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### Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Report

Caring Community Foundation, Inc., of Northeast Kansas

### Message from the Caring Community Foundation Board Chair:

A lot has changed in the last several years and we know that change will continue to happen. So many challenges are affecting us all - from the war in Ukraine to supply chain bottlenecks to Covid to gas prices, inflation and more.

In the face of economic challenges, along with The Trust Company of Manhattan, we are committed to the long-held successful strategy of building diversified investments that are designed to match the needs of our communities' and nonprofit goals.

We have found it best to stay true to our values, stay flexible enough to adapt positively to change, to care for our friends and neighbors, and to remain grateful for all that we have. We believe this holds true for individuals, families, communities, and our community foundation.

Our success in supporting local nonprofits through tailored events distinguishes us from similar organizations. Our grant and scholarship cycles are growing. We are gaining new funds. We added a new annual event in 2021, the Care Catalog, that brings both support and fun to our communities. We are nearly half way to our Expedition Campaign goal of \$1 million for sustainability.

We exist to help make our donors' desires to enhance local communities, a reality. We are always working towards a positive future for our local communities. We remain grateful for your participation and trust.

Here's to moving forward together!

Rezac, CF Board Chair

We are dedicated >>>>

to establishing a sustainable

future >>>> for our communties

by building relationships,

>>>> establishing ethical
standards, and committing to our
community values >>>>





















### **Board Members**

Row 1:
Jay Rezac, Chair (Onaga)
Jim Moore, Treasurer (Westmoreland)
Carol Pollock (Havensville)

Row 2:
Rebecca Rookstool (Wamego)
Eugene Berges, Vice Chair (Onaga)
Robert Ladner, Secretary (Onaga)

Row 3: Nick Novelly (St. Marys) Kevin Logan (St. George) John Simecka (St. Marys)





**Staff:**Susie Kufahl, Executive Director
Julie Wren, Assistant

# **CCF Funds & Descriptions: Funding Positive Change**

	<b>6/0/0//</b>
Community Fund:	\$426,944
Offers flexibility to address the needs of our communities and operations	
Donor Advised Funds:	\$325,879
Support broad charitable purposes specified by donor	
<ul> <li>Wayne Stallard Family Fund and the Bruce Wayne Stallard Scholarship</li> <li>Onaga Football Alumni</li> </ul>	
Scholarship Funds:	\$638,505
Auxiliary for Community Hospital District #1 Scholarship	
CHCS Healthcare Scholarship	
Krouse Family Agricultural Scholarship	
Jennifer K. Moore Nursing Scholarship	
Onaga Alumni Scholarship	
Ron R. Lee and Richard J. Rosenfield Athlete Scholar Award	

Westmoreland (Brill) ScholarshipSt. Marys High Alumni Scholarship

· Walter Byers Scholarship

- Wilkerson Family Teachers' Education Scholarship
- May and Sue Bayer Scholarship for St. Marys High
- Beth Gerads Scholarship for St. Mary's College
- Wayne Dunafon Memorial Scholarship



Designated Funds: \$384,155
Benefit one or more named charities or non-profits
<ul> <li>Carol &amp; Robert Williamson/CHCS Endowment</li> <li>Friends of USD 322</li> <li>Onaga FFA Alumni Endowment</li> <li>Rock Creek FFA Alumni Endowment</li> <li>Onaga Area Fire Fighters Fund</li> <li>Rock Creek Endowment</li> <li>Wellsprings of Westmoreland</li> <li>St. Mary's Academy Teachers' Fund</li> <li>St. Marys World War 1 Memorial Arch Fund</li> <li>Ruby Zabel Memorial Fund for the Westmoreland Clinic</li> </ul>
Acorn Funds: \$5641  New funds intended to grow to \$10,000 investment within five years
<ul><li>Onaga Golf Fund</li><li>Dolly Parton Imagination Library for Westmoreland (66549)</li></ul>
Agency Funds: \$507,051  Professional investment of expendable funds to support area non-profit organizations
<ul> <li>Community HealthCare System Fund</li> <li>First Congregational Church of Onaga Fund</li> <li>Onaga Historical Society Fund</li> <li>Rock Creek Valley Historical Society Fund</li> </ul>
Total Net Assets & Agency Funds as of 12/31/21

# Supporting nonprofit work in our communities through projects close to our hearts

As the CCF Board was discussing the need to increase the size of their unrestricted community fund, they recognized that all local non-profits could use funding assistance. The Board decided to host an event to help fund not only the CCF Community Fund, but local non-profit organizations as well. This magnanimous intention initiated our first annual Care Catalog crowdfunding campaign. This fun event raised \$32,000 during the 2021 holiday season to support local nonprofit work.

