosted its sixth annual Match Day event. CFSEK hosts Match Day each year to join in the celebration of generosity on Giving Tuesday, a national day dedicated to giving and philanthropy.

Community contributions raised \$176,190.37 for the endowed funds of 31 local nonprofit organizations. The Community Foundation (plus two community donors) provided a prorated match to those funds in the amount of \$47,000. The endowed funds will generate income annually to help the 31 organizations achieve their missions.

"Match Day 2021 proved once again the incredible level of generosity we have in our community," said Devin



*CFSEK Trustees Ken Webb & Diana Polston pose for a Match Day portrait.*

Gorman, CFSEK executive director. "We appreciate the hundreds of generous individuals who gave to these wonderful organizations that provide vital services and support to our community every day."

Since CFSEK's first Match Day in 2016, almost \$1 million in community contributions and matching funds have been given in support of local nonprofits. This year's Match Day also saw a record for the total number of donors and donations. 🌻



# Do You Know About DAFs?

Donor-advised funds (or DAFs for short) are a type of charitable-giving tool that has become increasingly prevalent in recent decades. DAFs are a powerful, versatile, and tax-efficient tool for individuals, couples, and families interested in charitable giving. In the last 30 years DAFs have become a major source of funding for charities, both locally and nationally.

For instance, donor-advised funds at CFSEK made 25% of our grants in 2020, despite accounting for only 16% of charitable funds by value!

Despite this, there's a good chance that you've never heard of donor-advised funds—or if you have, that you still aren't sure what they are, how they work, or why you might want to create one.

If so, then you're in luck, because we recently published a blog post on our website that takes a look at all those questions and more!


You can read it at

[SoutheastKansas.org/dafs101!](https://SoutheastKansas.org/dafs101) 

## Year-End Giving Strategies for 2021

Time is running out to take advantage of three limited-time charitable-giving tax benefits that Congress enacted for 2020 and renewed for 2021:

- **For non-itemizers:** For individuals who take the standard deduction, a special deduction of up to \$300 (\$600 if married filing jointly) is available for cash contributions to qualifying charities.
- **For itemizers:** Individuals who itemize their deductions can deduct their cash contributions to qualifying charities up to 100% of their AGI.
- **For C corporations.** C corporations can deduct their cash contributions to qualifying charities up to 25% of taxable income.

You can read more about these and other year-end giving strategies at [SoutheastKansas.org/giveye2021](https://SoutheastKansas.org/giveye2021). Always consult your tax advisor to check whether and how you can take advantage of these strategies. 

# Our Newest Funds

As of December 21, the Community Foundation has added six new charitable funds to our stable of over 170. One of our new funds is a donor-advised fund. The others are:

- Two **Albright Scholarship Funds**. One will offer scholarships to graduating seniors from Pittsburg High School and Southeast High School. The other will offer scholarships to students in their last two years of study in a healthcare- or human-service-related field.
- The **Knights of Columbus Endowment** will provide grants to organizations addressing housing needs in SEK.
- The **Nightingale Endowment of the Rita J. Bicknell Women's Health Fund** will purchase technology components to support the new Irene Ransom Bradley School of Nursing Simulation Hospital at PSU.
- The **Catholic Charities Endowed Fund** is an agency fund that will support the Catholic Charities Southeast Kansas Services office. 🌻

## Mark Your Calendars: Coming Up in 2022

The start of a new year means the start of a new busy season at CFSEK! 2022 will see the launch of a new grant cycle and a new, later date for our Women's Health Fund grant cycle. Here's what you need to know:

- **Jan. - Mar.:** [#SEKscholarships](#) applications will be available.
- **Mar. - May:** Grant cycles for the [Get Busy Livin' Foundation](#), [Elm Acres Foundation](#), and our new [Knights of Columbus Endowment](#).
- **Jun. - Aug.:** Grant cycles for the [CFSEK General Funds](#), [Future Fund Giving Circle](#), and [Rita J. Bicknell Women's Health Fund](#).

[Subscribe to our email lists](#) to receive announcements about when our scholarships become available and our grant cycles open. 🌻

# A Special Thank You to the 2021 CFSEK Board of Trustees

The CFSEK Board of Trustees is a dedicated group of community leaders who believe in the CFSEK mission and our SEK communities and who volunteer their time to help guide and improve the Foundation's work. Each member serves for up to three consecutive three-year terms.

At the end of 2021, three of our Board members will be retiring. We're going to miss Ron Rhodes, David Shepherd, and Steve Ward in 2022. Thank you to them and all our Board members for all your service, contributions, and thoughtful guidance in 2021!

## 2021 Board of Trustees

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