



Mark your Calendar!

- 04/29- GSCF's 25th "Birthday"
- 05/03- First Friday 4-6 pm
- 05/05- Grants Due! Women Helping Women
- 05/15- Grants Due! GSCF Spring Cycle, Baseball & Softball
- 05/23- GSCF Scholarship Banquet
- 06/07- First Friday 4-6 pm
- 09/26- Save the Date! GSCF 25th Anniversary Celebration

Match Madness Breaks Record!

The 13th year of Match Madness proved to be "The Lucky One," raising over \$1.1 million in a single day for 100 local nonprofits, setting a new record!

On March 21st, donors contributed \$786,246 to 100 nonprofit endowed funds held at the Foundation for long-term support. That combined with \$320,171 in matching funds and bonus prizes brought the total impact for the day to \$1,106,417.

"The amount of generosity that flowed through the Fieldhouse that day blows me away," said Jessica Martin, President & Executive Director. "We had donations of all sizes that when added together made a big impact. That's the definition of community."

The event was held at the Salina Fieldhouse from 7 am to 7 pm where donors could make their donation and also visit one of the 74 nonprofit booths that were set up ready to share

about their mission.

Nonprofits also had the opportunity to earn up to \$130 in the Bill Grevas Minute to Win It Free Throw Contest sponsored by Bennington State Bank and \$1,300 in the BE Wealth Half Court Shot contest.

Saline County 5th Graders

This year was also a record year for our 5th graders. When Ken and (continued on page 2)

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The Madness (cont.)

Final Stats

- Total Raised: \$786,246
- Total Match & Bonus Prizes: \$320,171
- Total Impact: \$1,106,417
- Total Number of Gifts: 4,127
- Total Number of Donors: 1,739
- Total Number of Nonprofits: 100
- Half Court Shot Winner: Salina Area Young Life
- Free Throws Made: 635 from 84 nonprofits
- Most Donors: Rolling Hills Zoo
- Most Increase in Donors: Salina Public Library



Thanks to generous donors, 634 Saline County 5th graders attended Match Madness and were able to donate \$10 to the nonprofit organization of their choice. The students visited five assigned booths and five of their choosing. There was so much positive energy, smiles and philanthropic learning going on at this year's match event!

5th Grade Top 5 Charities

- Rolling Hills Zoo- 72
- Salina Emergency Aid Food Bank- 45
- Salina Animal Shelter- 39
- Love, Chloe Foundation- 33
- KU School of Medicine- 27



(continued from page 1)
Karen Ebert decided to sponsor the USD 305 5th graders in 2023, they hoped it would inspire others to do the same... and it did! Thanks to the generosity of several donors, every Saline County 5th grader was able to participate at Match Madness by donating \$10 to their favorite charity, with 84 of the 100 nonprofits receiving at least one donation.

One goal of taking students to Match Madness is to teach them about philanthropy and the joy of giving. Fifth grader Blakely Chamberlain said, "A small donation can make a huge difference."

Blakely's gift is also endowed meaning her \$10 donation will grow to \$46 in 20 years, and collectively the \$6,340 donated by all the 5th graders will grow to \$29,164 all while making annual grants to nonprofits. That's the power of endowed giving!

Celebrating Success

The day ended with a celebration and after party at the Prickly Pear from 7-11 pm where nonprofits, donors and Foundation staff watched the final numbers tally in for what really proved to be "The Lucky One!"

Thank you Salina- we are lucky to call this place home!



QCDs: Five ?s you may be asking...

If you are over the age of 70 ½ (or getting close), you've likely heard about what's known as a "Qualified Charitable Distribution," or "QCD," but may not necessarily know how it works or how you can use it to make a bigger impact with your charitable giving. Below are answers to some of your most burning QCD questions:

1. Is an IRA (Individual Retirement Account) the only eligible source for Qualified Charitable Distributions?

Short answer: Almost.