We couldn't have been successful without the financial assistance of our sponsors.

Thank you to these, and our anonymous sponsors!











John & Laulette Simecka



#### **Basic Human Needs**

- After-School Program for Families in Need (St. George Elementary)
- Caring Closet for Students (Onaga USD 322)
- Nutrition for After School Tutoring (Rock Creek High School)

### **Community**

- Avenue of Flags (St. Marys)
- Refreshing the Barn (St. Marys Historical Society)
- Highway Monument Sign (Onaga)
- World War I Memorial Arch (St. Marys)
- Jayhawkers 4H (St. Marys)
- Founders Hall Climate Control (Onaga)
- Stone Church Restoration (Rock Creek Valley Historical Society)
- Community Fund (Caring Community Foundation)
- Independence Day Celebration (Wheaton)

### **Education and Sports**

- Non-fiction Literacy Expansion (USD 322 Onaga Elementary)
- Jr. High Football Equipment (USD 322 Onaga)
- Middle School Clubs (Rock Creek)

- Metals Class (Rock Creek)
- Trap Team (Rock Creek)
- Dolly Parton Imagination Library Endowment (Westmoreland)
- Classroom and Playground Funding (USD 321 St. Marys Grade School)
- Teachers' Fund (St. Mary's Academy)
- WOLF Project Seating (Westmoreland Elementary School)

#### Healthcare

- Tympanometer to Help Identify Children's Ear Infections (CHCS Westmoreland Clinic)
- Hospital Grade Breast Pump (CHCS Birth Center)
- AED Heart Attack Response (CHCS Onaga)
- VScan Handheld Ultrasound (CHCS)

#### **Senior Citizens**

- Freezer for the Senior Center (St. Marys)
- Wellsprings Felicity Courtyard (Westmoreland Community Care Home)
- Freezer & Hood System Motor for Senior Center (Onaga)

# Growing & Sharing Generosity

"The CCF shines in our efforts to raise money, as well as in our primary purpose to invest funds for local charitable causes and nonprofits," - Nick Novelly, CCF Board Member

In 2021 the CCF raised \$140,600 for community efforts including \$65,500 from fundraisers benefiting local non-profits. The CCF distributed \$113,600 including \$27,800 in scholarships and \$85,800 in grants and more to community organizations.



- Wilkerson Teacher Education Scholarship committee members Nola Wilkerson and Scott Harshbarger make the Scholarship's first award to Sarah Abitz.
- 2. Rock Creek Jr. High Clubs grant
- 3. Grant to rebuild Onaga softball/baseball dugout











- 4. Wayne Stallard Family Fund donates \$10,000 to the Onaga Historical Society building project
- 5. Rock Creek Jr. High music class with CCF granted ukuleles
- 6. Rock Creek Endowment Dualing Pianos fundraiser



## Promoting Early Childhood Literacy with the Dolly Parton Imagination Library of Westmoreland, Kansas

Emily and Jeremy Lehning wanted to do something special for their anniversary. They could have taken a trip or planted a tree, but they decided that the best way to celebrate was to share the love and support they knew with their community. Emily and Jeremy reached out to the

Caring Community Foundation and made the commitment to initiate a Dolly Parton Imagination Library program for Westmoreland.

They knew that improving early childhood literacy creates opportunities for children



to thrive and succeed in school and help their communities grow and prosper. The Dolly Parton Imagination Library (DPIL) is a partnership between the Dollywood Foundation, the Caring Community Foundation, local donors (and coming in 2022 - the Kansas Children's Cabinet). The Westmoreland DPIL provides books free of charge to all children ages birth to five in the Westmoreland zip code 66549, regardless of income or background.

Books are mailed monthly so expenses are ongoing and donations are continually needed. The CCF is helping to build an endowment to provide sustainable funding to support early childhood literacy now and into the future. Approximately \$6,000 more is needed to establish an endowment for Westmoreland. The program currently celebrates 52 children in active status and 18 graduates. If you know a child living in the Westmoreland area who is not yet five and is not enrolled, tell their parents or caregiver about us. If you would like to help us meet the sustainability goal, or establish a fund to help support the DPIL in another community, the CCF is ready to assist you!



