

Winter 2022

The CHARITABLE CONNECTION

newsletter of the Community Foundation of Southeast Kansas

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communityfoundation
of SOUTHEAST KANSAS



Fort Scott Area
Community Foundation



girard area
community foundation

Fall 2022 Recap

As this edition of *The Charitable Connection* goes to press, winter is just getting started—and how! Temperatures are set to plunge 30 degrees in the coming days, and snow is in the forecast.

What more excuse could you need to pour yourself a cup of hot chocolate, curl up in the softest blanket in your house, and read about what's going on at your favorite community foundation?

If you do, you'll learn all about another successful Match Day

fundraiser ([page 2](#)), read the basics about community foundations, and hear about a special matching-grant opportunity we're currently offering for donations to The Gathering Place cold-weather shelter ([page 3](#)).

You'll also learn about the summer and fall grant cycles that came too late to be included in our summer newsletter ([page 4](#)), see photos from our fall events ([page 8](#)), read about our newest charitable funds ([page 10](#)), and get a preview of what's in store for next year ([page 11](#)).

In short, you're in for an early winter treat with this edition of our newsletter. So pour that mug of chocolate, wrap yourself up in that blanket, sit back, relax, and enjoy! 🍷



Celebrating \$1.25m raised by Match Day

On November 29, CFSEK hosted its seventh 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.

CFSEK has announced a record-breaking 2022 Match Day grand total of \$269,793.46! Community donations totaled \$218,793.46, and CFSEK provided an additional \$51,000 in prorated matching funds in support of 36 local nonprofit organizations. Contributions to the participating organizations will grow their endowed funds held at the Community Foundation, generating income annually to help them achieve their missions.

"We have such an amazing and generous community," said Devin Gorman, CFSEK executive director. "We appreciate the hundreds of individuals who donated on Match Day and who are helping our local



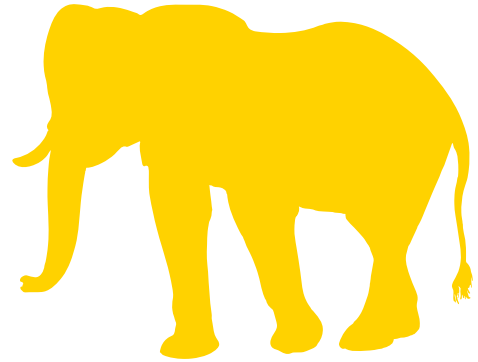
organizations continue the outstanding services they provide to our community."

Since the Foundation's first Match Day in 2016, nearly \$1.25 million in total contributions and matching funds have been given in support of local nonprofit organizations.

"Match Day continues to grow each year, and we sincerely thank the individuals and businesses in our community who understand the impact their gifts make," Gorman said. "We are grateful to everyone who supports the mission of the Community Foundation and for making the choice to invest in the future of our Southeast Kansas community." 🌻

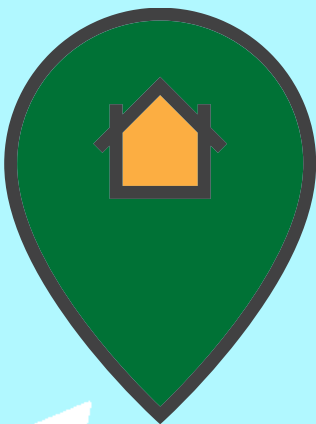
Hold Up... What Is a Community Foundation?

People discover their local community foundation in all sorts of different ways. Nonprofits may discover it while looking for grant opportunities in their areas. Students discover it while researching scholarships. And donors can discover it as the result of a fundraiser like Match Day.



Because of the different ways people discover community foundations, there is a wide range of perceptions about what community foundations are and do. We wanted to do our part to help clear up any confusion, so we recently published a blog post on our website outlining community-foundation basics. You can read it at SoutheastKansas.org/cfbasics. 🌻

CFSEK Supports Cold-Weather Shelter in Pittsburg



CFSEK is providing a \$10,000 matching grant to support The Gathering Place, a 90-day emergency cold-weather shelter located at Wesley House in Pittsburg. Wesley House and the Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas, which together are organizing the temporary shelter, are seeking \$50,000 in total funding. CFSEK's grant will match the first \$10,000 in community support for the shelter.

