



Wymore-Blue Springs Area Fund  
P.O. Box 212  
Wymore, NE 68466

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# WYMORE-BLUE SPRINGS AREA FUND

*CLIMBing to a brighter tomorrow.*

2022 Annual Newsletter

## GIVE 5 TO THRIVE



PEAK TRANSFER YEARS  
**2021–2045**

As of November 2021

10-YEAR TOW

**\$1.4 billion**



5% OF 10-YEAR TOW

**\$70 million**

You are eligible to leave a legacy in southern Gage County.

In late 2021, Nebraska Community Foundation led in a Transfer of Wealth Study for Nebraska. There is always a transfer from generation to generation, as parents pass away and leave their estates to their children. But if the heirs no longer live where they grew up, those critical resources leave as well.

Considering only Gage County, the findings reveal that in the next 10 years, \$1.4 billion will transfer to a succeeding generation and potentially leave our community forever.

WBSAF and NCF are encouraging all generous Nebraskans to “Give 5 to

Thrive.” The “5 to Thrive” campaign urges us to all consider making a planned gift of 5% of our estate, (a future gift given when an asset is no longer needed) to our community. Just five percent of \$1.4 billion would inject \$70 million into Gage County communities. This concept breaks through our self-imposed glass ceiling that we have to be exceedingly wealthy in order to give future generations the benefit of growing in our hometown.



“Harnessing just a small percentage of the transfer of wealth could be a game changer for the future of our hometowns,” said Nebraska Community Foundation President and CEO Jeff Yost.

Teamwork has propelled us to where we are today. Imagine the power of combining all of our “five percents” and what those kinds of resources could enable our community to do.

Consult [www.fivetothrivene.org](http://www.fivetothrivene.org) and your professional advisor for more information on planned giving. Contact us to discuss your hopes and dreams for the future of our community and the power of giving “5 to Thrive!”

## OUR VALUES

### **C**ollaborative

WBSAF reaches out to other organizations in our communities to promote programs and projects to benefit all residents by our efforts and investments.

### **L**oyal

We are good stewards, committed to keeping our promises. We are honest, truthful and fair to all donors, recipients, partners, and community members.

### **I**nvested

WBSAF sets goals to accomplish our mission. We are dedicated to fulfilling our vision for our communities by supporting people, programs, and services.

### **M**otivated

WBSAF is driven to accomplish our mission and fulfill our vision by recognizing the needs of our communities and sustain a quality fund to serve our future generations.

### **B**enevolent

WBSAF has a passion, goodwill, and respect for our communities and its members. We are earnest and approach our work with a positive attitude.

## A LETTER FROM OUR CHAIR

If you’re anything like me, the new year is a wonderful time to reflect on the successes of the past year and look forward to what’s to come. You have contributed so much to our success this past year, and I want to share encouraging news from the work you’ve made possible in 2021!



The most exciting news is the completion of the new restroom/concession stand at McCandless Park. We hope you will continue to join us in our final phase of the McCandless Park Project. An ADA inclusive playground for the 5–12-year-olds is a much-needed amenity in our community. Through your generosity of time, talent, or treasures, we are over half-way to our goal.

The Nebraska Community Foundation Annual Celebration in McCook was energizing. The focus was Unleashing Active Hope along with Transfer of Wealth and NCF’s new “5 to Thrive” campaign (more about that on the back of this newsletter). The future of our communities depends on all of us. Once wealth leaves our community it is gone forever, however, wealth that is endowed in our community, is here forever.

There is much to be thankful for in the past year and with your help we can reach our vision to be a proud, attractive community. I look back upon 2021 with gratitude for you and the difference you’ve made in your community that is dear to our hearts. Enjoy our newsletter showcasing what WBSAF has accomplished because of you. Let’s look forward to an exciting 2022!

Serving Together,  
Janice Cohorst, *Wymore-Blue Springs Area Fund Chair*

## OUR MISSION

We encourage financial generosity and volunteer commitment to ensure we become and remain a thriving place to live, raise families, do business and enjoy the good life.

## OUR VISION

Our vision is a proud, attractive community that builds on its history, continually works to ensure a thriving economic, educational, and recreational presence for today and plans to continue its powerful hometown appeal for generations to come.

## WBSAF NEWS AND UPDATES

**Impact Grantmaking** WBSAF eagerly demonstrated its C.L.I.M.B. values (see page one of this newsletter) when it awarded three different impact grants in 2021.

