Go Green!
Help us save on costs by receiving this newsletter via email. Please send your email address to us at: kacf@kearneyfoundation.org

Different Gifts, Big Impact
Every Gift Makes a Difference
The Kearney Area Community Foundation is your one-stop-shop for all your charitable giving needs. From gifts of grain, stock, IRAs, real estate or simply writing a check, the Foundation is here with several different ways which help you make an impact on our community. No matter the size, gifts that come through the Kearney Area Community Foundation make a difference. From health, education, recreation or the arts, find what’s important to you and your family and make a difference today.

With a wide-variety of designated funds, there’s sure to be a charitable cause you can learn more about and support. Call our office to discuss ways you can make an impact in your community at (308) 237-3114.

For a complete list of current KACF funds, please visit our website at www.kearneyfoundation.org/current-funds.

Give Where You Live is 8 Years Old
Provide Hope Locally For Brighter Tomorrows
Nearly eight years and $5.2 million later, the Kearney Area Community Foundation’s annual 24-hour giving day continues to provide community-wide support to local nonprofits.
In its first year, 2013, the Foundation helped 99 participating organizations through Give Where You Live raising $453,214. Last year, Give Where You Live broke record numbers with $1,203,453 raised for 165 local nonprofits. This year, the Foundation is helping even more organizations.

 Held on the first Thursday of every December, Give Where You Live 2020 will be on December 3. For 24 hours, the community will come together and raise funds for brighter tomorrows!
Most nonprofit organizations have either lost revenue or have increased their services and incurred extra expenses due to COVID-19. Donors like you, provide hope by supporting local nonprofits who are working for and supporting others during this pandemic.
Now, more than ever, our nonprofits are providing resources, food, assistance and so much more for those in our community. In December of 2019, the community worked toward a common goal, and did amazing things - like $1.2 million of them. Together in 2020, we will do that again and boost our community by donating to nonprofits registered for Give Where You Live.
This community-wide effort encourages area nonprofits to build their capacity, find new donors and identify new funding streams. In 2013, the Kearney Area Animal Shelter attracted the most donations with over $53,000 raised. Last year, the Central Nebraskans Veterans Home raised over $137,000, all in just 24 hours.
Imagine the possibilities that lie ahead for December 3, 2020.
Visit www.givewhereyoulive.net to learn more about the participating organizations and how you can provide hope locally. Give November 5 through December 3 for brighter tomorrows! Boost your donation, lift your nonprofits and Give Where You Live!
Visit www.givwhereyoulive.net
Boards Grow Communities

“The true meaning of life is to plant trees, under whose shade you do not expect to sit.” —Nelson Henderson

Without trees, life as we know it would be dramatically different. The same goes for the Kearney Area Community Foundation’s 25 years of board members and their impact. Without their leadership, the Kearney Community Foundation and the Kearney area would be dramatically different.

Trees help. 25 years ago, when having the discussion how to sustain the leadership, Kearney initiative, then just under way, it was agreed that a charitable foundation could help. Their idea was supported by the Kearney Area Chamber of Commerce board, and after favorable response at a Kearney Tomorrow planning forum established in 1995, the Kearney Area Community Foundation became a reality.

Trees grow. The Foundation has had a part in helping grow many nonprofit organizations in the Kearney area into what we know them to be today. For instance, what started out as a corn field grew into a full-feature public park. The Yancey Heritage Park Foundation (YHFP) was originally started under KACF to develop and sustain the park.

“The Foundation has been building an extensive portfolio of people, places and organizations they have assisted within our community,” said Dave Chisty, KACF board chair from 2008-2010.

Trees create. In 2011, the Celebration of Giving was created to present philanthropy awards to individuals, families and businesses that encouraged and supported charitable stewardship in the Kearney area. In 2013, the 24-hour giving day, Give Where You Live, was created to raise thousands of dollars for area nonprofits.

“Give Where You Live is so impactful for the Shenilton community,” said Marsha Fairbanks, KACF board member from 2008-2014 and Shenilton resident. “The 24-hour giving day allows our community nonprofits to raise thousands of dollars in just one day.”

In 2009, the Nebraska Wine and Jazz Festival was created under the Kearney Area Community Foundation, later used for the challenge match pool for Give Where You Live. “Preparing for and being involved in the Wine and Jazz Festival over the years was so much fun,” said Sue Bigg, KACF board member from 2009-2015. “The best part of Wine and Jazz was how it grew relationships with the community, and awareness of all the good the Foundation does for our community.”

In 2019, the Edison Society was created for those donors who wish to fund the Foundation at a higher level, investing in innovation, providing a higher quality of life for others and shining light on ideas and solutions.

