Friends: Nebraska is terrific! Nearly everything and everyone works. Jobs are abundant and quality of life is high. We have great public schools, an engaged citizenry, the streets are safe and clean and people are kind and giving. In September, WalletHub ranked Nebraska the fifth happiest state. Nebraska has what people want.

This didn’t just happen. It is the result of ambitious people making bold plans, sharing a collective vision, mobilizing community assets, and working together. In hundreds of hometowns across the state, our affiliated funds are at the center of this good work.

In this report, you will see evidence of the extraordinary things Nebraskans are accomplishing together. Education, wellness, prosperity and quality of life are all improving. Peer learning amongst our 1,500 affiliated fund leaders is frequent and fruitful. Nebraska Community Foundation stands proudly beside these leaders to secure the capital, consensus and partnerships necessary to make it all happen.

And our network continues to grow. Three hundred Nebraskans have told us they are including their hometown in their estate plans. Last year over 8,500 gifts were made to NCF and its affiliated funds, and $29 million was reinvested in Nebraska’s people and places.

Together, we are taking control of our future. Together, we are achieving more. Together, we are building a Greater Nebraska.

Jeff Yost
President and CEO
Al Steuter
Board Chair

Cover photo: Future students of The Valley Child Development Center break ground on what will soon be Red Cloud’s new state-of-the-art facility for early childhood education. The Red Cloud Community Foundation Fund has been instrumental in this community’s audacious investment in early childhood development, a critical need and key people attracter across Greater Nebraska.

Photo at right courtesy of Hastings Tribune.
There is a familiar old saying, “If you want something done, ask a busy person!”

That about sums up the situation for the five very active working mothers who are moving full speed ahead for the future of Atkinson in north-central Nebraska. These young women, in their mid-to late-30s, form the super majority of the volunteer advisory committee of the Atkinson Community Foundation Fund.

Some are “returners” – people who left to go to school and start their careers, but found their path back to their hometown. Others are newcomers to Atkinson. All share a passion for the future of their community and a zeal for building its unrestricted endowment.

Shannon Olberding, the chair of the Fund said, “We believe an unrestricted endowment is important because it is permanent. It’s here for the long-term. When we give back, it keeps giving back, to our children, our grandchildren and our great grandchildren.”

An opportunity to demonstrate the Fund’s commitment to its community arose in the summer of 2013. The City of Atkinson agreed to have the Fund begin raising money for new playground equipment and other improvements at Mills Race Park, a former state recreation area.

“I had memories from childhood of the old equipment, but I wouldn’t want my kids crawling up the slide on a ladder with rungs 18 inches apart!” Olberding said.

It took two years and a lot of work, but the Fund met its $50,000 goal in the summer of 2015, and the modern park and playground were completed and formally dedicated in June 2016.

The park is just one example of the new amenities aimed at making Atkinson a more attractive location for young people to raise their families. Fortunately for Atkinson, these returners and newcomers are demonstrating loads of enthusiasm and talent. And increasingly, the new crop of community leaders includes fearless young women with fresh ideas.

**Exploring the Better Half of Nebraska**

Millions of people across the country and around the world are reading about Greater Nebraska through NCF’s new collaborative venture with Omaha World-Herald known as “The Better Half.”

The Better Half is a collection of columns celebrating Nebraska’s intriguing places and fascinating foods. These stories, written by Omaha World-Herald journalists Matthew Hansen and Sarah Baker Hansen, encourage us to experience more of what makes Nebraska unique. As part of the collaboration, complementary stories contributed by NCF were also published, celebrating the work, achievements and generosity of affiliated fund volunteers and donors.

The entire series can be viewed at omaha.com/living/the-better-half. Read them and you’ll learn how people working together are creating stronger communities in places as small as Byron (pop. 83) and as large as Norfolk (pop. 24,210).
A stimulating educational environment for children is a critical element for creating a community where students, parents and businesses will thrive. Boone County Foundation Fund took the lead by supporting the research and planning for a quality afterschool program at Boone Central Schools. Now it provides salary support for the afterschool program director, Mollie Morrow.

“The idea for this afterschool program came about based on the needs of the community and a school survey,” said Morrow. “Initially, it was going to be just that, an afterschool program where kids could get a nutritious snack, have care, and work on homework.”

However, early in 2017, Boone Central Schools was awarded a Nebraska Extended Learning Opportunities grant. “We are one of five districts that are a part of a challenge to create quality programs that are replicable in other districts. Working together with Boone County Foundation Fund was a big step up for Boone Central when it came to competing for the grant,” said Morrow.

In addition to traditional afterschool programming, Boone Central’s curriculum is rooted in STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) topics. The program opened in September with 33 students in kindergarten through fifth grade. Activities are being designed around the students’ interests and in some cases, gender and age. The local 4-H program is helping with Lego robotics. Third through fifth graders will design wearable technology, like LED bow ties and badges. Younger children will build wind-powered boats.

The cost of the program is $30 per week. Boone County Foundation Fund may also consider awarding grants to the school to cover the cost for families in need.

“The afterschool program is such a blessing for our family and my kids,” said Lynne Webster of Albion. The enrichment opportunities they have are invaluable. I have been so impressed with the organization and engagement of our program! I am truly grateful!”
If you live in one of Nebraska’s larger cities, you probably take for granted grabbing a bite to eat and heading off to a first-run movie. People in Stuart, Nebraska (pop. 590) take it for granted, too.

The Murphy Theatre & Media Center was a movie theater only in the imaginations of a group of community visionaries. But even they may have found it hard to believe that within the first five years of operation, the venue would sell nearly 38,000 tickets, out-performing many similarly-sized theaters.

