



*There's
no place
like
Home*

— 2020 Annual Report to the Community —



Smith
County
Community
Foundation
An affiliate of the
Creative Public Community Foundation

Our Mission

is to help people invest in meaningful ways to make a difference in the community by building permanent endowment funds and meeting charitable community needs.

DIRECTOR'S LETTER

I think everyone will agree that 2020 has been a year of changes and adjustments. We have certainly got used to the saying, "There's No Place Like Home." Zooming, teleconferencing, quarantining and social distancing are now household words. The "Covid" kids who didn't get to finish their senior year as planned, attend their prom or have their traditional graduation are now enrolled in their post secondary programs and life appears to be getting back to normal. I am not sure we know what "normal" will look like.

The stock market has had many ups and downs which will have a big effect on funds generated by Smith County Community Foundation (SCCF) in the first 2 quarters of 2020. We were fortunate, though, to be able to use some of the funds received from the Dane Hansen Foundation to make immediate emergency grants to nonprofit entities in Smith County who needed assistance due to coronavirus disruptions.

The dollars SCCF receives from the Dane Hansen Foundation is based in part on the money received from loyal donors like you. Thank you for your past generosity. We hope you continue to support YOUR community foundation with continued donations.

In conclusion, please consider this advice: 1) Wash your hands; 2) Get some exercise every day; 3) Take your own writing pen; 4) Get plenty of sleep; 5) Don't eat buffet style; 6) Stay home when you don't feel well.

Here's looking forward to a "normal" 2021!

Todd Slavik
Foundation Chair

OUR AFFILIATION

We are a member of the Greater Salina Community Foundation's affiliate network in north central Kansas.



KATY KITCHEN

Director of Regional Affiliates
katykitchen@gscf.org



ANGELA KERNER

Affiliate Operations Coordinator
angelakerner@gscf.org

This network helps us effectively pool resources with other foundations for community growth. We benefit from experienced investment and administration services, marketing support, ongoing training and technical assistance from GSCF staff. Our local advisory board provides leadership on decisions that directly impact our community!





ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

The Smith County Community Foundation was founded in 2008 to benefit the communities of Smith County. The foundation is a permanent source of charitable funds used to meet both the current and future needs of our county

DIRECTOR

Joan Nech

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Todd Slavik, Chair
Art Befort, Vice-Chair
Amber Conaway
Afftin Hommon
Nancy Horning
Kristi Jones
Raegan Kirchhoff
Julie Kuhlmann
Marci Overmiller
Kaden Roush

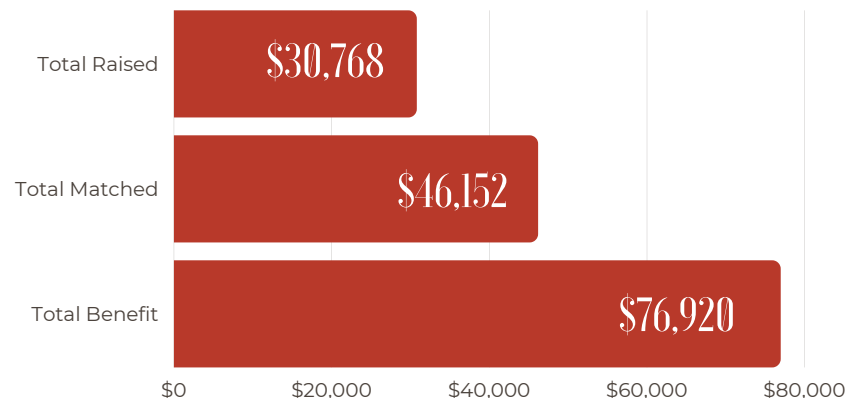
BOARD ALUMNI

Joe Barnes
Morgan Bienhoff
Karen Cole
Demetre Evangelidis
Gary Frieling
Steve Kuhlman
Barb Lehmann
Randy Merritt
Kim Phelps
John Terrill
Linda Warner
Donald Wiens
John Zabel



2019 MATCH MONTH SUCCESS

Through a month-long gift matching initiative in November, the community foundation raised over \$70,000 for community grants and operations. During Match Month, donors make gifts to the community foundation to support community grants. These gifts are then matched at 150% by the Dane G. Hansen Foundation. Over the last four years Match Month has raised \$270,295



FOUNDING DONORS

Our founders inspired the creation and growth of the foundation. We are forever grateful for the support of these generous donors!

