



**BUILDING THE FUTURE ONE
STEP AT A TIME!**



**STEP GRANTS ANOTHER \$36,650
FOR A TOTAL OF
MORE THAN \$147,000 IN 2018!**



- Apostolic Christian Home
- City of Corning
- City of Corning - Soccer goals
- Community Healthcare System
- Meals on Wheels - Nemaha County
- City of Wetmore
- Nemaha County Museum Consortium

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Awarding another \$36,650 in the Fall Grant Cycle!!

The STEP Foundation Board of Directors has announced recipients for the second round of 2018 grants. These grants are awarded for charitable purposes to enhance and improve the quality of life for the residents of Nemaha

County. With over \$107,350 being requested this round, an amazing \$36,650 is being granted. The breakdown for funding is \$8,800 coming from the general undesignated fund, \$25,000 from the Glen J. Meyer Advisory Fund, \$2,000 from the Nemaha County Dementia Fund and \$850.00 from the Nate and Bernardine Rettele Fund. This means the total granted for 2018 is over \$147,000 to local organizations to make Nemaha County a great place to live and work!

An award of \$2,000 from the Nemaha County Dementia Fund will be used to purchase therapeutic dolls and pets for residents with dementia at the Apostolic Christian Nursing Home in Sabetha. Christy Meeks, grant administrator, said in the application that “these monies will be able to provide approximately 12 therapy dolls and 10 therapy pets to enhance our residents’ lives.” Meek went on in the application and shared, “When our residents, who depend upon many caregivers, have the opportunity to care for and nurture a therapy doll or pet, it is a heartwarming experience for the resident and also for the families and staff to see the sense of calm, joy, peace and contentment that the resident experiences during this activity and during this time in the resident’s life.”

The City of Corning will receive two grant awards. The first grant is for \$7,500 from the Glen J. Meyer Fund to move assist with Phase 2 of the walking trail in the park. According to City Clerk Diane Haverkamp, a successful project occurs “when we are able to enjoy watching people using the trail just as we have our new playground equipment.” The second grant will be awarded to the City of Corning in the amount of \$2,500 from the General Fund. This grant will be used to replace two 20-year-old soccer goals. The two new soccer goals and nets provide hours of physical activity for the youth in the Corning and Centralia areas and were used when hosting a league tournament in October.

Designated for the purchase of Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs), Community Healthcare System will receive \$2,500 from the Glen J. Meyer Fund. The AEDs will assist in providing life-saving assistance to patients and members. According to Andrea Lutz, rehab manager and physical therapist, “AED’s are far more beneficial on the survival rate of cardiac arrest patients than CPR.” Lutz went on to state, “Everyone, including children can suffer from cardiac arrest regardless of overall health.”

Meals on Wheels Nemaha County will receive the largest grant this cycle in the amount of \$15,000. “Meals on Wheels provides seniors the ability to live independently. Each weekday, a hot meal is brought to their home, and volunteers perform a daily safety check on clients while providing nutritionally balanced low sodium, diabetic meals,” stated Executive Director Diane Yunghans. Through funds provided by the Glen J. Meyer Fund, new kitchen cabinets and equipment for Meals on Wheels’ new Senior Services and Public Transit building will be purchased.

The City of Wetmore will receive \$6,300 to purchase new playground equipment, thanks to the STEP Foundation General Fund. “The playground equipment will not only provide a safe and accessible play area for kids in the community, but it will also help attract young families to Wetmore and Goff communities. This play area is adjacent to the city pool, and it will draw more children to the pool and community” stated Michelle Cochran, city council member.

The newly formed Nemaha County Museum Consortium will receive \$850.00 for creating and printing a brochure showing historical locations in Nemaha County, including, but not exclusive to all the museums located in the county thanks to the Nate and Bernardine Rettele Fund. According to the grant application submitted by Anita Heiman, “The

brochure has been designed by Kylee Luckeroth, Executive Director of the Seneca Area Chamber of Commerce/SDI and will be printed locally.” To measure the impact of the brochure, an increase in visitors to the various sites and requests for information will be an indicator of the project’s success.

Grants are awarded twice a year through the STEP Foundation, with the next deadline being January 15, 2019. For current applications and more information, visit www.nemahastep.org or contact Tory Jost at 785-410-0543. For the latest updates, like and follow STEP on Facebook.