The last business to occupy this turn-of-the-20th-century, solid brick structure was the LP Gas Company, owned by Clement and Mary Murphy. The Murphys gifted the building to the village of Stuart, but had one condition. They wanted their gift to be used as a special place for young people to gather, grow and engage in the community. With the help and guidance of community leaders, they finally settled on a state-of-the-art media center.

Doing it right would require significant funding, both public and private. Fortunately, the Stuart Community Foundation Fund was in place and all contributions to the renovation project were tax-deductible.

Planning and work on the $375,000 renovation project took years to complete and involved the entire community, donating both funds and labor. When the Murphy opened in April 2013, everyone realized the final product was worth the wait and the effort.

Said Jon Schmaderer, a key volunteer who helped guide the late Murphys’ dream into a reality, “Watching as families and children fill the theater each weekend makes us confident that Clement and Mary would know that their wishes had been honored.”

Collaboration Powers Philanthropy

Great things happen when the leaders of public and private organizations, businesses and institutions come together to design community solutions based on local talent, resources and assets. This type of synergy can be found in Holt County. Here, people are living, working and succeeding, 100 miles from an interstate highway.

This highly successful county-wide collaboration among communities facilitated by Nebraska Community Foundation caught the attention and earned the respect of corporate leaders beyond Holt County.

In June, representatives of NCF community funds throughout Holt County visited the Grande Prairie Wind Farm to accept an $80,000 contribution from BHE Renewables, the first of five annual distributions to benefit the respective community-based affiliated funds in Stuart, Atkinson, O’Neill and Chambers. Also sharing in the generous annual contribution is NCF affiliated fund, Holt County Economic Development Fund.
"Without the Norfolk Area Community Foundation Fund, we wouldn’t have a park," said Emily Afrank, a pediatric physical therapist at Faith Regional Health Services in Norfolk. Afrank was the first to conceive of the idea that Norfolk might one day have a fully accessible park for children of all abilities to enjoy.

"Embrace Park was a dream of mine which quickly became a reality with the assistance of the Norfolk Area Community Foundation Fund. Their expertise in fundraising and grant applications, as well as their relationship with donors were huge assets to be able to raise the money for Embrace Park," said Afrank.

Fundraising for the $630,000 project was handled and swiftly achieved through the Norfolk Area Community Foundation Fund. Afrank’s passion for the project spread quickly among Fund volunteers and community members alike. Over 130 donors contributed generously to the project, which held its grand opening on a beautiful Sunday afternoon in September.

“The outpouring of support has been humbling to say the least,” Afrank said. “We’ve had contributions of all sizes.”

The park includes a labyrinth of pathways meant to accommodate wheelchairs, walkers or crutches, handicap-accessible swings, a vast selection of slides and bars to hang from, music and sensory boards, and a wheelchair accessible teeter-totter. All aspects of the park are specifically designed to be enjoyed by all children without restriction, no matter their abilities.

Located just west of the YMCA, Embrace Park will eventually include a fully accessible splashpad as well as new parking and two new sports fields adjacent to the park.

“I am so grateful for the Fund’s support and guidance and look forward to working with the Norfolk Area Community Foundation Fund in the future on other projects,” Afrank said.

In the meantime, she can’t wait to enjoy the park and put it to use with her young therapy patients. After all, they were the original source of inspiration for this ambitious endeavor.
When Sandhills Care Center, a privately-owned nursing home in Ainsworth, closed in 2015, it was an unexpected shock – not just to the residents and employees – but to the entire healthcare community and the people of Brown County.

Staff members were left unpaid. Residents and their families were left with an uncertain future.

Through an interlocal agreement, the City and County assumed ownership and established a board of directors to get the facility up and running again. The Brown County Community Foundation Fund (BCCFF) assisted in securing funds to reopen the center. The North Central Nebraska Development Center launched a relief fund to help those who were suddenly left without incomes.

The center reopened early in 2017 and is currently serving 16 residents. With community support for remodeling the facility, BCCFF committed $10,000 for interim improvements. More than $300,000 has been raised to build a new facility, once the current center begins to cash flow again. BCCFF will provide $50,000 to enhance the new facility when it is completed. At that point the City/County care center board will seek a new private owner.

“The Sandhills Care Center is of vital importance in establishing a continuum of health care services in the area,” said Jerry Ehlers, BCCFF volunteer.

“The funding assistance provided by the BCCFF through its unrestricted endowment is an outstanding example as to how we can become a major player in addressing a vital community need,” Ehlers said.

BCCFF’s unrestricted endowment continues to grow, thanks to the Building Community Capacity in Rural Nebraska initiative, an opportunity presented to Brown County through its affiliation with Nebraska Community Foundation. It is nearing its goal of raising $500,000 to earn a $250,000 challenge grant from The Sherwood Foundation. When completed, the Fund will have well over $1 million in unrestricted endowment to provide ongoing support for critical needs throughout the county.

Imperial Community Foundation Fund uses the payout from its unrestricted endowment to help attract an increasing number of young families to this growing Southwest Nebraska hometown.

In addition to recent support for projects such as a skate park, public art, and the Smokin’ on Broadway community party, the Fund provides significant support to Chase County Hospital and the area’s emergency medical services. This year the Fund granted more than $11,000 for a defibrillator and other emergency medical equipment. Over the years, about $22,500 has helped the hospital enhance services and recruit doctors.

In Imperial, leaders don’t compete for charitable dollars – they collaborate to multiply the resources and the benefits that make living in their hometown a great choice for families.
Regional Relationships

“When I venture outside my comfort zone to visit other communities, for regional meetings or to serve as a mentor, I come away with a greater appreciation for the good people working to make their communities better. There is always at least one thing they are doing that is more creative and inspiring than what we have thought of doing. The nature of the NCF network is that we share these ideas to raise everyone up, and we are very good at ‘borrowing’ ideas! This creates new and broader relationships all across the state.