# We are honored to work with, and for, our local communities.

We're grateful for your trust and generosity. We've been doing this for over five years now, and together with our donors, have raised \$1,633,000 to be used or invested for community efforts. We have 34 funds, \$2 million invested, and we're continuing to grow!

Last June, we invited folks to join us for a free BBQ to celebrate our communities. Everyone enjoyed the beautiful evening with dinner and some cowboy poetry by Ron Wilson.

- Jim Moore, CCF Board Treasurer and President. Farmers State Bank
- Jay Rezac, Chair of the CCF Board, and Kevin Logan, CCF Board member, grilled burgers for all our guests.
- 2. BBQ invitation to celebrate community
- 3. Ron Wilson, Cowboy Poet and some good sports
- 4. CCF Staff and Board L R, front to back: Rebecca Rookstool, Jim Moore, Carol Pollock, Susie Kufahl, Jay Rezac, John Simecka, Eugene Berges, Robert Ladner, Kevin Logan. Nick Novelly was absent.
- 5. BBQ guests Alyssa Cahoj, Dale Krouse, and more.











# Journey with a Cause: the Expedition Campaign

Most donors have a specific personal cause in mind and we are honored to assist them. With the CCF Expedition Campaign, we are seeking to strengthen the core of our Foundation, our unrestricted funds, so that we can always be an available and helpful resource for our communities.

In the years that we have been actively initiating this community foundation, we have seen a lot of positive participation that reassures us that our efforts are worthwhile. We take our commitment to community strength and improvement seriously, and to that end, have launched this campaign. We know it's bold; but so is our commitment to our communities' future. A bright future won't just land at our feet, but we have the determination and grit to build it. We are seeking those who share our commitment, and have the means to join us in this vital campaign to help solidify a strong future of ongoing community support.

Help us complete our journey to a more



secure future by committing to an annual gift to the Caring Community Foundation! Considering gifts, investments, and pledges as of December 2021, we have nearly \$500,000 for our unrestricted community fund. To firmly secure a self-sufficient future, we believe \$1 million is needed.

We'll continue our journey building this Foundation to care for our communities; we hope you'll participate in strengthening the core of our Foundation, our unrestricted funds, so that we can always be an available and helpful resource for our communities. We sincerely appreciate all support and are honored to have your trust in our stewardship of community funds.



# We are extremely grateful to those who have committed to the Expedition five year campaign so far:

### **Globe Trotter**

\$10,000/yr

Community HealthCare System



### **Adventurer**

\$5,000/yr

KanEquip Farmers State Bank



### **Back Packer**

\$1,000/yr

Charlson & Wilson Bonded Abstracters Todd & Charlene Sheppard Nathan Dressman James & Jennifer Moore Jay & Stacy Rezac John & Paulette Simecka Eugene & Deborah Berges Susie & Jay Kufahl



### 100 People Who Care

These people are our original heroes. They were some of the early builders of the CCF and we will always be grateful to them! Each donated \$4,000 to our community fund, which pays for operating expenses and helps pay community grants. Thank you on behalf of your community!

