



“connecting people who care with causes that matter”

Go Green!

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And so it began, 25 years ago!

The history of the Kearney Area Community Foundation began in 1995 in a duck blind. Glimpses of birds were fleeting, but not so the conversation when Dan Lindstrom, Jeff Anderson and Roger Jasnoch – friends and community leaders – gathered on the river.



The Foundation's original logo

As the story is told, good-natured banter soon turned to serious discussion about how to sustain the Leadership Kearney initiative then just under way in our community. One idea lead to another and soon the men had hatched the notion that a community foundation was needed to support Leadership Kearney and other worthy projects.

Getting encouragement from the boards of both the Leadership Kearney and the Kearney Area Chamber of Commerce, the trio's idea took flight when it was presented at the Kearney Tomorrow public forum. A task force adopted the project and, before long, what started as a duck-blind brainstorm became reality.

25 years later, the Kearney Area Community Foundation (KACF) has become an essential asset for our area. Today it partners with numerous organizations and individuals to support more than 160 funds providing scholarships, enhancing parks, encouraging community leadership, promoting education and helping those in need, making a huge and lasting impact in our community.

Watch for more articles in 2020 reviewing 25 years of making an impact in our community.

2019 - 2020

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Give Where You Live Recap

2019 Sets New Record

One day each year our community comes together, and in 2019, we “Did Something Great!” During the Kearney area’s community giving day on December 5, there were 5,603 individual donations to 165 local nonprofits for a grand total of \$1,203,453.

Staff at the Kearney Area Community Foundation (KACF) assisted donors with all types of gifts such as gifts of grain, gifts of stock, and IRA (individual retirement account) distributions that required extra coordination to ensure funds arrived on time. The surge of IRA gifts this year is just one of the many reasons the 2019 Give Where You Live campaign was so successful.

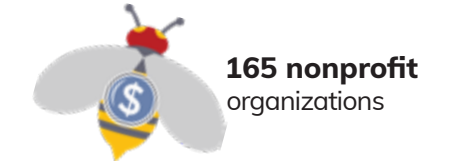
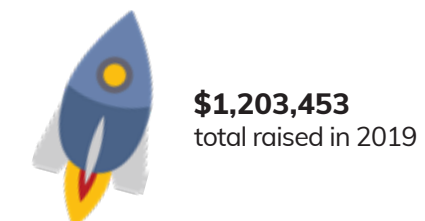
We, here at the Foundation, want to thank you. Thank you to our 20+ volunteers who assisted throughout the day. Thank you to First National Bank that provided tellers to help count cash donations, make deposits, and verify hundreds of checks and donation forms. And a special thank you to the Edison Society members for helping to make this event happen.

Judi Sicker, President and CEO of KACF, said, “On behalf of the Give Where You Live participating nonprofits – THANK YOU for your support and showing Kearney area nonprofits some love. Thank you for promoting this amazing event! Thank you for providing us with food and fellowship! Thank you for coming together to rally around our community after one tough year!”

“When we work together towards a common goal, we can do awesome things - like 1.2 million of them!” Give Where You Live has raised more than \$5 million for the area’s nonprofits since it began in 2013.

Just a reminder. The Kearney Area Community Foundation does not profit from Give Where You Live, rather the Foundation invests thousands of dollars and hundreds of hours of staff time to provide the platform and carry out the event. This is our gift to the community.

**2019 Give Where You Live's
Community Impact**



Create a Brighter Tomorrow

Many donors supported the Kearney Area Community Foundation, and it truly had a ripple effect by touching many other non-profits in our community, thus helping your neighbors and friends. Thanks to your contributions, we were able to incubate ideas and nurture local dreamers who want to make a difference in our community.

THANK YOU 2019 STAKEHOLDERS* for investing in a brighter tomorrow!

Activist

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Jonathan and Mimi Brandt
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Five Points Bank
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Telephone Company
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Ron Russell Memorial

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Rod and Jane Behrhorst
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EBS Consulting Group, Inc
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Kearney Eye Institute, PC
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West Villa Animal Hospital
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Alan and Betty Young

Making an Impact

Are you interested in becoming a 2020 Stakeholder with us? We will use the support that we raise through the annual Stakeholder campaign to improve the quality of life for others. We invest your hard earned dollars that you share with us wisely. We are frugal. We are resourceful. And we treat every donated dollar with respect.

Your financial support helps us remain innovative! Because we are a small nonprofit, we depend on outside support to not only keep our lights on, but to help us bring in technology and other resources to make us more efficient and effective in our community.

For more information, please call us during regular business hours at (308) 237-3114.

YOU ARE...

- Creating scholarships for our youth
- Encouraging youth leadership
- Supporting arts and culture
- Improving community health
- Building and enhancing parks in our community
- Providing other charitable needs and culture



Grant Applications Due February 1, 2020

Please make sure to have your applications and copies dropped off to our office at 412 W 48th Street, Suite #12, before 5 p.m. on January 31, due to our office being closed on February 1 for the weekend. If you plan on mailing your application, it must be postmarked on or before February 1, 2020. This is a firm deadline — please do not call for an extension. Thank you for your cooperation! Please visit www.kearneyfoundation.org/grants for more information.

Scholarship Software

No more hunting through an abundance of sites or clunky user interfaces for Kearney area scholarships – we are becoming a student's one-stop shop. So what is the secret?

This spring, the vast majority of Kearney Area Community Foundation scholarship applications will be paperless, thanks to an investment in new software called Kaleidoscope.

Kaleidoscope's cloud-based scholarship management platform ensures that no student wastes time entering duplicate information. Any data previously entered – personal information and repeat essay questions, for example – will automatically fill into each and every application so that students can spend more time focused on their goals, not keying in repeated information.

With a paper based or online PDF (portable document format) system, it can be tricky to ensure applicants are submitting all required materials. However, with a cloud-based profile, a student cannot submit a scholarship application until all required fields have been completed.

As a result, there are no more incomplete applications or searches for missing information; everything is already there waiting for scholarship selection committees to review. Kaleidoscope helps scholarship donors reach students who need assistance to attend college. The platform helps students find and apply for scholarships offered by companies, donors and other organizations.



Local Scholarships Coming Soon

The Kearney Area Community Foundation's newest advancement in technology switches from paper-based scholarships to our new cloud-based system via Kaleidoscope.

Please visit www.kearneyfoundation.org/scholarships on February 3 to view local scholarships.

* We sincerely apologize if your name doesn't appear on this list and should. We have many donors that ask to remain anonymous, but if you would like your name listed, please contact our office so we can indicate your wishes in our records.