“This is collaboration, not competition, and it’s contagious. We celebrate the quality of life we have in our communities, regardless of size or location. Every time I look around the room full of folks from all across the state, I get the same feeling – this is truly Nebraska at its finest! Why wouldn’t I want to participate in such a wonderful adventure?”

– Peggy Been
McCook Community Foundation Fund

Generative. That is how I would describe the McCook Community Foundation Fund,” said Andrew Ambriz, the community’s new economic development director. “The word represents their presence in this community.”

It also describes the impact McCook Community Foundation Fund (MCFF) has had on other NCF affiliated funds that are seeking creative, workable solutions to challenges shared by hometowns across the state. McCook Fund Advisory Committee members are known throughout the NCF network as generous mentors. Seven current McCook FAC members travel many miles to spend countless hours sharing with other affiliated funds what they have learned about building quality relationships, strengthening community connections, and investing in homegrown talent.

MCFF was established in 2001; it was energized in 2007 through NCF’s HomeTown Competitiveness initiative; and in 2015, it surpassed its fundraising goals and added almost $1 million to its already robust endowment.

“Along the way, the Fund’s reputation helped recruit a skilled cadre of respected and connected community leaders,” Ambriz said. “The Fund Advisory Committee is looked to for direction.”

Those leadership qualities helped revitalize the McCook Community Chest when fundraising began to fall off and board members were becoming discouraged and burned out. However, the organization was valuable and greatly needed for the overall well-being of the community.

The Community Chest board members looked to MCFF for help and joined as an account within the Fund. FAC members assisted with board recruitment, provided strategic direction, and instilled enthusiasm. In 2016, MCFF provided a grant to the Community Chest to set up the website for McCook’s first-ever Big Give day. More than $100,000 was raised to benefit 18 local charities.

MCFF’s mission is to “inspire investment in the quality of life for the people of Southwest Nebraska.” As it works to fulfill its mission, the Fund is inspiring others along the way.

SHARING WHAT WE’VE LEARNED

“We think of a foundation in terms of estate planning and charitable giving. There is more. The other part is giving time and talent, and nurturing leaders and change makers by sharing knowledge.”

– Andrew Ambriz
McCook Economic Development Director

Asuncion Ball received help learning English and earning her nursing degree through an adult education program funded in part through the McCook Community Chest, an organization revitalized by the McCook Community Foundation Fund.

McCook Community Foundation Fund Advisory Committee member Peggy Been records comments from the group at a peer learning session held in Shickley.

Regional Relationships

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Volunteers in Howells, a community of about 600 people in Northeast Nebraska, wondered what to do with more than $50,000 left over from a wildly successful quasquicentennial celebration in 2012.

“I just thought, wow! We’ve been so used to doing short-term projects for so long. Our Q125 goal was to make memories. This was different. We needed something that was a legacy,” said Kathy Heard, Howells Community Fund Advisory Committee member.

“When we first started talking about organizing the fund we thought, who do we go to? Did we want to manage the money? No!” said Kent Smith, chair of the Howells Community Fund.

“We interviewed a dozen or so communities about the pros and cons of starting their own foundation. We wanted the service, the history and guidance, and importantly, the credibility we could get through NCF. It was a professional structure, not just us deciding what to do. I am proud that people trust us with their charitable dollars, and Nebraska Community Foundation is a big part of that,” Smith said.

Within a year of forming, the Fund made its first grant to purchase a new sound system for the community’s beloved Howells Ballroom. Since then, the Fund has made improvements at the parks and worked with the Howells Community Club on several projects. Recently the two groups joined forces to resurface the east side of the Howells tennis courts, converting the area into a basketball court with a new interlocking rubberized surface and new backboards.

“There’s a lot to be said about the process of raising money instead of just getting one huge gift from a single donor,” said vice chair Jeff Wegner. “It’s about the team, the time, the learning, the effort, the sense of accomplishment, and all those things that sustain a community.”

BUILDING ON TEAMWORK

Together, We Do Better

At Nebraska Community Foundation, we believe adults learn best from their peers, especially when they’re working toward the same goal – building a Greater Nebraska.

Based on this principle, NCF deploys a corps of volunteer peer mentors hailing from all corners of the state. Each mentor possesses special expertise or skills honed from their own experiences in community development and generously volunteers their time to other community leaders in the form of workshops, in-person and virtual meetings, conferences, and webinars.

Affiliated fund leaders tell us that access to these peer mentors is one of the most valuable aspects of being part of the NCF network. Peer-to-peer interactions are producing remarkable results in communities of all sizes. Through shared success stories and strategies, peer mentors equip volunteers with new ideas and renewed inspiration.
In 2009, Nebraska City Community Foundation Fund Advisory Committee members rewrote their mission statement to more closely reflect the needs of their community. "Investing in people" has guided their grantmaking ever since.

Part of that investment involves mentoring their youth advisory committee. This is no token committee. The group has authority to award 20 percent of the Fund’s annual payout from its unrestricted endowment. With that endowment now exceeding $1 million, it is a big responsibility.

Chloe Higgins, a high school senior, has been on the youth advisory committee since eighth grade. Last year, she recommended a $5,000 grant for a program that directly impacts young children, especially those who come from underprivileged families.

Readers EDGE serves all pre-school and kindergarten classes in the public schools, plus children in Head Start. Once a month, volunteer readers – known as “Book Besties” – visit the classes to read a book and lead a related activity. Most importantly, every child receives a copy of the book to take home.

In Nebraska City, 47 percent of children qualify for free or reduced lunch. Literacy has been shown to reduce generational poverty, yet many children are being raised in homes where there are no books.