Business Entities

Central Plains Co-op
Computer Solutions, Inc.-
Galen & Judy Lambert
First National Bank of Smith Center
Frieling Grain Co., Inc.
Midway Coop, Inc.
Peterson Industries, Inc.
The Peoples Bank
The Employees of The Peoples Bank
Wiens Harvesting - Donald E. &
Doris A. Wiens

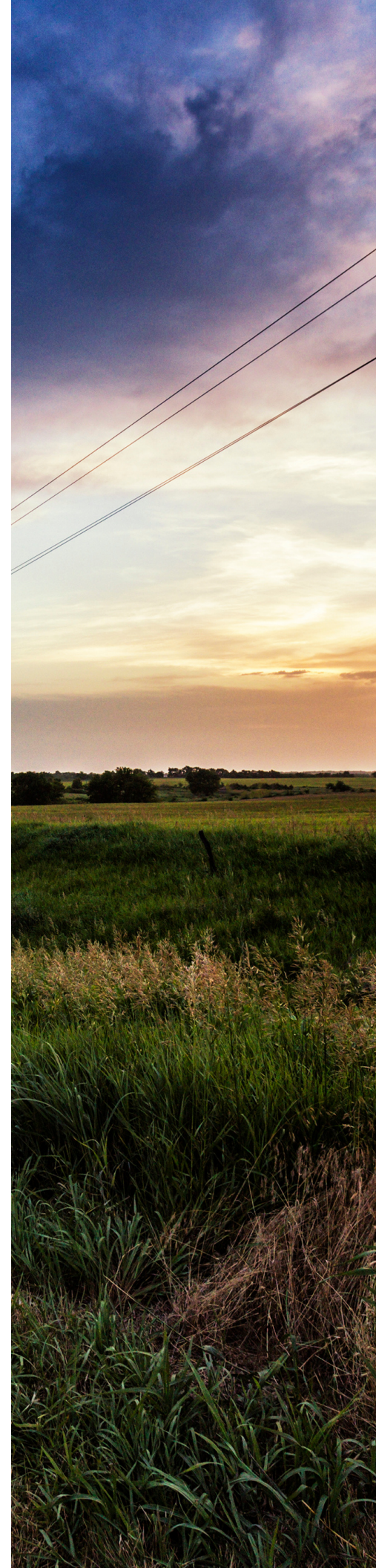
Individuals & Families

Julia R. Abbott & Family
Joe & Arloa Barnes
Roger L. & Pamela R. Barta
Leona, Joe & Darla Conaway
Demetre & Debra Evangelidis
Gary & Brenda Frieling
Eugene Kirchhoff &
Brad & Karen Cole
Linton C. Lull
Murray D. & Connie J. Lull
Neola S. Matson
Randy & Shirley Merritt
Maxine Meyer
Joan Nech
John & Joan Overmiller
Curtis & Martha Peterson
Duane & Hazel Petty
Burke & Kim Phelps
Ernest A. & Barbara J. Schlatter
Jim & Marianne Schlatter
R.G. & Eda Jean Sheppard
John & Laura Zabel

IMMEDIATE COVID RESPONSE GRANTS

Thanks to funding from the Dane G. Hansen Foundation, we were able to respond quickly to the needs of Smith County when the pandemic hit. Immediate emergency grants were made to the following local nonprofits to assist with Coronavirus disruptions:

- All Smith County food pantries to keep food on their shelves
- Hardly Used Shop and Center Theatre to help with utility expenses during their shutdowns
- Smith County Memorial Hospital and SunPorch to purchase improved PPE for employees
- Smith County Health Department to purchase baby formula for WIC clients when it wasn't available in the grocery stores





2019-2020 *Grant Recipients*

The following organizations received either donor-directed or competitive grants from funds at the community foundation:

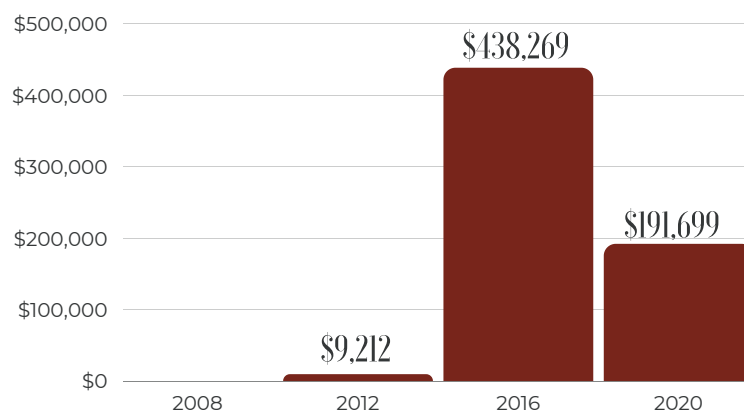
- Center Theatre, Inc.
- City of Kensington
- City of Lebanon
- City of Smith Center
- Developmental Services of NW Kansas, Inc.
- Dispatch Christian Reformed Church
- Gardner Wellness & Therapy Center
- Gaylord Cemetery Dist.
- Hospice Services of Northwest Kansas, Inc.
- Kansas Senior Living, Inc.
- Kensington Commercial-Community Club
- Kensington Lions Club
- Kensington Senior Community Center, Inc.
- Lebanon Fire Department
- Lebanon Methodist Church
- New Covenant Church
- Smith Center Chamber of Commerce
- Smith County
- Smith County Child Development Center
- Smith County Fair Board
- Smith County Health Department
- Smith County Memorial Hospital
- Smith County Ministerial Association
- Special Olympics - Kansas
- SunPorch of Smith Center, Inc.
- Thornburg Church
- United Methodist Church of Smith Center
- USD 110 - Kensington
- USD 237 - Smith Center
- Western Kansas Child Advocacy Center



IMPACT NUMBERS

In 2020, \$191,699 total grants were awarded to 51 organizations throughout the fiscal year. Since inception, \$1,994,511 has been awarded on the behalf of generous donors, making our community a better place to live!

GRANTS AWARDED PER FISCAL YEAR



2019-2020 DONORS

Large or small, every gift contributes to the community foundation's ability to serve the community. We have made every effort to include all gifts from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020. If you believe there is an error or need to make a correction, please contact us.

Knut & Charlotte Aagaard
Julia Abbott
Anonymous
Justin Atwood
Wayne Beckman, Trust
Loretta Beckmann
Art & Linda Befort
Joe & Betty Befort
Marjorie Caspers
Thomas Chandler
Brad & Karen Cole
Dave & Regi Conaway
Shawn & Amber Conaway
Carolyn Ruth Curtis
Dane G. Hansen Foundation
Max Dannenberg
Demetre & Debra Evangelidis
Frieling Grain Co., Inc.

Gilbert & Karen Frieling
Douglas & Sharlene Gardner
Larry & Teddi Gardner
Wendell & Pauline Gardner
Neal & Karen Herndon
Don & Nadine Holmes
Brandon & Aftin Hommon
Keith & Paterna Hooper
Betty Kirchhoff
Lovelie & Elzene Kirchhoff
Scott & Kala Kloster
Lebanon Alumni Association
Norris & Vera Maydew
Midway Coop, Inc.
Lyle & Linda Morgan
James & Donna Muck
Joan Nech

Bill & Jean Overmiller
Skip & Marie Overmiller
Mark and Marci Overmiller
Burke & Kim Phelps
Marianne G. Schlatter Trust
SCSB Charitable Trust
Smith Center Bancshares, Inc.
Smith County Memorial Hospital
State Line Properties
John & Amy Terrill
The Peoples Bank
The Srader Foundation
Thunder Ridge High School
Bradley & Barbara Timmons
Cary & Phyllis Tucker
Joe & Leah Wiehl
John & Laura Zabel

GIVE. GROW. GRANT.

