

For Immediate Release:
www.goldenbeltcf.org

For more information:
Teresa Powelson 620.792.3000
teresa@goldenbeltcf.org



GOLDEN BELT COMMUNITY FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES SPRING COMMUNITY BUILDING GRANT RECIPIENTS

GREAT BEND, Kan. – Golden Belt Community Foundation is pleased to announce that \$18,750 was recently awarded for grants that benefit communities in the Golden Belt area.

The Golden Belt Spring Community Building Grant supports a wide-variety of needs in Barton, Pawnee, Rush, and Stafford County that serve the community at large including but not limited to: quality of life improvements; arts and culture; enhancing community destination points; charitable economic opportunity; planning and development. Favorable projects leverage matching funds for greater community impact.

The 8 community projects awarded funding were:

\$5,000 Barton Arts Movement

Amos Bayer Fund, Arts and Culture and John A & Doris F Graham Memorial Fund

The Barton Arts Movement is a grassroots initiative that inspires community art and design. Barton County has a rich selection of community murals, most are nearly 20-years old. This grant will provide startup costs which include a website, QR codes, social media marketing and new community engagement. Additional mini murals in Claflin, Ellinwood, Great Bend, and Hoisington along the way.

\$1,300 City of Larned

Nutrition and Physical Activity Initiative Fund, Kansas Health Fund, Amos Bayer Fund

The community garden in Larned started with a grant from Golden Belt Community Foundation in 2009 as well as the Kansas Health Foundation in 2010. Volunteers have plans to plant 600 tomatoes, 200 peppers, 2000 onions, 250lbs of potatoes and countless seeds. This grant will provide a “Quick Greens Harvester” which will allow spinach and lettuce to be harvested in just a few minutes, 3 tractor scoots allowing older adults to help pick vegetables and additional signage and some added irrigation pipe.

\$1,500 Stafford Economic Development

Amos Bayer Fund

Stafford Economic Development would like to offer Empowerment Training to at-risk populations to strengthen their communities and workforce. This is a life skills training that goes beyond just behavior but creating a shift in thinking and attitude that empowers individuals to be more successful at work and life. This grant will provide funding towards their total program cost.

\$1,500 Hoisington Recreation Commission

Amos Bayer Fund

The Hoisington Recreation Commission is revitalizing their ballparks to allow Hoisington the ability to host tournaments. They have already replaced 2 fields making them 200' fields for this purpose. They are adding bleachers and planting new grass for their fields. This grant will go towards the grass seed on the new fields.

\$2,600 Great Bend Public Library

KHF Children's Health Endowment Fund

The Great Bend Public Library is revamping their teen spot. They are bursting at the seams with teens that come to hang out at the library. They need extra space to allow these teens to come and utilize their programs, participate in activities, as well as do homework. This grant will help them to purchase additional tables, additional seating, and a mobile circulation desk to replace a very large stationary one. They will move some of the furniture they have in the teen spot to the children's area to be repurposed.

\$2,500 Fort Larned Elementary

KHF Children's Health Endowment Fund

Fort Larned Elementary School's Resilience Team is providing conscious discipline training to their colleagues. Conscious discipline is based on four essential principles: Conscious Discipline Brain State Model, Seven Powers for Conscious Adults, Creating the School Family and Seven Skills of Discipline. This grant will provide the next level of training and professional development for the Fort Larned Elementary teachers and staff to continue to implement this program into the schools and help the children grow emotionally, socially, and academically.

\$2,500 Hillside Envisions – Pawnee Co, Inc

KHF Children's Health Endowment Fund

The playground at Hillside Envisions, formerly Hillside Elementary is adding play equipment for children ages 2-5. It is currently appropriate for children ages 5-12. The first step of the playground upgrade will be to add swings and slides and appropriate play fixtures. Additional benches for parents and families will be added as well. This will allow smaller children a place to come and play with their families. This grant will provide funding toward the total cost of the project.

\$1,850 Central Kansas Partnership

KHF Children's Health Endowment Fund

Barton County is building a new youth coalition program. The youth membership will be inclusive for ages 14-19 and that membership will elect a leadership team. They will meet regularly throughout the school year and will be afforded opportunities such as a voice in the community, meeting new people, real community change, letters of recommendation, scholarship opportunities, paid internships and much more. This grant will provide funding for the startup marketing, deliverables, and printing.