



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

## **February 2024 Newsletter**

Happy Valentine's Day  
from our family to yours!



*Thank you to all our donors!*

*2023 was a record setting year!*



Current STEP Board of Directors:

Renee Meyer, Tory Jost (Exec. Director), Tami Mars, V.P. Maggie Grier, Anissa Bloom,

Stacie Korte, Bonnie Meeks

Dustin Walters, Pres. Dan Heiman, Sec. Leon Haverkamp,

Treas. Tim Rottinghaus, Kevin Feldkamp, and John Lehman (not pictured)

**2023 grant awards funded several projects in Nemaha County.**

- **\$5,000 – Kelly Ball Association for a new playground in Kelly**
- **\$3,500 – St. Peter and Paul Catholic School for a new playground project**
- **\$4,000 – Nemaha Valley Community Hospital for activities to help inpatients dealing with dementia**

- \$1,000 – Spring Creek Golf Course to refinish table tops in the clubhouse
- \$700 – USD 115 - iPad mounts for speech generating devices
- \$1,150 – Community Healthcare System Eastridge to become music and memory certified
- \$2,381 – Eastridge Nursing Facility to buy a geriatric manikin for completion of their nursing skills
- \$1,500 – Nemaha Central Elementary and Middle School (NCEMS) to purchase a molded bucket swing for students with disabilities to use on the playground
- \$3,273 – Northeast Kansas Arts Foundation for a portable sound system
- \$1,500 – Sabetha Community Hospital for equipment for the pediatric occupational therapy department
- \$1,854 – Seneca Downtown Impact for a new, mobile friendly website focused on visitors and tourists

**One grant from the CNB/CNB Custody/Invisor Underprivileged Children Fund:**

- \$4,000 – USD 115 to provide basic needs to low-income students (some examples include: tennis shoes, backpacks, nap mats, coats, gloves, lice treatment, hair brushes and other basic hygiene needs)

**Five new funds were opened with the Nemaha County STEP Foundation in 2023. The new funds include the Chad Baker Memorial Fund, Seneca Community Fund, Spring Creek Golf Course Improvement Fund, Seneca Knights of Columbus Improvement Fund, and the Northeast Kansas Arts Foundation Fund. These funds are improving the quality of life in Nemaha County and are eligible for Match Day donations.**

**“STEP’s third Match Day set a new record, receiving over 381 gifts totaling over \$234,900,” reported Tory Jost. The fourth Match Day is set for Friday, August 23, 2024, at the Seneca Free Library from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Online giving will be at [stepupnemaha.com](http://stepupnemaha.com).**

**In other business, Tami Mars, Renee Meyer, and Maggie Grier were elected to the STEP Foundation Board. President Marceil Hasenkamp thanked Elaine Mowder for her service on the STEP Board of Directors. Vice President Dan Heiman recognized longtime board member and president, Marceil Hasenkamp. “We really appreciate all she has done for STEP,” Dan shared. Ms. Hasenkamp’s term expires in January 2024.**

**“At year end STEP Foundation’s total assets were \$2.3 million, an increase of nearly \$500,000 over last year. This is a tribute to record giving by the community and strong earnings,” reported Treasurer Tim Rottinghaus.**

**A delicious meal served before the meeting was catered by Home Cookin’ of Seneca. A special thank you to Koch and Company for sponsoring the meal.**

[2023 Match Day STEP-Up Supporters](#)



**rainbow**

Also, thanks to the following STEP-Up Supporters!

Ag Partners Cooperative  
Duane & Kris Anderson  
Bruce & Pam Bachman  
Bank of Blue Valley  
Corey & Anissa Bloom  
Community National Bank  
First Heritage Bank  
Fox Run Seeds, LLC  
Leon Haverkamp Farms  
Marceil Hasenkamp  
Nick & Sadie Hasenkamp  
John V & Janell Haug  
Bill & Betty Hecht  
Dan & Gloria Heiman  
John & Tory Jost  
David & Stacie Korte  
John & Carol Lehman  
Brent & Linda Lortscher  
Justin & Lori Lueger  
James & Anne Moser  
Doug & Carol Moser  
Marilyn Petry  
Marleen Price  
Rainbow Communications  
Jerry & Paula Rottinghaus  
Tim & Jane Rottinghaus  
Kent & Donna Saylor  
Gary & Mary Sparling  
United Bank & Trust  
LaVon & Erma Wenger

We are looking for STEP Up Supporters for next year. This means you will donate \$1,000 (\$500 to the General Fund and \$500 to the pooled fund). If you would like to be a 2024 STEP Up Supporter, please contact a STEP Board Member or STEP Executive Director Tory Jost.

Check out this 2023 scholarship video  
created by a local Nemaha County student! Click [here](#).

To see grants given in 2023, check out the STEP Foundation Facebook Page.  
*(Like and Follow Us to keep up-to-date)*

## STEP Board Member Dustin Walters





Dustin Walters resides in Centralia with his wife, Jessica (Strathman) and two sons, Max (13) and Eli (8). He is a graduate of Centralia High School and The University of Kansas where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering. After college he spent two years as a Software Engineer for Rockwell Collins in Cedar Rapids, IA. Later, he spent seven years as a Software Engineer for Honeywell Aerospace in Olathe, KS. Currently, he is a Process Controls Engineer for Schenck Process in Sabetha, KS.

Dustin is active in his community where he serves on the city council and volunteers for Centralia PRIDE, Centralia Ball Association, and serves as president of the Centralia Panther Booster Club. He joined the STEP board in 2019 and strives to make Nemaha County the best place to live, work and raise a family.

Thanks again, Dustin!

---

**Our Contact Information**

Nemaha County STEP Foundation

PO Box 165

Seneca, KS 66538

785-294-0312

[www.nemahastep.org](http://www.nemahastep.org)