Funds raised through the Edison Society are used for the $100,000 challenge match pool during Give Where You Live, as well as new technology.

“The vision of the Edison Society is to provide revenue to support the important work the Foundation does, and provide the opportunity for donors to support the Foundation in its mission,” said Jan Rodehorst, KACF board chair from 2015-2018. “As an Edison Society Member, you insure that the Foundation can support existing causes, as well as react to ever changing needs in our community.

Trees heal. After the devastating flooding in 2019 that affected most of Nebraska including Buffalo County, the Kearney Area Community Foundation established the Disaster Relief Fund which helped heal those directly affected by the recent floods.

Trees serve. Since our inception 25 years ago, more than 90 community members have served (or are currently serving) on our board, and are grateful for their contributions — sharing their time, talents and treasures over the years.

Planting trees around the community is a long-standing tradition at the Foundation to honor retired board members for their service.

“That those who plant trees love others besides themselves.” —Thomas Fuller

25 Years of Board Members

Thank you for all your hard work!

Gary Anderson
Jeremy Armstrong
Dan Bahansky
John Bassford
Rosanne Boscain
Brendan Bowick
Susan Bigg
Brian Boochamer
Jim Brandt
Nathan Bruner
Ilene Buxton
Tom Butterly* 
Dave Chisty
Steve Chiavatta
Jordan Cochran
Larry Clevett
Lindsay Dixon
Cook Carol Corn
Stan Curd
Corey Dixon
Ron Deffett
Bretrie Ensz
Hannah Erisfeld
Marsha Fairbanks
Roberto Fernandez Segura
Jim Gesz
Steve Glenn
Marilyn Medley
Michelle Harper
Lance Heiser
Jerry Hoffman
Ben Horner
Ben Homan, Sr.
Bob Huddleston
Tim Back
Emma Jane Wilder* 
Mark Bucher
Gene Kepke
Gary Landis
Bob Lemmers
Michael Lewis
Dan Linnell
Leaside Martin
Tom McCarty
Wayne McKinney* 
Dick Meier
John Mellick
Shevy Morrow
Haifol Runifer
Dick Nickel
Jennifer Nolika
Alan Oldfather* 
Robin Oler
Mindy Oman
Carol Olster
Dale Pohlmann
Earl Rodehorst
Sue Rieker
Karen Rhoads
Jim Rodehorst
Jackie Rosenlof* 
Bill Ross
Jeanne Ross
Shelby Shafer
Bridge Sharpe
Jason Sharp
Paul Shriver
Patty Shefte
Alan Shepard
Jane Smith
Lori Smith
Earl Smith
Lance Soil
Linda Sorenson
Mary Sorenson* 
Sharon Soults
Keith Stafford
Bill Stadler
Jody Stiansen
Basil Stevenson*
Tricia Stouthorn
Mark Suitko
Mike Tyson
Dar Velmar
Michael Voss
David Wade
Janice Weissbach
Marguerite Williams
Paul Younes

25 Reasons to Give

25 Years of Giving to the Kearney Area

1. Altruism: The most important reason for donating is concern for others
2. Benefit: Someone you know has benefited from your donation.
3. Change: You want to impact someone’s life in a positive way
4. Expand: Our nonprofit will use the gift to stabilize or expand our programming and reach
5. Goals: You are helping us reach our goals
6. Gratitude: Grateful for your successes; give back to your local community
7. Happiness: Donating promotes feelings of happiness
8. Help: You want to help, and financially you can
9. Impact: You make an impact locally by donating where you live
10. Inspiration: You can inspire friends and family to donate by setting an example
11. Integrity: You want to be associated with the organization and its integrity
12. Investment: Your donations are investments in our community which have the best R.O.I.
13. Legacy: Leave a legacy for future generations
14. Live: Donating can be great for your mental and physical health, giving you feel more alive
15. Memorial: You want to memorialize a friend or family member in a meaningful way
16. Need: There are unmet needs in our community; give a hand up
17. Peace: Your donations give peace of mind
18. Peers: You know someone on the board of directors, or who volunteers, or who donates
19. Perpetuity: Your gift can make a difference forever
20. Purpose: Giving to charities helps you participate in causes you feel strongly about
21. Social: You give because your donations matter to someone you know and care about
22. Taxes: You want the tax deduction
23. Teach: You can teach kids the importance of giving
24. Trust: You give to an organization that you trust who will use your donated money to make a difference
25. Values: You can use what you have to help others

What is your reason to give?

www.kearneyfoundation.org