The pilot program in April 2016 was very successful. The book was “Peter Rabbit.” Children’s comments included questions like, “Can I read this every day?” “Can I keep this book at my house?” These are gratifying responses for the 12 volunteer readers and others who help with the program.

Chloe Higgins is no stranger to the power of philanthropy. She has been recognized in the past, by Nebraska City Community Foundation Fund and the Nebraska Chapter of Association of Fundraising Professionals for her volunteer work. She says, “I grew up being taught to serve others, and that’s what I try to do in every area of my life. Making just a small difference in somebody’s day can turn their whole life around.”

Expanded Learning

The Syracuse Library Foundation Fund has big dreams for its hometown, especially local youth.

At the top of the wish list was the creation of an expanded summer learning program. NCF put Fund volunteers in touch with Bright Lights, an organization that has been offering summer learning adventures to elementary and middle school students in Lincoln for nearly three decades. Bright Lights staff members were delighted to lend their expertise to launch Syracuse Summer Blast, the first program of its kind in the area.

In its inaugural year, Syracuse Summer Blast offered courses like Disgusting Science and Lego Robotics, all with a special emphasis on STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) curriculum.

“They don’t even realize how much they are learning,” said Joy Stilmock of the Syracuse Library Foundation Fund. “They are having fun and there are no tests!”

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For more than a decade, public and private partners in Columbus have worked together to build a quality workforce to fill hundreds of jobs that require 21st century skills. Recruiting people from outside the community has not kept up with the vacancies. Columbus Area Future Fund is doing its part to support a strategy that relies on “growing your own.”

The Fund is part of a broad coalition investing in programs that prepare students for the many good-paying jobs that are available in their community right now. To assist with fundraising, Columbus Area Future Fund has made grants of $30,000 to each of the area’s three high schools.

The STEM Academy at the new Columbus High School opened in March 2017 and is considered by many educators to be a standard bearer for STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) facilities and curriculum.

Scotus Central Catholic High School will integrate the arts with its STEAM programming, to include classes in robotics, 3-D printing, drones, graphic design, and video and audio editing. Virtual reality equipment may also support certain science subjects.

STEM courses at Lakeview Community Schools will incorporate a focus on agriculture. “Get Growing” will offer experiential learning to K-12 students in aquaponics, tower gardens in the greenhouse and classrooms, an outdoor garden, and eventually a chicken coop and community partnerships in livestock production.

“Certainly, people are making decisions about where to locate based on more than just jobs,” said K.C. Belitz, president of the Columbus Area Chamber of Commerce and a member of the Columbus Area Future Fund and Nebraska Community Foundation board.

“Educational opportunity is a key consideration for our target market—young families. The high quality of all our schools and our public amenities make a strong statement that this is a community willing to invest in its people,” Belitz said. “Beyond being a conduit for major funding initiatives, Columbus Area Future Fund is becoming a facilitator, and every community needs that.”

### CLOSING THE SKILLS GAP

*Exploring New Worlds Together*

Bertrand Area Community Fund recently awarded $1,600 to Bertrand Community School to purchase virtual reality equipment for the library. The grant enables teachers to take students on virtual field trips without leaving the classroom.

These virtual excursions open a world of possibilities for students and educators. Teachers who incorporate virtual field trips into their curriculum can provide an interactive learning experience. Students can tour the International Space Station, the White House, the Great Barrier Reef, and learn about sharks while being surrounded under water!

“All I use is free,” said Stephanie Dannehl, school librarian and technology integration specialist. “Google Expeditions is the app that has about 300 places to learn about. The teacher can guide the students or the students can learn at their own pace.”

Students at Bertrand Community School can travel to and explore hundreds of different places through the new virtual reality equipment provided by a grant from the Bertrand Area Community Fund.
Executive Committee Members
Al Steuter of Johnstown
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Dennis Stara of Lincoln
Immediate Past Chair
Lora Damme of Talmage
Vice Chair
Judy Brockmeier of Eustis
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Lynn Roper of Lincoln
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Janet Krotter Chvala of O’Neill
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Shannon Harner of Lincoln
Nancy Hoch of Nebraska City
Richard Hunt of Blair
Kim Lauritzen* of Omaha
Fred Lockwood of Scottsbluff
Rodrigo Lopez of Omaha
Ed Loutzenheiser* of Juniata
Bob Mundy of Omaha
Senator Ben Nelson of Omaha
Ron Parks of Papillion
F.E. Pete Peterson of Fort Collins, CO
Beverly Pollock of Ogallala
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Kathleen Thuman of Lincoln
Susan Ugai of Lincoln
Mimi Waldbaum* of Omaha
Jeanene Wehrbein* of Plattsmouth
Ray Welsh of Pender
Jim Wolf* of Albion
*Deceased
Maxine Moul
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Dan Bahensky of Kearney
K.C. Belitz of Columbus
Steve Brewster of Stuart
Dale Dueland of McCook
Casey Garrigan of Omaha
Carol Lockwood
of Scottsbluff
Paul Madison
of Nebraska City
Lori Pankonin of Imperial
Judy Parks of Papillion
Sara Coffee Radil of Omaha

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Casey Garrigan of Omaha
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of Scottsbluff
Paul Madison
of Nebraska City
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Affiliated Fund Development Coordinator
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Office Assistant
Karl Shaddock
Assistant Director of Community Development and Philanthropy
Diane M. Wilson
Manager of Public/Private Partnerships

Our Work

Headquartered in Lincoln, Nebraska Community Foundation serves communities, organizations and donors throughout Nebraska. We provide a wide range of services including financial management, strategic development, education, training and convening to 219 affiliated funds statewide.