By creating a permanent fund at the community foundation, you can accomplish your charitable goals, now and forever. As your partner in giving, we will always take special care to honor your wishes and protect your gift's value.

Your gift to the community foundation will grow over time, just like a tree! Whether you plant a seed by starting a new fund or help a fund grow by giving to an existing fund, every gift to the community foundation helps provide "fruit" for the community through grants and scholarships.



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.



Home Is...

WHERE PEOPLE SHARE
THEIR GIFTS



"This program is a success and everyone can find something they love! Kids are doing better in school because recess is no longer taken. Behavior referrals lessened because they are losing something they truly care about and are invested in. Students are finding potential and confidence through creative projects!"

KATIE GRABAST

MAKERSPACE

Smith Center Elementary (SCE) has recently started to take time out of each school day for the student body to participate in "makerspace" or also referred to as "STARS time." Makerspace is a time that provides hands-on creative ways for students to design, experiment and invent while engaging in science, engineering and tinkering. Though makerspace had already been introduced, teachers at SCE were supplying the materials for this program from their classrooms, brought from home or purchased out of pocket.

The Smith County Community Foundation awarded USD 237 funding to purchase a variety of items for the kindergarten through sixth grade classes, including Lego sets and K.NEX building sets, Circuits Electronic Kits, a mini sewing machine, stick connector kits, puzzles, magnet kits, brain games and more. Grantee Bree Wilson shared a quote from Gary Stager, co-author of *Invent to Learn*, who said, "The best way to activate your classroom is for your students to make something."

Staff at Smith Center Elementary have noticed a change in behaviors as well as school work completed. "Being awarded funding for our STARS time has made all the difference in the success or failure of the program. If our students are behind on classroom work or misbehave, they no longer lose valuable recess time. Now the students lose their creative time, which they actually fight harder for. Behaviors are down in the fifth grade classrooms! Absent work is caught up all the time because kids do not want to miss their creative STARS time," said Katie Grabast, fifth grade teacher at SCE. "This program is a success and everyone can find something they love! Kids are doing better in school because recess is no longer taken. Behavior referrals lessened because they are losing something they truly care about and are invested in. Students are finding potential and confidence through creative projects!"

FLAGS FOR DOWNTOWN

The Smith Center Chamber of Commerce hangs flags downtown for holidays and events every year. The current flags were showing varying degrees of wear that needed to be addressed.

Each year the chamber replaces a few, but with a limited budget there are more flags that need replaced than what the chamber could address. The Smith County Community Foundation awarded the funds to purchase new flags and upgrade to spinning flag poles.

"Without the grant we would not have been able to replace the 46 poles, 20 American Flags and the 10 Welcome flags for our community and guests to enjoy over many more years. These flags remind us of our freedom, patriotism for our city, state and nation," said grantee Diane Peterson. "As a community, we like to take pride in our appearance and with the new flags and poles we have accomplished this."

"The first day we had rehearsal with the new tuba, the sound was AMAZING! The students noticed a difference and everyone was excited."

ANNIE ADAMS

THUNDER RIDGE RECEIVES INSTRUMENTS

Most of the instruments Thunder Ridge owned for the music program were old, broken and in need of constant repair. Thanks to a community foundation grant, the school district was able to purchase new instruments for the program.

"Jacob (pictured right) was so excited when he saw the new tuba. In fact, he is usually more excited about singing in choir, but that day he just wanted to play in the band," said grantee Annie Adams. "The first day we had rehearsal with the new tuba, the sound was AMAZING! The students noticed a difference and everyone was excited."





DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION FOR USD 110

In an emerging global society, the development of collaborative skills and the ability to work effectively in teams outweighs the traditional demands that students "sit still, listen and work only on their own." Every student learns differently, and some are more visual learners.

Technology offers other options for differentiated instruction as well as different locations for learning. With support from a Smith County Community Foundation grant, USD 110 was able to purchase a new projector for the school.

With the new system, teachers were able to have lessons in the cafeteria, and students were able to see and hear much better compared to the old system. "Lessons were few and far between as setup was not practical and when the system was setup it was difficult to see and hard to hear. This new system has positively impacted our staff, students, and community," said grantee Chris Kirchhoff. Outside organizations are also able to use the system to share programs with the school and community.



ADDITIONAL LIFT FOR SUNPORCH

When SunPorch opened their doors in October of 2019, it was estimated that one full personal lift would be adequate to use between the two Green House Homes. However, since then the number of elders in need of a full lift has increased. Thanks to a grant from the Smith County Community Foundation, SunPorch of Smith County was able to purchase an additional lift.

With the new lift, staff are able to care for elders in a more timely manner, "Staff are more efficient in their cares having a personal lift in each home. Before we received the funds, we were sharing one lift between the new houses," said grantee Julie Troy.

"Staff are more efficient in their cares having a personal lift in each home. Before we received the funds, we were sharing one lift between the new houses,"

JULIE TROY

FOUNDATION FUNDS

Endowed funds produce charitable income every year and help donors create a legacy of giving.

DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

Enable donors to recommend grants to the charitable organizations or programs of their choice.

Barbara Schlatter Memorial Fund
Guaranty State Bank & Trust Co. for Smith County Fund
John & Joan Overmiller Family Fund
Kensington Lions Club Fund
The Gardner Wellness Center Charitable Fund
The Srader Fund

DESIGNATED FUNDS

Provide annual support for specific charities selected by the donor.

Dispatch Christian Reformed Church Fund
Josias & Elsie Lambert Fund
Kansas Health Foundation Operating Fund for Smith County
Kensington Lions Club Fund for the Kensington Senior Community Center
Lebanon Community Center Fund
Lebanon Fire Department Fund
Smith County Fair Fund
North Oak Creek Cemetery Designated Fund

ADMINISTRATIVE FUNDS

Supports foundation operations.

Smith County Administrative Fund

FIELD OF INTEREST FUNDS

Enable donors to support a designated cause or geographic area. (e.g. the arts, a specific community, etc.)

Dane G. Hansen Community Grant Fund - Smith Health Needs of Smith County Fund
Kansas Health Foundation Fund for Smith County

ORGANIZATION FUNDS

Provide annual income for nonprofit organizations in support of their charitable work.

Center Theatre Inc. Fund
Dispatch Christian Reformed Church Foundation Fund
HOME Charitable Foundation Fund
Smith County Memorial Hospital Fund

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

Supports foundations community grantmaking.

Smith County Action Fund

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PLAN TODAY TO GIVE TOMORROW

CREATE YOUR LEGACY THROUGH YOUR WILL!

Including the community foundation in your will or trust is a simple, significant way to support one or many causes close to your heart, forever.

When you make a planned gift to the community foundation, you plant an investment that will continue to **grow over time** and benefit your community, far beyond your lifetime!

IT'S EASY AND ANYONE CAN DO IT.