Learn more: SoutheastKansas.org/news/blog/gathering-place-match. 🌻

CFSEK Summer & Fall 2022 Grants

CFSEK hosts six grant cycles throughout the year. Four of those grant cycles occur in the spring and early summer. We covered those in our Summer 2022 newsletter. Below, we have information about our most recent two grant cycles: the Future Fund Giving Circle and Women's Health Fund.

Future Fund Giving Circle Grants

The Future Fund Giving Circle offers grants for projects in Crawford County, Kansas. This year, a total of **\$18,509** went to **16 organizations**:



- **Cato Historical Preservation Association:** Cato Celebration for Kids
- **Children's Advocacy Center:** Fidgets for Kids
- **DBLO Association:** Impacting Children's Lives Through Better Sleep
- **Families & Children Together:** The Giving Closet at 30th
- **Family Resource Center:** Gross Motor Movement
- **Fostering Connections:** Teen Foster Family Support
- **Homer Cole Community Center:** Shut Up and Shuffle
- **KVC Kansas:** Foster Closet
- **Miners Hall Museum Foundation:** Outdoor Sound System
- **Quilts of Valor:** Creating Quilts of Valor
- **Sacred Heart Community Food Pantry:** Produce for Clients
- **Safehouse Crisis Center:** Restful Nights & Fresh Air
- **SEK Women Helping Women:** Women's Improvement Project
- **Special Olympics Kansas:** Meals for Athletes
- **Victory Life Church:** Sonshine Child Care/Autism Community Center
- **Wildcat District Education Foundation:** Happy Healthy Snack Project

Learn more about this year's Future Fund grants by visiting
SoutheastKansas.org/ff22.

Rita J. Bicknell Women's Health Fund Grants

The Rita J. Bicknell Women's Health Fund comprises two giving circles, the Women's Giving Circle and the Circle of Friends Giving Circle. In 2022, these giving circles awarded a total of \$50,992 to 9 nonprofits for projects that improve the health and well-being of women in SEK.



Women's Giving Circle (\$43,312)

- **Community Health Center of SEK:** Scope it Out - Reducing the Risk of Cervical Cancer.
- **Fostering Connections:** Teen Girl Shopping Spree
- **Kansas Angels Among Us:** Financial Assistance for Cancer Patients
- **Labette Health Foundation:** OB/GYN Patient Care Improvement Project
- **Mount Carmel Foundation:** Better Care at the Bedside - Ultrasound Probes Needed to Care for Expectant Mothers and Babies

Circle of Friends Giving Circle (\$7,680)

- **Friends of Mapleton Association:** Emergency Preparedness
- **Kansas Big Brothers Big Sisters:** Here We Grow
- **Labette County USD 506 Meadow View Elementary School:** Girls' Day in Aviation at Greenbush
- **Safehouse Crisis Center:** A New Bed for a New Beginning 🌻

Learn more about this year's Women's Health Fund grants by visiting SoutheastKansas.org/whf22.

2022 Affiliate Grant Cycles

In addition to CFSEK's six grant cycles, our affiliates, the Girard Area Community Foundation and the Fort Scott Area Community Foundation, host their own annual grant cycles during the late summer. These grants help support nonprofits with projects in rural Crawford County and Bourbon County, respectively.

Learn more about our affiliates by visiting SoutheastKansas.org/affiliates.

GACF Grants

The Girard Area Community Foundation provided \$55,430 in grants to 12 organizations for 13 projects.



- **Care to Share Support Group of Bourbon County:** Financial Assistance to Cancer Patients
- **City of Girard:** Pickleball Nets for Skate-Park Renovation
- **Community Food Pantry:** Providing Food for Those in Need
- **Crawford County Fairgrounds:** LED Lighting Upgrades
- **DBLO Association:** Bedding for 25 Children
- **Crawford County Fire Dept. #4:** Community Virtual Fire Training
- **Girard Youth Activities:** Fee Reduction for Youth Activities and Improvements at the Softball Fields
- **Girard Medical Center:** Transportation Costs for Psychiatric Patients
- **Kansas Angels Among Us:** Financial Assistance for Cancer Patients
- **Learning Tree Institute at Greenbush:** Media Globe Digital Content for Planetarium Films
- **McCune Lions Club:** Healthy Foods Expansion Project
- **St. Aloysius Historical Society:** New Windows for a Historic Garage

Visit facebook.com/girardareacommunityfoundation to learn more.