Long answer: An individual can make a Qualified Charitable Distribution directly to an eligible charity from a traditional IRA or an inherited IRA. If the individual's employer is no longer contributing to a Simplified Employee Pension (SEP) plan or a Savings Incentive Match Plan for Employees (SIMPLE) IRA, the individual may use those accounts as well. In theory, a Roth IRA could be used to make a QCD, but it is rarely advantageous to do that because Roth IRA distributions are already tax-free.

2. "What is the difference between a QCD and an RMD?"

Short answer: Quite a bit! But a QCD can count toward an RMD.

Long answer: Everyone must start taking Required Minimum Distributions ("RMDs") from their qualified retirement plans, including IRAs, when they reach the age of 73. RMDs are taxable income. The Qualified Charitable Distribution, by contrast, is a distribution directly from certain types of qualified retirement plans (such as IRAs) to certain types of charities. When a taxpayer follows the rules, a QCD

can count toward the taxpayer's RMD for that year. And because the QCD goes directly to charity, the taxpayer is not taxed on that distribution.

3. "Can a donor make a Qualified Charitable Distribution even if the donor is not yet required to take Required Minimum Distributions?"

Short answer: Yes—within a very narrow age window.

Long answer: RMDs and QCDs are both distributions that impact retirement-age taxpayers, and it would seem logical that the age thresholds would be the same. Under the SECURE Act, though, the required date for starting RMDs was shifted from 70 ½ to 72 and is now up to 73 (which is better for taxpayers who want to delay taxable income). A corresponding shift was not made to the eligible age for executing QCDs; that age is still 70 ½ (which benefits taxpayers who wish to access IRA funds to make charitable gifts even before they are required to take RMDs).

4. Can a donor direct a QCD to a fund at the community foundation?

Short answer: Yes, if it's a qualifying fund.

Long answer: While donor-advised funds are not eligible recipients

of Qualified Charitable Distributions, other types of funds at the community foundation can receive QCDs. These funds include endowment funds established by nonprofit organizations, scholarship funds, field of interest funds, or designated funds to support your favorite charities. You can even make a gift to Match Madness using your QCD!

5. How much can a donor give through a QCD?

Short answer: \$105,000 per year.

Long answer: A Qualified Charitable Distribution permits a donor (and a spouse from a spouse's own IRA or IRAs) to transfer up to \$105,000 each year from an IRA (or multiple IRAs) to a qualified charity. So, a married couple may be eligible to direct up to a total of \$210,000 per year to charity from IRAs and avoid significant income tax liability.



NEWS & Impact

Establishing a fund in a loved one's name is a meaningful way to carry on their legacy forever. When Grant Lysell-Alkire's passed away in a tragic automobile accident, his parents and brother decided to carry on Grant's legacy through a donor advised fund at their local community foundation.

Grant Lysell-Alkire made a tremendous impact on other people during his lifetime. Those who knew Grant knew he was a dependable difference maker and was known for his positive attitude, intelligence, big heart, love for athletics. He was the "ultimate hype guy."

When Grant's life was cut short at age 21 due to an an automobile accident his parents parents Jeremy Alkire and Ericka Lysell, and his brother Sawyer, established the Grant's Grace Fund in memory of Grant at the Smoky Valley Community Foundation, an affiliate of GSCF in Lindsborg, KS.

"Grant loved the concept of grace." said Ericka. "The best

way we could think of to honor our son's life was by making sure others can be helped. In confirmation class at our church, he was taught that grace meant God's love freely given and that there is no expectation of perfection or anything close to that. Grant would be happy that we are using this fund to help people without any expectation of getting anything in return."

To learn how you can contribute to Grant's Grace or establish your own fund, contact the Community Foundation at 785-823-1800.



Grant celebrating his 21st birthday.



Today...

You decide to make a permanent gift of **\$10,000**.



After 15 years...

Your gift has grown to **\$15,000** and given **\$10,000** to charity.



After 25 years...

Your gift has grown to **\$18,600** and given **\$19,000** to charity.