Nebraska Community Foundation isn’t your typical community foundation, nor is it a grantmaker. We don’t do things to people or for people. We work with nearly 1,500 volunteers across the state to put financial and human capital to work in their places, based on local needs and priorities.

Using the tools of philanthropy, community development and economic development, we’re helping Nebraskans across the state create the hometowns of their dreams.

A Voice for Rural Development Philanthropy

Nebraska Community Foundation is heralded as a national model for its groundbreaking work in community development philanthropy. NCF is frequently asked to speak about our innovative approach at special events, and national and international conferences. In September, NCF President and CEO Jeff Yost was selected to deliver a TEDx talk titled “People Attraction Priority One” sharing how progressive communities across the NCF network are rewriting their futures.

BENEFACTORS ADVANCE OUR MISSION

Cumulative Lifetime Gifts through June 30, 2017

$1,000,000 and above
The Ford Foundation
New York, NY
W.K. Kellogg Foundation
Battle Creek, MI
The Sherwood Foundation
Omaha

$250,000 to $999,999
Consolidated Companies/Thompson Family
Lincoln
First National Bank of Omaha
Omaha
Robert and Jeannette Hunt
Great Plains Communications
Donor-Advised Fund
Blair
Peter Kiewit Foundation
Omaha
Judy and Ron Parks/Millard Manufacturing Corp.
Omaha
Jim* and Elaine* Wolf
Albion
Anonymous

$100,000 to $249,999
Ameritas Charitable Foundation
Lincoln
W.H. and E.C. Damme Farms LLC/Lora Damme and Jay Longinaker
Talmage
Judy Hemberger
Estes Park, CO
MNB Entities and Graff/Thomas Families
McCook
Frank and Shirley Sibert
Kearney
Kathleen Thuman, Lincoln/Farmers State Bank, Maywood
Anonymous

$50,000 to $99,999
Bruning State Bank
Bruning
Cornerstone Bank
York
Brandon and Tammy Day/Daycos
Norfolk
Farmers Mutual Insurance Company of Nebraska
Lincoln
Great Plains Communications
Blair
Richard E.* and Louisa L. Manning
Geneva
Ken Morrison*
Hastings
Omaha World-Herald Foundation
Omaha
Pinnacle Bank, Nebraska
Omaha
Union Bank & Trust
Lincoln
Richard and Darlene Walter
Shickley
Westwood Trust
Omaha

$25,000 to $49,999
Abel Foundation
Lincoln
America First Foundation
Omaha
Lemoine “Andy” and Geri* Anderson
McCook
Cooper Foundation
Lincoln
John and Carmen Gottschalk
Omaha
Kenner Family Donor-Advised Fund
Hebron
Bruce and Kim* Lauritzen
Omaha
Carol and Fred Lockwood/Lockwood Foundation
Scottsbluff
Bob Mundy/Coordinated Planning Inc. dba Mundy Associates
Omaha
Lynn and Dana Roper
Lincoln
Dennis and Nancy Stara
Lincoln
Dennis Berens Rural Health Fund
Lincoln
Bradford Insurance Agency
Norfolk
Judy K. and Don A. Brockmeier
Eustis
Wayne and Beverly Buller
Albion
Countryside Bank
Unadilla
Diller Telephone Company
Diller
Bob and Michelle Dudley
Norfolk
Elkhorn Valley Bank
Norfolk
Farmers National Company
Omaha
Fillmore County Hospital Foundation
Geneva
Fortify Group
Shickley
Shannon Harner and Philip Goddard
Lincoln
HunTel Systems
Blair
Moeller Electric
Byron
Nebraska Investment Finance Authority
Lincoln
Nebraska Life Magazine
Norton
Pete and Jonnie Peterson
Fort Collins, CO
Pinpoint Communications
Cambridge
Sara Coffee Radil and Gary Radil
Omaha
Reinke Manufacturing Company
Deshler
Security Bank
Laurel
Bob and Jean Stowell/Springdale Title & Realty
Ord
Dale* and Jean* Tinstman
Lincoln
Tri-County Bank/Schmaderer Family
Stuart
Susan Ugai
Lincoln
Sandra and Steven Wendell
Axtell
Diane Wilson and Kay Richter
Lincoln
Jay and Susie Wolf
Albion
Wolf Foundation
Albion
Jeff Yost and Cindy Ryman Yost
Lincoln
Anonymous (2)*
* Donor is deceased

Together a Greater Nebraska
Benefiting 250 Communities in 80 Counties
June 30, 2017

This map depicts counties and communities that benefit from planned gifts and affiliated funds of Nebraska Community Foundation.

