



BCAFF

Butler County Area Foundation Fund

JULY 2023

NEWSLETTER

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A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR

by Russ Heller, Chair

Well, it's July already and the start of a new fiscal year for your Butler County Area Foundation Fund (BCAFF). Our committee has been reviewing the successes of last year's grant recipients and it is quite exciting to see the impact that local contributions to the Fund have had.

We thank all those that have contributed to the Fund and those who continue giving. You should know that your gifts have made an impact on the county. The latest generous gift to BCAFF has allowed us to establish an additional unrestricted endowment in the giver's name. As more funds become available in BCAFF's endowments, larger, more impactful grants can be made throughout the county.

Please know that the committee works hard each year to find worthy projects to support with grant funds. With that in mind, we are always looking for projects to partner with which will benefit the citizens of Butler County. We want to involve more of the communities throughout the county. If you have a community betterment project that could use financial support or know of an organization working on such, please let them know that BCAFF would love to hear about it and possibly partner with them. The grant application period for this year opens September 1st and grant requests will be accepted through October 15th. The application process is quite simple and straight forward. Grant applications will be available on our webpage. If you would like to see what the application entails, stop by the BCAFF booth at the Butler County Fair for sample applications.

Again, a heartfelt thanks to those supporting the Butler County Area Foundation Fund and congratulations to the recipients for the great things they are doing in their home towns. We wish all a safe, happy, prosperous summer!

Fund Advisory Committee Members

Russ Heller
Chair

Janet Bemis
Treasurer

Jacque Masek
Secretary

Kent Clymer

Deb Dinkelman

Connie Perry

William Reiter

Dr. Victor Thoendel

Youth Member:

Caroline Slama

How Endowment Works



Step #1

Donor makes a gift to BCAFF



Step #2

The gift is invested so the fund can grow



Step #3

Grants are made each year from the earnings



Step #4

The process repeats and the **IMPACT** is lasting!

Looking Forward - Giving Back

Our mission: to enrich the quality of life in Butler County by acting as a catalyst for positive change by encouraging collaboration and cooperation among community members; providing a means for citizens to give back to their community; and building an endowment to provide grants for projects that will create a better future for Butler County.



STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

The Butler County Area Foundation Fund awards scholarships to seniors continuing their education beyond high school. The 2023 scholarship recipients were:

\$500 BCAFF Scholarship - Alexa Carter, Shelby/Rising City HS & Barrett Anel, David City HS

\$1,000 BCAFF Skilled Trade Scholarship - Barrett Anel, David City HS

\$2,000 Butler County Clinic Scholarship - Caden Denker, David City HS & Margaret Svec, Aquinas HS

\$1,000 Stoops Scholarship - Alexa Carter, Shelby/Rising City HS & Barrett Anel, David City HS

Congratulations to all of the Butler County 2023 graduates!

BUTLER COUNTY AREA FOUNDATION FUND ANNUAL MEETING

March 18, 2023



RURAL FELLOWS PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

This summer the Butler County Area Foundation Fund has partnered with six agencies to sponsor the Rural Fellows Program in Butler County. Rural Fellows are university students who spend their summers living in Nebraska towns, working on locally-designed projects that support local business, and make progress toward strategic and specific goals to help communities thrive. Working in Butler County this summer are Juliana Monono of Cameroon, Africa, & Kate Holcomb of Broken Bow. Their focus is the social determinants of health. We look forward to the results of their project and pleased to have granted \$1,000 to this program.



BUTLER COUNTY AREA FOUNDATION FUND AWARDS GRANTS

The Butler County Area Foundation Fund awards grants that provide funding for community projects that will enhance the long-term success and quality of life of our communities.

BCAFF seeks applications that address strategic development efforts which lead to population growth, job creation, wealth creation and retention, and increased leadership capacity. These efforts may include support for local entrepreneurs who are starting, growing or transitioning businesses; strategies to involve youth and attract young families; programs to develop and strengthen local leadership; building community capacity including workforce development, and educational efforts to create an awareness of the need for additional contributions to the Butler County Area Foundation Fund.

Below are photos of grant recipients that were announced at our Annual Banquet. A total of ten grants were given for a total of \$25,100.



Butler County Senior Services
Russ Heller & Diana McDonald
\$2,500 grant for new conference tables & chairs



Bridging Our Community
Russ Heller & Janae McMahon
\$2,000 grant for thrift store washer & dryer
\$2,000 grant for shelving & totes to store donations



Butler County Arts Council
Russ Heller & Anna Nolan
\$2,500 grant for Czech Music Festival & Art Day Camps



The Thorpe Opera House Foundation
Russ Heller & Monica Heller
\$1,300 for indoor painting of Winfield's



Butler County Historical Society

Russ Heller & Jacqueline Masek
\$3,000 grant for the painting of
exterior soffits and trim on the Butler County
Historical Society Museum



David City Library Foundation

Russ Heller & Monica Heller
\$1,800 for self-guided walking tour
of downtown David City



Friends of David City

Russ Heller & Lisa Stallbaum
\$2,000 grant for Music in the Park
\$5,000 grant for renovation of toddler area
in the City Park

*Not pictured: \$1,000 grant to Fellowship of Christian Athletes for scholarships to leadership activities.
\$2,000 grant to Butler County Historical Society for "Towns of the County" presentation series.
\$2,000 matching grant to John Salyer Unit #146 for replacement of Veteran flags.*

2023 GRANT APPLICATIONS

The BCAFF grant application will be available on
September 1st and applications will be due by October 15th.
Grant applicants must reside in Butler County.

The application will be available on our webpage:
<https://www.nebcommfound.org/give/butler-county-area-foundation-fund/>



Leave a Legacy: DONATE to Butler County Area Foundation Fund

Butler County Area Foundation Fund

PO Box 52

David City, NE 68632 or donate online at: www.nebcommfound.org/give/butler-county-area-foundation-fund/

☐ Please accept my donation of \$ _____. ☐ I pledge a donation of \$ _____ in _____ payments.
☐ I pledge an automatic withdrawal of \$ _____ per month for _____ months.
☐ I would like to include BCAFF in my estate plan. ☐ I would like to gift a distribution from an IRA.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Date: _____

*The Butler County Area Foundation Fund is an affiliated fund of the Nebraska Community Foundation. Your gift is tax deductible and will help support worthwhile projects and programs addressing the emerging needs and future opportunities of our communities. **Thank you!***