

# Heartland Council of Community Foundations

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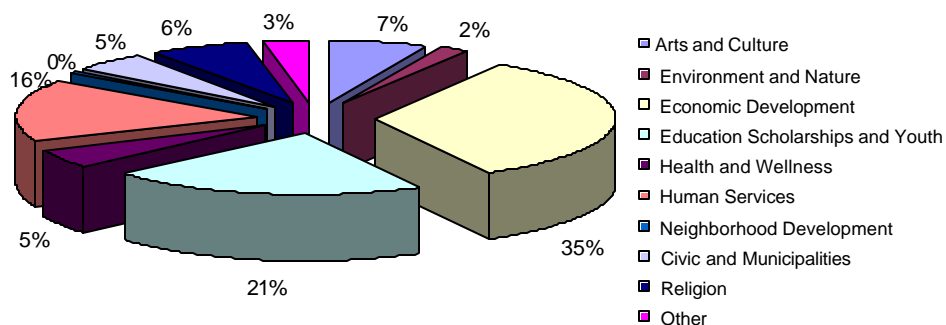
## HEARTLAND COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS CELEBRATES GIVING IN NEBRASKA

*More Than \$46 Million In Grants Paid Out By Community Foundations  
Throughout Nebraska*

NEBRASKA – The Heartland Council of Community Foundations, a statewide association of community foundations, will join nearly 700 community foundations across the country for Community Foundation Week, November 12–18, to celebrate local charitable giving.

With assets of more than \$400 million, community foundations in Nebraska share in one of the fastest growing sectors of philanthropy in the United States today. In 2003, donors gave Nebraska-based community foundations more than \$32 million in gifts and more than \$46 million was distributed primarily into local Nebraska communities through grants. Over half of the \$46 million in grants went to organizations supporting local economic development, education, youth, and human services.

**2003 Grants from  
Nebraska-based Community Foundations**



“Community foundations are at the heart of our cities and towns. We know the places of need in our area, and we can direct resources to solve those problems,” said Sara Boyd, President

of the Heartland Council of Community Foundations. “Here in Nebraska, donors can do anything they dare to dream, whether that be establishing a fund to involve their family in charitable giving, giving the gift of education through local scholarships, and so much more.”

**According to Rick Foster, vice president for food systems and rural development at the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, "The Nebraska Community Foundation and rural Nebraskans are making a statement: 'At least some of the money made in rural America should stay here for the long-term benefit of the community.' Place does make a difference. And living and working in rural Nebraska makes a difference."**

The Heartland Council of Community Foundations is recognizing community donors close to home such as **Carol Gendler, “The benefits of my association with the Omaha Community Foundation have been both expected and unexpected. My donor advised fund enables me to advise the OCF staff to make grants on my behalf to charities of my choosing. The unexpected benefit of my relationship with OCF has been the opportunity to increase my involvement in and knowledge of the community through the staff’s in-depth knowledge of the programs and agencies making a real difference in the Greater Omaha area.”**

Community foundations have far-reaching benefits for anyone interested in charitable giving. They are located throughout the nation and offer their services to all donors, including those of modest means. People can get involved by establishing a fund with their local community foundation, serving on an advisory committee or volunteering with an agency the foundation supports. There are over 60 community foundations located in the state of Nebraska holding more than 1,200 charitable funds established to benefit local communities. For more information about community foundations in your community, contact Sara Boyd, President of the Heartland Council of Community Foundations at 402.342.3458.

Community Foundation Week began in 1989 with a proclamation from former President George H.W. Bush and a congressional briefing on community foundation activities. The observance has raised awareness of community foundations’ charitable activities and services to donors seeking to maximize their philanthropic dollars.