Denotes a County-Wide Affiliated Fund

219 AFFILIATED FUNDS of Nebraska Community Foundation
94 Community-Based Affiliated Funds

Ansley Area Community Foundation Fund
Arnold Community Fund
Arthur Area Community Foundation Fund
Atkinson Community Foundation Fund
Axell Community Fund
Bennet Area Community Foundation Fund
Bertrand Area Community Fund
Big Springs Community Fund
Blaine County Area Community Foundation Fund
Bloomfield Community Foundation Fund
Boone County Area Foundation Fund
Brown County Community Foundation Fund
Burr Community Fund
Butler County Area Foundation Fund
Byron Community Foundation Fund
Calamus Area Community Fund
Callaway Community Fund
Ceresco Community Foundation Fund
Chambers Community Improvement Foundation Fund
Chester Community Fund
Columbus Area Future Fund
Craig Community Fund
Creighton Community Foundation Fund
Crofton Community Foundation Fund
Cuming County Community Fund
Curtis Community Foundation Fund
Davenport Area Community Fund
Davey Area Community Foundation Fund
Deshler Community Fund
Diller Community Foundation Fund
Dorchester Community Foundation Fund
Elgin Community Foundation Fund
Eustis Area Community Foundation Fund
Exeter Area Community Foundation Fund
Friend Area Fund
Future of Decatur Foundation Fund
Greater Waverly Area Foundation Fund
Greeley Community Fund
Hallam Area Fund
Hayes County Community Fund
Hebron Community Foundation Fund
Hickman Area Community Foundation Fund
Holstein Improvement Committee Fund
Holt County Economic Development Fund
Howells Community Fund
Humboldt Area Community Foundation Fund
Hyannis Area Community Foundation Fund
Imperial Community Foundation Fund
John and Alyce Wozab Memorial Fund (Valley County)
Keith County Foundation Fund
Keya Paha County Foundation Fund
Kimball Area Foundation Fund
Laurel Area Community Foundation Fund
Logan County Community Foundation Fund
McCook Community Foundation Fund
Mullen Area Foundation Fund
Naper Community Foundation Fund
Nebraska City Community Foundation Fund
Nemaha County Development Foundation Fund
Newman Grove Community Foundation Fund
Niobrara Community Foundation Fund
Norfolk Area Community Foundation Fund
Oakdale Community Fund
O’Neill Community Foundation Fund
Palisade Community Foundation Fund
Pender-Thurston Education & Community Foundation Fund
Perkins County Community Foundation Fund
Plattsmonth Community Foundation Fund
Ralston Community Foundation Fund
Ravenna Area Vision Fund
Red Cloud Community Foundation Fund
Rock County Community Fund
Rushville Community Fund
Ruskin Community Foundation Fund
Shickley Community Foundation Fund
Spencer Community Foundation Fund
Stratton Community Fund
Stuart Community Foundation Fund
Syracuse Development Foundation Fund
Tecumseh Community Foundation Fund
Thedford Area Community Foundation Fund
Tilden-Meadow Grove Community Foundation Fund
Trenton Community Foundation Fund
Tumbull Community Foundation Fund
Unadilla Area Community Foundation Fund
Valley County Community Foundation Fund
Wausau Community Foundation Fund
Wayne Area Legacy Fund
Wheeler County Community Foundation Fund
Wilber Area Community Foundation Fund
Wymore-Blue Springs Area Fund

Growing Together

With an unrestricted endowment of nearly $1.7 million, the Shickley Community Foundation Fund’s investments in community – and especially the school – continue to grow. The Fund has supported construction of the school’s new greenhouse, where students of all ages get hands-on learning opportunities, plus fresh vegetables for lunch.

In this district of about 150 students, there is no skimping on extra-curricular activities; top-notch equipment; or superior, full-time early childhood development. They have the unwavering support of the Shickley Community Foundation Fund.
Succeeding Together

More than $13 million in new contributions to locally controlled, unrestricted endowments.

That is the financial goal for a partnership of 25 NCF community-based funds which began in 2012 and will continue through 2020. Equally important are the skills, the knowledge, and the relationships developing among dozens of leaders across the state.

The Building Community Capacity in Rural Nebraska initiative involves 13 affiliated funds each challenged to raise $500,000 to receive a $250,000 matching grant from The Sherwood Foundation. Another 12 funds are working to raise $200,000 each for a $100,000 Sherwood Foundation matching grant.

The first round of communities – McCook, Nebraska City, Norfolk and Shickley – have successfully completed the challenge, and many of those volunteers are mentoring others in strengthening community engagement and leadership.

29 Organizational Affiliated Funds
- Brown County Hospital Endowment Fund
- Chase County Hospital Foundation Fund
- Christian Heritage Endowment Fund
- Diane Nelson Endowment for the Governor’s Residence Fund
- Fillmore County Hospital Foundation Fund
- Foundation for Thayer County Health Services Fund
- Friends of the Governor’s Residence Fund
- Grace Lutheran Church Foundation Fund
- Heartland Big Brothers Big Sisters Charitable Foundation Fund
- Leadership Nebraska Foundation Fund
- Lucille Burch Foundation for Animal Companions Fund
- Milford Public Schools Foundation Fund
- Nebraska CASA Association Dodge County Fund
- Nebraska Cattlemen Research and Education Foundation Fund
- Nebraska DECA Foundation Fund
- Nebraska LEAD Program Foundation Fund
- Nebraska Library Association Foundation Fund
- Nebraska Statewide Arboretum Fund
- Northeast Nebraska RC&D Foundation Fund
- Northern Cheyenne Breakout Legacy Fund
- ServeNebraska Fund
- SkillsUSA Nebraska Foundation Fund
- Syracuse Library Foundation Fund
- The WealthSpring Fund
- Ukena Charitable Trust Fund
- Valley County Health System Foundation Fund
- Wachusa Audubon Society Fund
- West Holt Medical Services Foundation Fund
- Wymore Public Library Foundation Fund

45 Donor-Advised Funds
- William H. and Erma C. Damme Fund
- Dayco4Good Donor-Advised Fund
- Alice Devoe Fund
- Dennis and Ruth Demmel Family Donor-Advised Fund
- Rudolph R. Elis Donor-Advised Fund
- Farmers National Education Foundation Fund
- First National Bank of Omaha Fund
- First State Bank Nebraska Donor-Advised Fund
- Bud and Georgie Gerhart Family Fund
- Lawrence Goscha Scholarship Fund
- Graft Charitable Foundation Donor-Advised Fund
- Dale and Sharon Harlan Donor-Advised Fund
- Robert and Jeanette Horizon Great Plains Communications Fund
- Leona Ihde Fund
- Kenner Family Fund
- Kreutz Bennett Donor-Advised Fund
- McGregor Family Donor-Advised Fund
- Steven J. and Lorraine K. Miller Charitable Fund
- Eugene and Donna Oakeson Family Fund
- Tom and Cynthia Olson Family Donor-Advised Fund
- Omaha Hearing School for Children Donor-Advised Fund
- Ron and Judy Parks Donor-Advised Fund
- Jennifer Reinke Donor-Advised Fund
- Margarette Rose Donor-Advised Fund
- Margaret Russell Trust Donor-Advised Fund
- Paul and Karen Seger Family Fund
- Brad and Nancy Sherwood Donor-Advised Fund
- James Sherwood Donor-Advised Fund
- St. Andrew’s Duffield Donor-Advised Fund
- Nebraska Library Association Foundation Fund
- Nebraska Cattlemen Research and Health Care
- Brinping State Bank Donor-Advised Fund
- Cabela’s Donor-Advised Fund
- Connie Fund