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Linda Tessendorf

Pam & Bruce Bachman

Deborah Stallard

Eugene & Deborah Berges

Rosalind & Rick Lewis

**Berges Sisters** 

Kevin & Tara Logan

Bob's Service,

Bob & Jean Venneberg

Lanny & Nancy Bosse

Pat & Marilyn McCourt

Justin & Virginia F. Boswell

James & Jennifer K. Moore

Rheva Boswell

Alan & Tammy Lierz

Paul & Pam Budenbender

Nicholas J. & Denise A. Novelly

John & Annette Cline

Onaga Lions Club

Farmers State Bank, Onaga,

Westmoreland & Manhattan

Nina Oakes

Onaga Pharmacy,

Johnny & Crystal

Schlodder

Jerome Fox

John & Regina Gronewoller

Dan & Carol Pollock

Joe & Karen Harder

Barbara Rezac

Lester & Jo Harris

Debra & Lance Rezac

Milton Henneberg

Jay & Stacy Rezac

Carol & Adrian Hudler

Terry & Dena Schmitz

Jay & Maggi Kennedy

John & Paulette Simecka

Joe & Marybeth Kennedy

Nola Wilkerson

Tim & Cindy Kite

Steve & Anne Suther

Gerry & Roberta Kufahl

Dr. Marcus & Meghan Weiser

Jay & Susie Kufahl

Todd & Nancy Willert

Fred & Dena Marten

Tracy & Sue Ahlquist

The John Annan Family

James & Barbara Meinhardt



### **Statements of Net Assets**

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Assets					
Cash on hand	5,000	197			
Checking	78,399	18,501	15,841	13,015	29,937
Investments	607,301	892,511	1,277,755	1,720,682	2,138,876
	690,700	911,209	1,293,596	1,733,696	2,168,813
Pledges Receivable	67,000	70,417	99,679	168,952	131,465
Total Assets	757,700	981,626	1,393,275	1,902,649	2,300,278
Liabilities and Net Assets					
Accounts Payable	1,348	1,488	3,559	7,967	12,103
Agency Funds	107,768	118,446	140,383	266,501	507,051
Total Liabilities	109,116	119,934	143,942	274,468	519,154
Prior year net assets	403,440	648,584	861,692	1,249,333	1,628,181
Current year change	245,180	213,108	387,641	378,848	152,943
Net Assets	648,584	861,692	1,249,333	1,628,181	1,781,124
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	757,700	981,626	1,393,275	1,902,649	2,300,278





### Life's Work Turned into Life's Legacy

You can probably identify someone who has worked hard all their life. A special few of these people have the means and the mindset to create lasting impact for the future of their community.

Dale and Donald Krouse are two brothers who have done just that. Dale and Don farmed near Westmoreland, Kansas for over 70 years. In addition to working hard and working smart, the brothers shared a commitment to the future of agriculture and Rock Creek schools. They recognized local philanthropy as the perfect tool to continue their commitment in a lasting way. Before Don passed in 2020, the brothers initiated their philanthropic efforts by establishing the Krouse Family Agriculture Scholarship for Rock Creek with the Caring Community Foundation. In 2021, Dale continued efforts to support Rock Creek by building and adding to endowments supporting vocational agriculture projects, scholarship, and other school district needs.

Kevin Logan, Superintendent of Rock Creek, USD 323, explained that "the planned gift

Dale Krouse is providing for the USD 323 Endowments, and the future establishment of the Rock Creek Vocational Agriculture Endowment, will allow our students to have learning experiences far beyond what general school funding allows. These financial gifts, and the proceeds they generate, will benefit our students and community year after year." Ever humble and practical, speaking of his donations to Rock Creek and the Caring Community Foundation, Dale said with a grin, "they will have use for it; I won't be needing it."

"How do you thank someone who has made a lifelong commitment to hard work and puts nearly half a million dollars to work for their community forever?" asked Susie Kufahl, Caring Community Foundation Director, "The 'Thank You's' will literally echo through generations, as their endowed gifts continue to give to their community. What foresight! What generosity! And what luck, that a few such good men, the Krouse brothers, have called Rock Creek and Westmoreland, Kansas, 'home."

### **Planned Giving**

### Be the change

Our decisions today can help secure a positive future for those who will come after us. Planned giving may cost you nothing today but creates a charitable legacy that will assist your community forever. A strong community provides hope for the future.

#### **How it works:**

- Name the Caring Community Foundation in your will or trust, or as a beneficiary of your retirement account, life insurance policy or donor-advised fund.
- Gift appreciated assets such as common stock, mutual funds or real estate
- Provide a gift annuity or trust that pays income – either to you for life and then to the CCF or to the Foundation for a set term and then reverts to your estate
- Professional independent investment is provided through The Trust Company, Manhattan, Kansas

### The benefits of giving

Designate your gift for a particular purpose that is important to you, or allow us to use the gift where the need is greatest at the time it matures

- Your assets can remain in your control during your lifetime
- You can choose a gift that you can modify to address changing circumstances
- You can direct your gift to a particular cause (check with us to make sure your gift can be used as intended)
- An endowed legacy gift will continue to support your cause forever
- · Your gifts can provide tax benefits

#### We invite you to contact us:

Susie Kufahl, Executive Director Caring Community Foundation

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Annual Report

Caring Community Foundation, Inc. of Northeast Kansas