FSACF Grants

For 2022, the Fort Scott Area Community Foundation granted a total of \$53,536 to 19 organizations to fund 26 projects.



- **Bourbon County CASA:** CASA Volunteer Expansion
- **Boy Scouts of America Ozark Trails Council:** Cub Scout Fall Recruiting
- **City of Fort Scott:** Kiwanis Tree Project
- **Communities in Schools of Mid-America:** Wrap-Around Supports in Fort Scott Schools
- **First United Methodist Church Fort Scott:** Feeding Families in His Name
- **Fort Scott Community College:** FSCC Memorabilia Display; First-Generation College Celebration Events
- **Fort Scott Compassionate Ministries:** Family Empowerment and Stability
- **Fort Scott/Bourbon County Riverfront Authority:** Prayer/Walking Labyrinth
- **Fostering Connections:** Family Fun Event
- **Friends of Mapleton Association:** Emergency Preparedness
- **Gordon Parks Museum Foundation:** Visitors Interactive Touch-Screen Displays Expansion
- **Healthy Bourbon County Action Team:** Fort Scott Splash Pad
- **Lowell Milken Center for Unsung Heroes:** Community Stargazing
- **Southeast Kansas Mental Health Center:** Bootstrap Brigade
- **Southwind Extension Education Foundation:** Kids' Cooking Classes
- **Special Olympics Kansas:** Fort Scott Unified Sports
- **Tri-Valley Developmental Services:** Electric Sit to Stand
- **Uniontown USD 235:** Computer Lab Upgrade
- **USD 234 Fort Scott:** Various Projects 🌻

Visit fsacf.com/gc22 to learn more or to watch the FSACF Grant Celebration.

2022 Events



FSACF announced its grant recipients at a Fort Scott Area Chamber of Commerce After-Hours on October 26 at Landmark National Bank.



CFSEK hosted its annual Grant Celebration at the Frisco Event Center on November 2.





GACF hosted its annual banquet on November 17.



CFSEK hosted its seventh annual Match Day on National #GivingTuesday, November 29.



