Endowment Fund Vital to Brown County's Future

The Brown County Foundation Fund is proud of the fact that over the past sixteen years they have awarded $53,880.00 in Project Grants to local groups for the betterment of Brown County. The grants have ranged from $50.00 to $2,000.00 with the average being approximately $500.00. These grants have been made possible with a capital base of approximately $73,000.00 each year. The Brown County Foundation Fund is an affiliate of the Nebraska Community Foundation and as such receive professional investment, accounting, and training support from their staff and volunteers.

In 2010, the Advisory Board of the Brown County Foundation Fund decided to embark on a fund raising campaign to establish a permanent, unrestricted endowment from which 5% of the annual earnings are used to meet our county's highest priority needs. The annual investment earnings above 5% are added to the endowment principal to insure that the capital base of the endowment maintains its value against the forces of inflation. As the endowment grows, so will the quality of life for Brown County families today and the opportunities for future generations. That means all donations to the Endowment Fund will go on giving forever.

The Brown County Foundation has set a goal to raise the Endowment Fund principal to $500,000.00. At this level, total grant funds available each year could reach $25,000.00 compared to the current average of $3,370.00 per year. Increasing individual grant amounts from $500.00 to $5,000.00 or more will have a profound impact on community projects. Past Foundation grant recipients have included the Brown County Hospital, Ainsworth Public Library, Ainsworth Fire Department, Brown County Arts Council, Brown County Historical Society, Elks/Legion Baseball program, Brown County Agriculture Society, Sandhills Entertainment Corp., most of the cemeteries in the county as well as many other groups.

Please consider how you will be involved in making the Endowment Campaign a success. You will be a part of preserving the quality of life for residents of Brown County today and future. Review the pledge card on this web page and then make your commitment to ensuring the success of an area you consider "home".