219 Affiliated Funds of Nebraska Community Foundation

7 Public/Private Partnership Funds
- Basin Coalition Fund
- FutureForce Fund
- Nebraska Habitat Projects Fund
- North Platte Decree Committee Fund
- Partnerships for Innovation Fund
- Platte River Recovery Implementation Program Fund
- Rainwater Basin Joint Venture Fund

23 Designated or Field of Interest Funds
- Orin and Ruby Barlean Scholarship Fund
- Butte Anoka Scholarships Fund
- Chief Standing Bear Journey for Justice Scholarship Fund
- Concordia University Nebraska Endowment Fund
- Don and Arlete Fells Fund
- Bobby Foehlinger Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Ken Good Scholarship Fund
- Lyndell A. Harris Memorial Fund
- Neal and Pauline Keller Scholarship Fund
- Donald Keenan Memorial Fund for Math and Science Education
- Martens Family Scholarship Fund
- McManigal Family Fund
- Nagengast Family Scholarship Fund
- Nebraska Business Hall of Fame Scholarship Fund
- Omaha Hearing School for Children Scholarship Fund
- Irene and Verne Pretzer Scholarship Fund
- Edna and Richard Reiner Scholarship Fund
- John and Geraldine Slama Designated Fund
- St. Edward Medical Clinic Fund
- Tri-Valley Medical Foundation Designated Fund
- Verner and Mildred Vinzant Elwood Care Center Endowment Fund
- Waco Community Scholarship Fund
- Youth Scholar College Scholarship Fund

21 Life Income Funds
- Additional gifts are invested through NCF to benefit Nebraska communities and organizations and provide income for the donors.
ANNUAL GIFTS SUPPORT OUR WORK

Gifts received 7/1/2016 – 6/30/2017

$100,000 and above
Peter Kiewit Foundation
Omaha
The Sherwood Foundation
Omaha
Anonymous

$25,000 to $99,999
Lora Damme and
Jay Longinaker
Talmage
Farmers Mutual Insurance
Company of Nebraska
Lincoln
Judy and Ron Parks
Papillion

$10,000 to $24,999
Abel Foundation
Lincoln
Consolidated Companies
Lincoln
Great Plains Communications
Blair
Carol and Fred Lockwood
Scottsbluff
MNB Financial Group
McCook
Pinnacle Bank
Omaha
Lynn and Dana Roper
Lincoln
Dale Tinstman* / Tinstman
Family Donor-Advised Fund
Lincoln
Union Bank & Trust
Lincoln

$5,000 to $9,999
Ameritas Charitable
Foundation
Lincoln
Steve Buttress
Kearney
Cornerstone Bank
York
Sandra and Steven Wendell
Axtell
Westwood Trust
Omaha
Wolf Foundation
Albion
Jay and Susie Wolf
Albion

$2,000 to $4,999
Auburn Agency Crop, Inc.
Auburn
Baird Holm LLP
Omaha
Bellevue University
Bellevue
BKD, LLP
Lincoln
Bradford Insurance Agency
Norfolk
Bruning State Bank
Bruning
Cline, Williams, Wright,
Johnson & Oldfather LLP
Lincoln
Community Hospital
McCook
D.A. Davidson
Lincoln
Daycos
Norfolk
Dale and Mary Dueland
McCook
Farmers National Company
Omaha
Fillmore County Hospital
Geneva
First State Bank Nebraska
Lincoln
Fortify Group
Shickley
Frenchman Valley Farmers Cooperative
Imperial
Frontier Bank
Pender
Mark and Linda Graff
McCook
C. John Guenzel
Roca
Jim and Terri Gustafson
Lincoln
Jeffres Sand & Gravel
Burwell
Elna Johnson
Imperial
Paul and Angie Madison
Nebraska City
McPherron, Skiles & Loop CPAs
McCook
Millard Manufacturing
La Vista
Moeller Electric
Byron
Nebraska Farm Bureau
Lincoln
Nebraska Investment Finance Authority
Lincoln
Nebraska Life Magazine
Norfolk
Tom and Cynthia Olson
Lincoln
Lori and Russ Pankonin
Imperial
Pender Grain Elevator
Pender
Pinpoint Communications
Cambridge
Sara Coffee Radil
Omaha
Reinke Manufacturing Company
Deshler
Reliant Transportation
Lincoln
Sandhills State Bank
Bassett
Sandman Family Foundation
Diller
Security Bank
Laurel
Springdale Title & Realty
Ord
The Ambassador Group
Nebraska City
Jeffrey Yost and Cindy Ryman Yost
Lincoln
$1,000 to $1,999
Bank of America Charitable Foundation
Charlotte, NC
Douglas and Louise Bereuter
Cedar Bluffs
Bettenhausen Family Foundation
Lincoln
Judy K. and Don A. Brockmeier
Eustis
Reggi and Doug Carlson
Lincoln
First Central Bank
McCook
Graff Charitable Foundation
McCook
Lorenzen Lumber & Grain
Pender
Dennis and Nancy Stara
Lincoln
Al and Lois Steuter
Johnstown
The Colonial Press
Omaha
$500 to $999
Acklie Charitable Foundation
Lincoln
Dan and Beth Bahensky
Kearney
Samuel* and Joyce Baird
Lincoln
K.C. and Colleen Belitz
Columbus
Steven Brewster
Stuart
Janny and Ryan Crotty
Lincoln
James R. and Anne E. Domgard
Lincoln
Susan Ugai
Lincoln
Kiel VanderVeen
Nebraska City
Greg and Marcia Vasek
Lincoln
Richard and Darlene Walter
Shickley
Ray and Deb Welsh
Pender
Diane Wilson and Kay Richter
Pender
Angie and Brian Zimmer
Lincoln

