



BUILDING THE FUTURE ONE STEP AT A TIME!

November 2022 Newsletter

Fall Grant Awards Make Positive Impact

One distraught child who was in need of shoes for gym class, was embarrassed and humiliated because he didn't have the basic items, he needs to attend school. After receiving new shoes through the Underprivileged Children Fund, he was happy, smiling, and engaging in gym class again. This is the impact donors can make. Improving the life of just one child in Nemaha County makes a huge difference. That improvement begins with a grant award.

The Nemaha County STEP Foundation Board of Directors has announced recipients for the second-round of 2022 grants. The grants are awarded for charitable purposes to enhance and improve the quality of life for the residents of Nemaha County Kansas. There were twelve applications. Unfortunately, three applicants were not able to receive funding this grant cycle.

From the STEP General Endowment Fund, the Nemaha County Historical Society will be receiving \$750 for the preservation of historical USD 115 documents. Cathy Enneking, grant writer, explained the purpose for the grant in the application. "The spring of 2022, USD 115 purchased a digital kiosk. This device features a touch screen allowing users to view a multitude of information including information about school organizations and activities, yearbooks, etc. I volunteered to upload content to this device, specifically documents pertaining to the history of USD 115 and all of the schools that have consolidated to become USD 115: Nemaha Central, Nemaha Valley HS (Oneida HS, Kelly HS, Sts. Peter and Paul HS, Seneca HS), B & B HS (Baileyville HS, St. Benedict HS). As I digitized these originals, I could see the important school history they contained. I also felt there needed to be a hard copy collection available for ease of reading, so this led to the second part of this proposed project. It is my desire to print books of the 3 collections--B&B. The Bugler, St. Benedict The Chimes, and Baileyville The Bugler. I would want to have a copy of each book at the museum and at the public library and to related entities."

The Sabetha Community Hospital will be receiving \$1,250 from the STEP General Endowment Fund this grant cycle. The hospital will purchase a new audiometer for use in newborn hearing screening. “Every baby born at the hospital is screened at birth or shortly after, per the requirements of the state of Kansas,” explained Debby Thompson, Public Relations liaison. “The hospital takes the health and well being of all our patients very seriously. This includes the hearing status of newborns. It is very important to catch hearing loss as soon as possible.”

Two local ball associations have been awarded funds from the Glen J. Meyer Advisory Fund. The Centralia Ball Association has been awarded \$1,000 for equipment to properly maintain the ball field and to transplant four shade trees. The Corning Recreation Association has been awarded \$3,000 from the Glen J. Meyer Advisory Fund to replace the existing lights with new LED lights and four new poles. Both grants will make investments into children and communities.

The following four applications for the CNB/CNB Custody/Invisor Underprivileged Children Fund were awarded. The Centralia Schools (\$1,170) to provide athletic shoes and warm-up shirts to students who are economically disadvantaged. The Mary Cotton Public Library (\$2,000) to provide wireless internet access to the underprivileged children. The Kids Klost (\$2,500) to provide clothes, food, toiletries, gym clothes, and shoes for children in need. USD 115 (\$2,000) to provide basic needs as to low-income students. Some examples include tennis shoes, backpacks, nap mats, coats, gloves, lice treatment, hair brushes and other basic hygiene needs.

Congratulations to the all the grant recipients. The online grant application is open and available at www.nemahastep.org. Grants are awarded twice a year through the STEP Foundation with the next deadline being January 15, 2023.



Year End Giving...Helpful Information

There are two big charitable giving strategies as 2022 comes to a close: (1) Qualified Charitable Distributions, and (2) Giving Appreciated Securities. Here is some information about each strategy:

(1) Qualified Charitable Distributions

If you are 70 1/2 or older, you can donate money to the STEP Foundation through an IRA. It's called a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). QCDs are a great way for donors to achieve their charitable goals without triggering negative tax consequences because QCDs do not increase the donor's taxable income. The key for any QCD strategy is to give the money from the IRA directly to STEP Foundation.

Keep in mind, you do NOT want to distribute the money from the IRA to yourself, and then donate the proceeds to STEP Foundation; although it achieves the same end result, the tax consequences are likely less favorable than giving the money directly to STEP Foundation.

Be sure to consult your tax advisor to determine what makes sense for you. Finally -- and importantly -- if you must take Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) from your IRA, a QCD can be used to satisfy your RMD, up to \$100,000 per person per year.

(2) Giving Appreciated Securities

For investments in a taxable/brokerage account that you have held for more than one year and are worth more than what you initially paid for them, you can transfer those shares directly to the STEP Foundation. As a donor, you can claim the fair market value of the transferred shares as an itemized deduction on your tax return. Donors can deduct up to 30% of their adjusted gross income through this strategy. No capital gains taxes are owed

on the transferred shares, and STEP Foundation will not owe any taxes on the shares when they are sold.

Other gift ideas... Stock, Bonds, Mutual Funds, Life Insurance, Livestock, Real Estate, Gifts of Grain (tell the elevator you would like to transfer a certain number of bushels to the STEP Foundation). Not sure how to transfer your gift? Give us a call.



Third Quarter Donations from Ag Partners for the Seneca & Corning Community Funds



Ag Partners Coop made a third quarter donation of \$722.13 to the Nemaha County STEP Foundation's Seneca Community Fund. Thank you to everyone for "Fueling Your Community" by purchasing fuel at the Ag Partners Seneca location fuel pumps. Pictured Left to Right: Phylcia Baker, Accounts Payable Clerk; Caitlin Holthaus, Accounts Payable Clerk; Tory Jost, STEP Executive Director; Lacey

Dalinghaus, HR Director; Eric Osterhaus, VP of Energy; and Kristina Sudbeck, Project Manager.



Ag Partners Coop made a third quarter donation of \$265.43 to the Nemaha County STEP Foundation's Corning Community Fund. Thank you to everyone for "Fueling Your Community" by purchasing fuel at the Ag Partners Corning location fuel pumps. Pictured Left to Right: Tory Jost, STEP Executive Director; Diane Haverkamp, Corning Community Fund; Shana Steinlage, Corning Community Fund, Kim Durland, Corning Community Fund; Eric Osterhaus, VP of Energy; and Kristina Sudbeck, Project Manager.

Happy Thanksgiving!

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