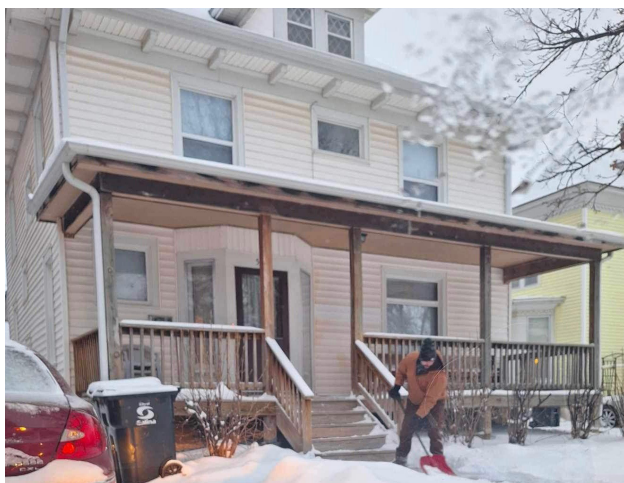
After 50 years...

Your gift has grown to **\$51,000** and given **\$35,000** to charity.

New GSCF Funds

(established 01/01/24-03/31/24)

- Anonymous Donor Advised Fund
- Brookville Park Fund
- Build A Pro Foundation Fund
- Chambers Loader Fund
- Salina Irish Road Bowling Fund
- Matt & Rita Shaffer Donor Advised Fund



Funds were used to winterize and weatherproof the men's home.



Journey Homes gathered at the new women's Journey Home for a Christmas celebration in December of 2023.

Journey Homes

“We have a saying in the Journey Homes. ‘If you want to go fast, go alone. If you wan to go far, go together.’ Receiving support from the Greater Salina Community Foundation means we are not alone on this journey. Together we can impact more people,” said Tyler Lund, Journey Ventures, Inc. Board Member.

Journey Homes is a new nonprofit within Journey Ventures, Inc. that boldly walks alongside individuals leaving harmful, destructive, and unfulfilling lifestyles, and helps them move forward in life free from toxic patterns

There are five Journey homes in Salina – two womens’ homes, one mens’ home, and two family homes. These homes provide an intentional relational sober living environment where individuals in recovery (and their children) can experience both home and community.

These homes are important in their recovery, as they have

burned many bridges to the people in their lives and have a hard time finding a community of people that move in a positive direction.

“Journey Homes replaces harmful influences with powerful community-building opportunities, by providing safe, stable, and sober housing alongside authentic human connection and support,” said Melanie Lund, Journey Ventures grantwriter.

In September of 2023, the Community Foundation awarded Journey Homes a \$2,000 grant from the Dane G.

Hansen Community Grant Fund to purchase furnishings for one women’s home and to winterize and weatherproof a men’s home.

In December the Journey Homes gathered at the new women’s Journey Home for a Christmas celebration. The new furniture provided every guest with a seat and made them feel welcome during what is often an incredibly difficult time of year.

Have an idea for a project? Go to www.gscf.org/grants to learn about our grant opportunities and apply.



“One of the great aspects of working at the Community Foundation is meeting nonprofits that are boldly meeting the needs of our community through our grant cycles.”

~Jessica Fuller, Director of Grants & Scholarships

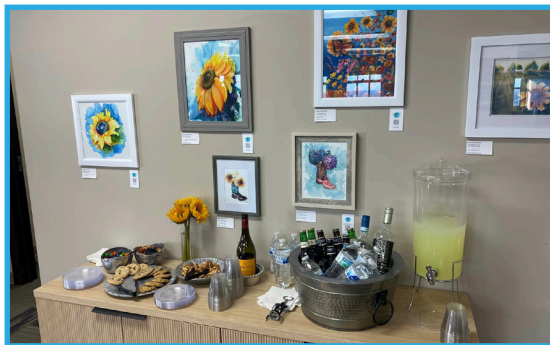
Connecting with **YOU**

GSCF's Community Impact Department was launched in August of 2023 and includes donor services, nonprofit capacity building, grants and scholarships, and our regional affiliates.