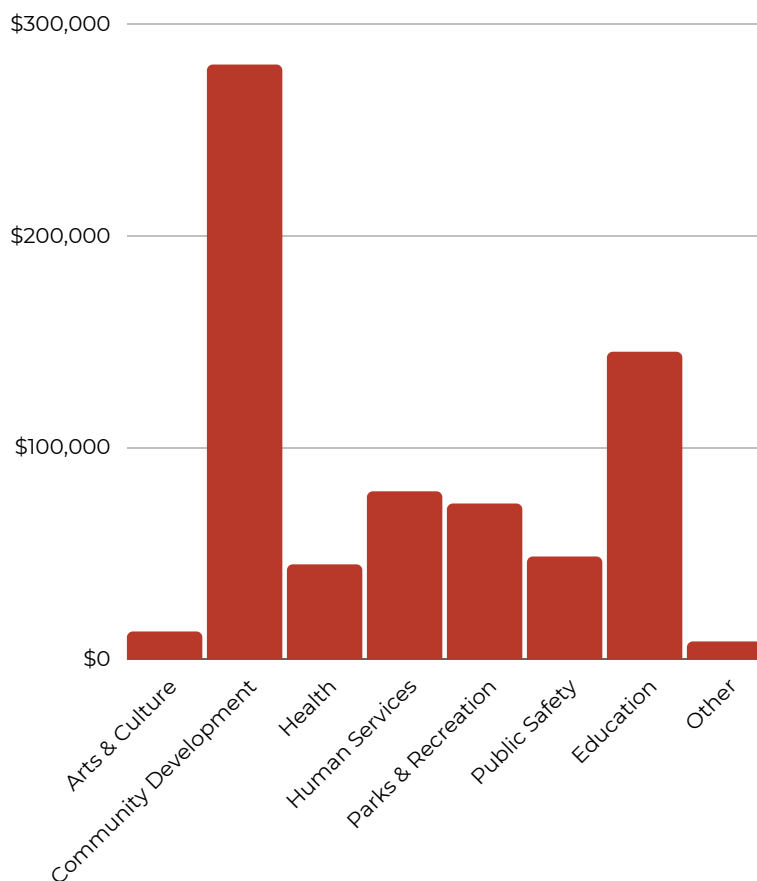
Giving through your will is easy and you don't have to be wealthy to do it. Whether your nest egg is large or small, your gift will ensure the good work of charitable organizations continues in your name.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT LEAVING A GIFT IN YOUR WILL OR TRUST, contact your professional advisor or call us at 785-476-7538!

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

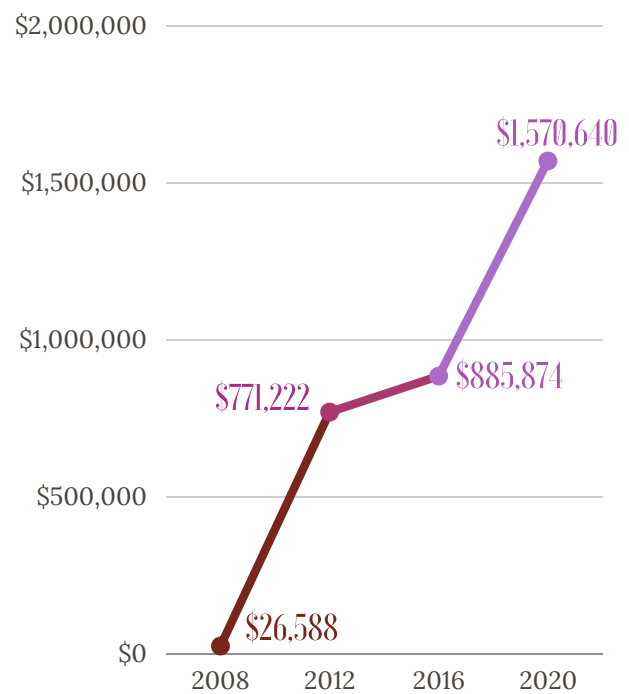
None of this would be possible without people like you! Your support makes a meaningful difference in Smith County, both now and in the future.

COMPETITIVE GRANTMAKING SINCE INCEPTION



ASSET GROWTH SINCE 2008

As of June 30, 2020, the foundation's total asset size reached \$1,570,640 with 25 funds.



\$311,831

was donated from 55 generous donors in the 2020 fiscal year.



P.O. Box 116 • Smith Center, KS 66967
785-476-7538 • smithcounty@gscf.org
www.smithcountycommunityfoundation.org
Find us on Facebook!