Upcoming Deadlines

BUILDING FOR TOMORROW GRANTS DUE FEBRUARY 1
The BFT grant typically funds projects or programs in the Kearney area and surrounding communities. Grants are made to nonprofit, federally tax-exempt 501(c)(3) qualified organizations, or organizations delivering a project or program which have a fiscal relationship with a qualified charity. Applications are accepted on a biannual basis with the approaching deadline of February 1. Organizations are encouraged to read the grants guidelines by visiting www.kearneyfoundation.org/building-for-tomorrow to determine if their organization qualifies. The next BFT grant cycle is August 1, 2021. If you have any questions, please call (308) 237-3114 or email the Kearney Area Community Foundation at kacf@kearneyfoundation.org.

KLINKACEK COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT GRANTS DUE MARCH 1
The Arthur Klinkacek Community Enrichment Fund’s grant cycle is triannual with deadlines of March 1, July 1 and November 1 (until further notice). To view guidelines, pre-apply or for more information, please visit www.kearneyfoundation.org/klinkacek.

LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS OPEN SOON
The Kearney Area Community Foundation manages over 56 scholarship funds. With scholarships available to those enrolled in a technical college, community college and/or university, there’s sure to be funds. With scholarships available to those enrolled in a technical college, community college and/or university, there’s sure to be a scholarship fit for you!

Please visit www.kearneyfoundation.org/scholarships in February to view local scholarships.

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Give Where You Live 2020 Breaks Records

Donors Ensure Brighter Tomorrows

2020 is a year we will never forget. There were a lot of challenges and setbacks, but for Kearney America, it ended on a high note. During the 2020 annual 24-hour giving day, donors were extra generous providing hope for 2021! Proving the campaign theme of “Brighter Tomorrows” to be true, Give Where You Live was record breaking in 2020.

• The community raised $1,325,551 this year, up 10.1% from the $1,203,453 we raised last year!
• Individual donations were 6440 in 2020, compared to 5603 in 2019. (This is a 14.9% increase!)
• 177 local organizations and causes participated this year, compared to 165 in 2019. (Another record breaker - a 7.2% increase!)

Normalcy may have changed in 2020, but this progressive community came together to make an impact that provided hope to a community that embraced the needs of our area nonprofits providing brighter tomorrows.

Since Give Where You Live was launched in 2013, together we have raised more than $6.5 million for our community!

Thank you for “giving where you live” Kearney area donors – you are simply amazing! On behalf of the participating local nonprofits, we thank you for making this possible.

Together, we can do (and have done) great things! For more information, visit www.givewhereyoulive.net.

Top Five Participating Nonprofits

FAITH CHRISTIAN SCHOOL...........$111,201
Exists to glorify God by equipping students for spiritual, academic, physical and social excellence.

PLEASANTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT..............$81,710
Provides the most highly trained, best equipped force possible to protect life and property.

YANNEY HERITAGE PARK FOUNDATION..........................$67,264
Raising funds for The Gardens at Yanney Park, the new botanical gardens addition.

BUFFALO COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY/ TRAILS & RAILS MUSEUM.......................$52,094
Preserves and shares Buffalo County’s vast history through the new Family History Center.

KEARNEY AREA ANIMAL SHELTER...........$42,171
Provides shelter for lost and homeless animals and actively encourages pet population reduction.
Celebrating Stakeholders

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world: indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”  
—Margaret Mead

Creating Brighter Tomorrows

The support that we raise through the Stakeholder campaign improves the quality of life for others. We are able to sustain our organization, provide outreach, and nurture the creative spirit in our community. Your financial support helps us remain innovative! We depend on outside support to not only keep our lights on, but to help bring in technology and other resources to make us more efficient and effective in our community.

Thank you for investing in us!
Thank you for investing in us!
Thank you for investing in us!

ACTIVIST

Andreas Belo Electric  
Plumbing and Heating  
Pottawatomie  
Jonathon and Melani Brandt  
David and Karrin Culligan  
Culligan of Kearney  
Ron and Kathy Dominick  
Dana and Beth Ernst  
Five Points Bank  
Fort Theatre Dentistry  
Wayne and Kathy Gappo  
Larry and Carol Hardisty  
Robert and Marilyn Hall  
Lance and Chris Hehman  
Jerry and Tammy Hinds  
Helfman, Mann, Colos and Kölbel  
Rob and Marilyn Lammers  
Nebraska Central Telephone Company  
Jason and Mindy Oman  
Intesa Islamic and Idaho Staf  
Sally and Schrader, D.D.S.  
Tri-City Glass Inc.

ACHIEVER

Dean and Ayehine Aden  
George and Sherry Bakken  
Blodon  
Jim and Marlene Berglund  
Michael and Kaysi Billeter  
Carol Bledsoe  
Boschert  
Brett and Shawna Bowman  
George and Roxanne  
Reed  
Lance and Chris Hehman  
Wayne and Kathy Gappa  
Ron and Kathy Eckloff  
David and Kimberly Cantral  
Anderson Bros Electric  