The purpose of the department is to serve and engage our various stakeholders in meaningful ways by cultivating long-term relationships. We do this with public presentations, having conversations with donors, board members, community members, nonprofit organizations, students, and grant seekers from all over our service area about the things that are important to them. Each of our team members has many opportunities to learn about the unique needs,

projects, and opportunities in the communities we serve.

Over the last fiscal year, \$30.8 million was granted on behalf of our donors. We're fortunate to have a front row seat to observe the impact that is made when donors' passions connect with charitable needs. Donor directed grants make up 98% of the gifts processed by our office each year and a highlight of our work is celebrating the philanthropic impact those donors make. We do this in a mix of public and private ways. Recently we hosted a Valentine's Day party in our office for Donor Advised Fundholders. We enjoyed sharing hot cocoa, coffee



First Fridays

In February GSCF began participating in Salina Downtown's First Friday Art scene. First Fridays are intended to bring people to downtown Salina to enjoy local art and music.

Each month we host an artist reception in our offices on the 8th Floor of the historic United Building from 4-6 pm. It is a come and go event and

each month a different artist is featured.

The public is invited to enjoy the beautiful views from the 8th floor of the United Building and visit with the featured artist about their creations. Refreshments are provided and often the work is available for purchase.

We hope to see you soon!

Recently featured artists include Sunflower Follies by Megan Hessman, BOOM-Salina Kanvas Project, and Robert Peck-Artisan. Upcoming artists include Rachel Miller, David Petty, and Julie Cates. Follow us on Social Media for the latest information about First Fridays, and be sure to mark your calendars for the next one on May 3 from 4-6 pm.



and sweet treats with those individuals and families whose generosity makes a lasting impact for all of us.

We'd enjoy the opportunity to connect with you about our work and how philanthropy impacts today and transforms tomorrow!

~Michael Chambers,
Vice President of
Community Impact



In the Region

USD 299 students saw first hand how something as simple as a grant can impact their education and now they want to give back!

In February, GSCF staff members and board member joined donors at the Post Rock Community Foundation Match Month Dinner to celebrate the grant impact in their communities. One of the speakers for the celebration shared about a grant made to USD 299 to send 5th and 6th graders to the Young Ameritowne Program in Lenora, Kansas. The students learn how to keep track of finances, run businesses, run for office, and more... and then spend the rest of the day incorporating those lessons at Ameritowne.

The teacher noted that there is a donation area at the end of the day where students can give to charities such as Ronald McDonald House and a donor will match their donations. As students shared their excitement for the program with their teacher, one asked if the Post Rock Community Foundation (who funded their field trip) could be included in the donation buckets next year.

A young student saw the value of the community foundation grant and wants to give back. That is the perfect illustration of "Impact Today, Transform Tomorrow!"



**Serving 10 regional affiliates and
13 counties throughout
north central and western Kansas.**





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Director's Message

Make Your Mark

As we come upon our 25th anniversary on April 29th, I can't think of a better theme to celebrate the mission of the Foundation than "Make Your Mark!" "Make your mark," means to accomplish something that will be remembered or have a beneficial influence on the future.



When the Foundation was formed 25 years ago, our Founding Donors made a mark that has positively impacted our community while also creating a platform for others to make their mark.

- Match Madness is *making a mark* on 634 5th grade students who were able to experience the joy of giving back to their community.
- Grant Lysell-Alkire is still *making his mark* through a donor advised fund set up in his name after he passed away in a tragic accident.
- Journey Homes is *making a mark* on the lives of families deserving of a second chance through a grant from the Foundation.

The Foundation has endless opportunities for you to make a mark too! You just have to ask yourself, "What do I want my mark to be?"

Impact Today. Transform Tomorrow!

Our mission is to build permanent endowment funds and meet charitable community needs.