

Quarterly Newsletter



July 23, 2019



A Word from Our President, Kay Lauer

Seventeen years ago, a Fund started south of Emporia by a group wanting to leave a legacy. Their mission was to be a resource for improvement in the quality of life in their area. The Fund grew until this year

when their leaders asked to move the endowed Fund to the ECF, applying the original purposes set out in their By-laws. A number of people contributed to the Fund, but the largest amount came from a Chase County resident. When this man was a child, he was labeled stupid and slow, when in reality, he was dyslexic. This stigma stayed with him his entire life. As an adult, he met with his attorney, Charlie Rayl, a board member of the Fund, to set up his estate with the purpose \$50,000 to be

used for dyslexia research and programs. That's when Charlie suggested the Fund to manage his wishes.

I've been involved with many ECF committees and programs, but real satisfaction comes when we match the needs of the community with funding.

— Kay Lauer

When the ECF received the Fund, they agreed that funding for dyslexia would continue honoring the donor's legacy. The ECF Board approved a grant at the June meeting from the Fund for dyslexia programs at Cradle to Career Literacy Center, a local center with the goal to increase literacy for dyslexic children. This is just one of many great stories of the ECF helping to meet the needs of the community.

Sadie Jones Fund Awards over \$37,000

The mission of the ECF is “to connect caring people with causes that build stronger communities within the Emporia area.” Recently, two funds have stepped up to do their part in meeting the mission. This is the first year for the Sadie Jones Fund to accept grant applications and the fund's Advisory Committee recently reviewed seven grant applications. Five recipients will receive checks. At the beginning of the meeting, one Committee member offered to pay one grant request from his family's ECF fund. The Committee agreed and discussed the remaining applications, meeting with two grant representatives. The Committee approved funding for the following: **Chase County Care & Compassion for the Friday Food Program** (private funding) \$1,500—**K-State Research and Extension-Lyon County Nutrition for Life-** \$11,000—**See to Learn Foundation** for the Children's Vision Initiative-\$10,000—**USD 253 Elementary Schools for a Spot Vision Screener-** \$8,450—**USD 253 Elementary Schools for an Optoacoustic Emissions Screener** for hearing-\$7,600 The Sadie Jones Fund also paid for the bicycle helmets five at the 2019 K.I.S.S. event for a total of \$3,362.87. The total funds disbursed to date for 2019 is \$40,512.87. Not too bad for a “spinster” schoolteacher who left \$40,000 in 1947 for the needs of poor children with bad hearing!





KISS Event Update

Flooding and soggy conditions this year resulted in the Keep It a Safe Summer (K.I.S.S.) event being moved to the Flinthills Mall from the Lyon County Fairgrounds. The change of location did not diminish the flood of people attending the event. Thanks to a Sadie Jones Fund grant, kids could choose a bicycle helmet or a disc golf package with 400 bicycle helmets and 300 disc golf packages distributed. Families also learned about lots of local activities for a fun and safe summer while



enjoying 1,200 hotdogs, fruit and drinks. Over the years, the Sadie Jones Fund has ensured safe, fun summers for local kids by giving out over 7,500 bicycle helmets and 500 golf disc packages. Summer is a special time for kids – made all that much better when it begins with K.I.S.S.!

Third Quarter Calendar

August—

- 1 - Trusler Foundation Application Deadline
- 15 - 79 Fund Application Deadline
- 16 – ECF Board of Directors Meeting

September—

- 12 - Consortium Meeting, FHTC
- 15 - Chase County Community Fund Application Deadline
- 20 – ECF Board of Directors Meeting
- 21 – Growing Greenwood Fund
- 30 - ECF Grants Application Deadlines

Your money at work

Did you know the Emporia Community Foundation is audited annually? The ECF contracts with Varney & Associates, CPAs, LLC of Manhattan for this service. In completing an audit, a variety of information is requested for review of all financial aspects of the foundation. During the two day on-site visit, staff provides supporting documentation for selected transactions; accounts are verified; and procedures are discussed. Staff and the ECF Treasurer review the initial report, then the audit is presented to the Finance Committee for review. A copy is available for fund holders to review in the office. The audit process assures ECF Fund holders normal and accepted financial practices and procedures are fulfilled.

The ECF also applies to be in compliance with National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations™. ECF staff submits policies, agreements, and other items verifying that the ECF operates using the best practices in the field and complies with current laws. For confirmation, the ECF must demonstrate transparency and financial responsibility as well as sound policies and accountable practices. The ECF is currently one of only 15 accredited community foundations in Kansas with accreditation until April 25, 2022

What Is Your Legacy?

A legacy should be deeply considered. It takes on immortality, and it is how we live on after death. If we think of our legacy as a gift, it places an emphasis on the thoughtful, meaningful, and intentional aspects of legacy. The consequences of what we do now will outlive us. – Katherine Meadowcroft

Save the date!! June 26, 2020!!