PROMOTER

Leslie and Adeline Adely  
Amigos  
Randy and Jean Armstrong  
Pam Rall and Rhondie Atchley  
Dan and Lisa Atchison  
Claude and Nanci Babula  
Yvonne Deyle-Barth  
Terry and Kelly Bartling  
Dick and Barbara Beecher  
Jim and Cindy Bern  
Marie Bieber  
Brod and Karen Biglow  
Doug and Robin Boll  
Briana and Ann Marie Bosshamer  
Dave Bryson  
Brooke and John Brown  
Butch and Margaret Brown  
Richard and Allfie Bugy  
John and Staci Cannon  
Greg and Hannah Gandert  
Gandert Surgery Center, P.C.  
Dick Family Healthcare  
Ron and Debbie Dobesh  
Jessica and Ludeck, D.D.S.  
Steve and Judy Fish  
Jeremy and Janet Fox  
Charlotte French  
Grand Central Apple Market  
Kennon and May Grace Gappo  
Corrie Glover  
Warren and Janese Hahn  
Gary and Erid Hansan  
Zaki and Chelle Hayes  
Krist and Amy Herb  
Home/Town Kearney  
Rod and Lisa Horsey  
Cheryl Hough  
Jerry and Jean Hueser  
Paul and Tammy Jacobson  
Coleen Jacobson  
Kearney Art Guild  
Fred and Betty Kemp  
Gene and Connie Klepek  
Peter and Jane Kozisik  
Jeane and Bruce Lakay  
Steve and Julie Lewis  
James and Sharon Lushen  
Jeff and Becky Marshall  
Mark and Julie Mastine  
John and Shirley McCampbell  
Jerri and Carolyn Minke  
Michael J. Menock, D.D.S.  
Minor Marketing  
Kim and Bonnie Munm  
Sheryl Murray  
Doug and Sally Muhle  
Dave and Wendy Nickel  
Ollie Stensland  
Redford Furniture  
Germund Odnefelt  
Paul Davis Restoration  
Of Central Nebraska  
Joe and Carol Palter  
Randy and Carolyn Palter  
Gary and Vicky Parker  
Kerry and Listener Perchonok  
Ravenna Lock  
Realty Concepts  
Marylin Reid  
Friends and Judi Roberts  
Rhome and Kim Roberts  
Lee Sank  
Hernia and Norma Sanchez  
Gerry and Sainsa Shea  
L. F. and Jane Sion  
Daniel and Sherry Smith  
Shawn Smith  
Darrell and Jane Top  
Greg Traskoff and Ruth Ann  
Kaminsky  
Jerome and Barbara Thompson  
Davi and Peppy Townsend

Thomes and Michaelene Tie  
Farnace and Patrick Tjaden  
Marty Welch  
Alan and Betty Young

COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

Making Holiday Dinners Possible

The Thanksgiving meal fed healthcare workers, law enforcement, fire departments, Buffalo County Corrections personnel, long-term care workers, and anyone in need of a free Thanksgiving meal.

With the help of generous donors and partner agencies, more than $19,000 was raised to provide this meal to no charge to the community.

One month later, on Christmas Day, partners in our community came together again, to serve more than 2200 meals

For the past 48 years, the First United Methodist Church of Kearney served a community Christmas meal. But due to the concern of the community’s health, the church reached out to Hot Meals USA and various local nonprofits to offer a “take out” meal instead.

“Instead of 5000 pounds of ham, 200 gallons of corn, 250 gallons of potatoes, 3200 rolls and pieces of pie,” said Cochran.

Reaching Out to Those in Need

COVID-19 changed a lot of things in 2020, but a group of determined community organizations made it possible for our community to continue the tradition of feeding those in need over the holidays.

On Thanksgiving Day, more than 2750 community members were fed a Thanksgiving meal, thanks to the partnership of the Kearney Area Community Foundation, Buffalo County Community Partners, Hot Meals USA, Kearney Area Concerned Citizens, Kearney Area Chamber of Commerce, area churches, local law enforcement and local health care providers.

“We do that many people, it took 1300 pounds of turkey, 55 gallons of corn, 160 gallons of potatoes, 55 gallons of yams, 2750 rolls and pieces of pie,” said Richard Cochran.

Hot Meals USA founder.

For 35 years, the Kearney Area Concerned Citizens have served a Thanksgiving meal, but due to COVID-19 they were unable to this year. Therefore, a collaboration of local nonprofits pulled together to make sure our community received a free Thanksgiving meal.

“Everyone is deserving of a holiday meal and Hot Meals USA is there when others can’t be, Helping people in need is always a good thing to do,” said Cochran.

Giving Food Victims a Hand Up

In March 2019, our President/CEO Judi Sicker was on vacation with her family when her cell phone was pinged constantly. Her inbox was full of stories about major flooding in Nebraska that included communities in the Kearney and other communities across Buffalo County. Unfortunately, some households were hit a second time. The Kearney Area Disaster Recovery Group (KADRG) due to that second round of destruction.

KADRG would later hire a full-time coordinator and two part-time advocates. The three were through a grant that ran through December 31, 2020. Staff of the KADRG worked directly with flood victims, listening to their stories and connecting them to organizations that could assist with their particular needs. The KADRG is wrapping up the last of the grant running through May.

Since March 2019, more than $890 thousand was raised to help Kearney area flood victims:

Kearney Area Community Foundation’s Disaster Relief Fund............$749,409.65
Kearney Area Disaster Recovery Group...$309,000.00

United Way of the Kearney Area............$102,014.65

THROUGH THE COLLABORATIVE EFFORT:

• 648 households were assisted by connecting them with other organizations providing assistance like Stark County Area Relief Fund, FEMA, SBA, Orphan Grain Train, Red Cross and Region III

• 285 households were awarded grants to help with out-of-pocket recovery costs

• 117 households with building materials and clean up supplies/services

• 51 families/individuals had assistance with the expenses of repairs such as contractors, drywallers, carpet installers and electricians

• 39 needed immediate help with rent and utility bills

• 24 furnaces were replaced or repaired

Many other types of assistance was given, including acquiring beds, water heaters, and many other items depending on other types of assistance and unmet needs.

Kearney Area Community Foundation

www.Kearyareafoundation.org