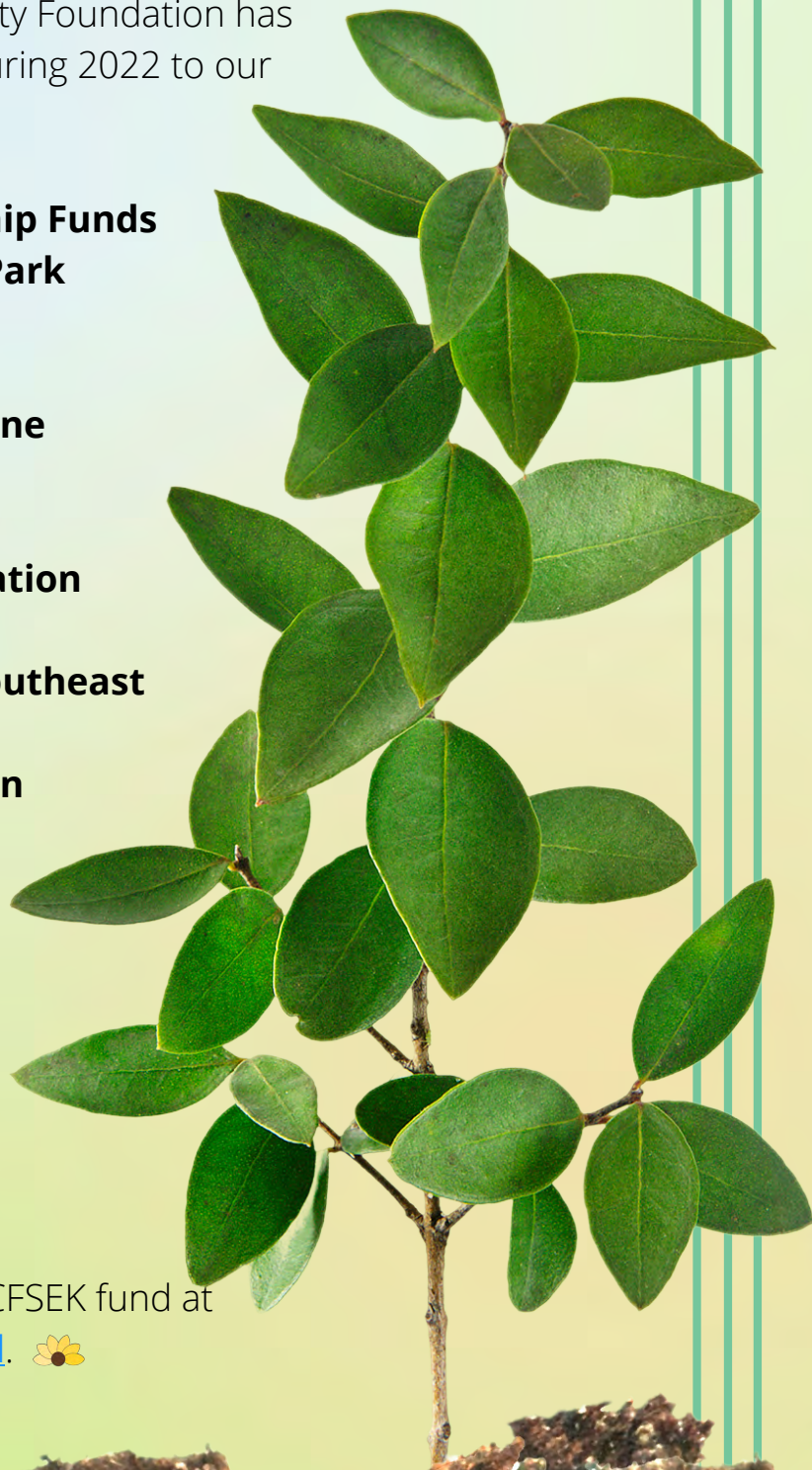
Our Newest Funds

As of December 21, the Community Foundation has added 11 new charitable funds during 2022 to our stable of over 180, including:

- Two new **Ad Astra Scholarship Funds**
- **Friends of Crawford State Park Pickleball Court Project**
- **Humanities Kansas SEK**
- **Miners Hall Museum Dragline Endowment**
- **Nancy Miller Memorial**
- **Sherman Cemetery Restoration Association**
- **Special Olympics Kansas Southeast**
- **VetLinks.org Endowment**
- **Wildcat Extension Education Foundation Endowment**

Every fund at the Community Foundation exists to carry out the charitable purposes of the individual, family, business, or organization that originally established the fund.

Learn more about establishing a CFSEK fund at SoutheastKansas.org/newfund. 🌻





2023 Preview

The start of a new year is always busy for CFSEK staff, but 2023 will be even busier than usual! In 2023 we're adding a new online scholarship-management program to the online grants software we began using in 2022. We're also switching to an entirely new accounting and donor-relations-management system! Stay tuned for more information about what those changes mean for you. In the meantime, here are the dates you should know:

- **Q1:** [#SEKscholarships](#) applications will become available.
- **Q2:** Grant cycles for the [GBL Foundation](#), [Elm Acres Foundation](#), and [Knights of Columbus Endowment](#).
- **Q3:** Grant cycles for the [CFSEK General Funds](#), [Future Fund Giving Circle](#), [FSACF](#), [GACF](#), and the [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.

We can't wait to see what's in store for Southeast Kansas in 2023! 🌻

A Special Thank You to the 2022 CFSEK Board of Trustees

Our Board of Trustees is a group of community leaders dedicated to our mission who volunteer their time to help guide our work. Members serve for up to three consecutive three-year terms.

Four of our Board members' terms are ending in December 2022: Marty Beezley, Bill Morin, Diana Polston, and Mark Schifferdecker. We'll miss them in 2023! Thank you to them and all our Board members for their service, contributions, and thoughtful guidance over the past year!

Connie Kays, *President* • **Jeff Elliott**, *Vice President* • **Diane James**, *Secretary* •
Douglas Stuckey, *Treasurer* • **Marty Beezley** • **Susie Boldrini** •
Susan Cook • **Bonnie Crossland** • **Ken Cunningham** • **Larry Fields** •
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