

# CIRCLE CONVERSATIONS

**E**ver since the inception of the Labette Health Foundation (LHF) in 1985 by Mrs. Jane Ellis Hett, its mission has been to help Labette Health provide the best care and quality, cost-effective services to the people of Southeast Kansas...and that mission still holds true today.

I recently had the pleasure of speaking with Anthony Vaughan, who serves dual roles as the LHF Executive Director and Vice President of Business Development. After just a short time talking with Anthony, it was apparent that his compassion and desire to serve his local community promote the Foundation's mission. Being able to give back to the community it serves is what keeps him motivated every day.

LHF is the sole supporter of Labette Health, a nonprofit hospital serving 9 SEK communities. Since its establishment, the Foundation has disbursed more than \$5.7 million to fund numerous projects for the Labette Health system. For instance, on March 1, 2022, the Parsons main hospital opened a new state-of-the-art OB center that is part of a \$23 million expansion project. In 2017, Labette Health opened its first rural emergency health care facility in Independence, Kansas. Now, they're preparing for a 10,000-to-12,000-square-foot expansion at that facility.

***[continues on back]***

## Coming Up

- **August 31:** Annual membership donation due
- **September:** Women's Health Fund grant applications open
- **September:** Members-only event. Stay tuned!
- **October 13:** Annual grant review
- **October:** New edition of Circle Conversations
- **November 2:** CFSEK Grant Celebration



## Reminder: Membership Donations Due in August



Membership contributions for the Women's Giving Circle (\$2,000) and Circle of Friends (\$250) are due by August 31, 2022. Pay by check or online at [SoutheastKansas.org/join-whf](https://SoutheastKansas.org/join-whf).

### **Labette Health Foundation (cont.)**

None of those projects would be possible without LHF's ongoing fundraising efforts. As part of those efforts, the Foundation has recently applied for and received grants from the Rita J. Bicknell Women's Health Fund (WHF). In 2018, LHF received a grant for a gynecological cart to deal more rapidly and effectively with acute women's health issues.

Then, in 2020, the Foundation was awarded a grant for a Q CPR resuscitation baby, a life-like mannequin used for training, and birthing stools, which help women be more comfortable during labor and delivery.

And last year, the Foundation received a grant for a new, portable birthing cart that goes into delivery rooms with the medical staff to ensure they have everything they need for every delivery at the patient's bedside. With the help of these WHF grants, Labette Health has successfully delivered 865 babies since 2018...and counting!

Labette Health is able to give back to the surrounding communities in so many different ways, whether it's through the numerous women's health services it offers or by addressing various humanitarian needs in the hospital. Grants to LHF help purchase much-needed equipment, install new service lines, initiate construction projects, and take on other projects. As Anthony noted, LHF could not do all it does if not for organizations like the WHF and private donors. He said he cannot thank the Community Foundation of Southeast Kansas and the WHF enough for the grants LHF has received to help improve lives for Southeast Kansas residents!

*Nebbie Hanley*

### **Why I Joined**

I am a member of the Women's Health Fund as this organization supports my life's work as a nurse and nurse educator through its dedication to improving the health of women. The Women's Health Fund is one way I can ensure that the improvement of health and well-being of women will continue into the future.

*Cheryl Giefer*



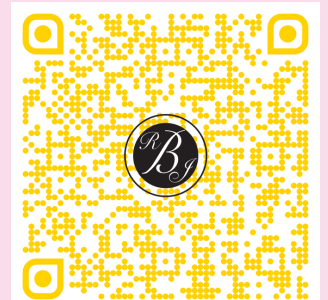
### **What We Do**

- 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!

### **Join the Women's Health Fund**

**Click Here to Join**  
(or renew)

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](http://SoutheastKansas.org)