The funding for impact grants grows every year from the WBSAF's endowment account earnings. Nebraska Community Foundation, with which Wymore-Blue Springs Area Fund is affiliated, invests all contributions to the endowment. Each year, the WBSAF Advisory Committee grants out a portion of the income earned by the endowment to local projects and programs that are enhancing quality of



life in the Wymore-Blue Springs area. The principal—and your gift—remains intact and grows forever.

In awarding the grants, WBSAF collaborated by touching three other community organizations:

- Barneston Community Center received a grant to replace a refrigerator needed for safe handling of foods at community events (\$750)
- Wymore American Legion Post 25 received a grant to purchase weather-proof American Flags (\$500)
- Wymore Food Pantry received a grant to purchase food and serve residents of southern Gage County (\$400)

The “B” portion of our ladder of values is benevolent—“a passion, goodwill, and respect for our communities and its members.”

## Sam Wymore Days Parade

“Movie Night” was the theme for the annual Sam Wymore Days Parade on June 12. As usual, our creative and talented group designed and built a float—this year centered on the movie “Toy Story” and featuring many of the beloved characters. We won first place for Best Theme! We are anxiously waiting to hear the 2022 theme so we can continue our competitive mission to win first place again.



**Celebrity Kickball** A The third annual Celebrity Kickball Game, sponsored by WBSAF, was held during our community celebration, Sam Wymore Days, in June 2021. We raised a profit of \$2,980. Competing in the game were 16 players from 10 area organizations and churches. Each player picked to play has to raise a minimum of \$100 in donations. Prizes are given by WBSAF for the most money raised and MVP of the game. Each player is also given a t-shirt to commemorate their participation in this fun event.

**Golf FUNdraiser** August 14, 2021 was a busy day for many. People were celebrating weddings and some were enjoying Garth Brooks. There were also people ready to have fun at the Wymore Country Club for the fourth annual Southern Gage Kiwanis FUNdraiser.

This ongoing collaboration between the Southern Gage Kiwanis and WBSAF raised \$3,317 for the final phase of McCandless Park. Continued financial support of area businesses is greatly appreciated as they provide hole sponsorships and prizes. Laughter was heard all over the course as people tried their hardest to get that white dimpled 1.68-inch ball into a 4.25-inch hole.

Mark your calendar for April 30, 2022 and enjoy another nine holes for the betterment of our community!



## WBSAF NEWS AND UPDATES



**Spooktacular** WBSAF partnered with Southern Gage Kiwanis to hold the fifth annual McCandless Spooktacular on October 30, 2021 at McCandless Park. With nearly 90 sponsors and over \$3,200 raised, this event brought over 150 children and their families together to enjoy trunk-or-treating at some of the most creative booths to date. They also enjoyed lots of games and a very competitive costume contest. The highlight of this year's event was the ability to utilize the newly constructed concession stand and restroom facility. All the money raised this year and in past years is used to better McCandless Park, and it was so special to be able to point the donors and participants to the fruition of their donations and support. We look forward to continuing this community tradition on October 29, 2022!



**Big Give** We continued to see success in the third annual Big Give Gage. This 24-hour event, put on by the Beatrice Community Hospital Foundation and the Gage County Foundation, raised over \$300,000 for 61 of Gage County's favorite charities. Our goal was to be able to raise \$25,000 for the final stage of the McCandless Park Project, an all-inclusive playground for kids ages 5-12.



Once again, the Wymore-Blue Springs Area Fund was among the top earning charities. This year we were able to raise \$43,179 from 154 donors! We were also the recipient of a very special gift—a \$10,000 donation from the Jordan Murphy Memorial Run. This generous contribution is the result of the money raised during the first and second annual runs honoring Jordan Murphy, a beloved Wymore coach and teacher who passed away in 2018 at the age of 24.

“He’d think it was wonderful just knowing that the money we were raising was going back to the community which was something he was a big part of,” Jordan’s father, Jeff Murphy, told News Channel Nebraska.

We would like to thank all our donors, big and small, and look forward to another successful Big Give Gage in 2022!



**NCF Annual Celebration** On November 18, Janice Cohorst and Sherri Ottersberg attended the Nebraska Community Foundation Annual Celebration in McCook, Nebraska. The theme was “Unleash Active Hope.” Many inspiring stories and wonderful presentations were shared that sent Cohorst and Ottersberg home full of active hope.

The evening was spent walking up and down the streets visiting McCook’s local businesses where exceptional food and refreshments were served. The atmosphere, Christmas decorations, and hospitality made for a fun and enjoyable learning experience. We can’t wait to see what NCF does in 2022 to top this one-of-a-kind conference.