Gary Hoeffelheinrich
and Katherine Kubes
Lincoln
INSPRO
Lincoln
Jason and Tracia Kennedy
Roca
Kurt and Jerene Kruse
Albion
Richard and Janet Labenz
Lincoln
Lane Gewecke Consulting
Lincoln
Michael McFarlin
Omaha
Anders Olson
Norfolk
Ron and Judy Parks
Donor-Advised Fund
Papillion
Richard and Catherine Schmoker
Edina, MN
James Stuart III Family
Foundation
Lincoln
Susan Ugai
Lincoln
Kiel VanderVeen
Nebraska City
Greg and Marcia Vasek
Lincoln
Richard and Darlene Walter
Shickley
Ray and Deb Welsh
Pender
Diane Wilson and Kay Richter
Pender
Angie and Brian Zimmer
Lincoln

Together a Greater Nebraska | 17
The Transfer of Wealth Opportunity

Whether you have spent your whole life in Nebraska, or were born and raised here, moved away, but still care deeply about your hometown, now is the time to think about giving back.

Nebraskans are generous by nature. Nebraska Community Foundation empowers people who hold true to their Nebraska values. You can provide for your family, realize tax benefits, and importantly, create a lasting legacy through charitable gifts to your community.

Our 2011 Transfer of Wealth Study estimated that more than $600 billion will transfer from one generation to the next in Nebraska by 2060. In 51 counties, the peak years for this transfer are happening right now.

Think of the opportunity! If only a small portion of our intergenerational wealth were shared with the communities where that wealth was built over generations, our hometowns would have abundant resources for reinvestment.

In 2002, when we began a serious effort to encourage planned giving, there were only 18 planned gifts totaling $6 million to benefit 14 communities. Today, there are 307 planned gifts, conservatively estimated at $61 million, to benefit dozens of communities and organizations across the state.

We are honored to be working with generous donors and their financial advisors who care about the future of our hometowns.

Don and Arlyce Ausdemore feel a sense of community pride and volunteerism when they return to their hometown of Crofton. Both husband and wife grew up in farming families that had homesteaded near this Northeast Nebraska community. After college graduation, they both became teachers and moved to Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, on the far northeast side of the Upper Peninsula.

Don and Arlyce return to Crofton regularly to see relatives and for special events. “There is something about the values of faith and family that is so impressive in Crofton,” said Arlyce. “When we visited for the 125th anniversary, people really stepped up to welcome us.”

Don spoke proudly of Crofton’s numerous state titles in track, basketball and football. “The town is continuing a strong tradition of excellence in education and athletics,” he said. “It’s a great place to be a student.”

These warm feelings for their hometown have inspired Don and Arlyce to contribute to the Crofton Community Foundation Fund.

“…and continue to improve the quality of life so that younger people will want to stay or return.”

Don said, “Jim answered all our questions, and he even gave us his cell phone number,” Don laughed.

This giving method can be used by individuals age 70-1/2 or older.

“The great thing about a Charitable IRA Rollover is that it adds nothing to your gross income, which is important if you are filing a short IRS tax return. Now, we can transfer our annual required distribution to our church, the college, and back to our hometown through the Crofton Community Foundation Fund,” Don said.

Arlyce added, “Our hope is that the community continues to have the same Midwestern values and environment we see every time we return for a visit, and to continue to improve the quality of life so that younger people will want to stay or return.”

“It is important to have a robust endowment because, unlike income from farming, with an endowment, you can count on having funding for necessary improvements year after year. It will be there forever,” Arlyce said.
THE LEGACY SOCIETY

Becoming a Member of the Legacy Society

Nebraska Community Foundation’s Legacy Society is our way to celebrate and say thank you to generous donors of both current gifts and future gift provisions through estate plans that benefit Nebraska. You will be enrolled in the Legacy Society when you let NCF know of your charitable intentions. With permission, you will be honored in NCF’s annual report and you will receive an invitation to attend the NCF annual banquet.

If you would like to support Nebraska Community Foundation, give back to your hometown, or if you have already made a future gift intention in your will, through a beneficiary designation, or with a life income arrangement, contact Jim Gustafson, Director of Advancement and Gift Planning, at (402) 323-7341 or jgustafson@nebcommfound.org.

Recognition in the Legacy Society is based on contributions made through and information known on or before June 30, 2017.

THE NCF STAKEHOLDERS CLUB

Honors those generous individuals who have made a planned gift of any amount to Nebraska Community Foundation to support our community-building mission.

Lemoine “Andy” and Geri* Anderson
McCook

Judy K. and Don A. Brockmeier
Eustis

Fred and Penni Bruning
Bruning

Wayne and Bev Buller
Ericson

Judith Scherer Connealy and Maft Connealy
Decatur

Brandon and Tammy Day
Norfolk

Dale and Mary Dueland
McCook

Douglas A. and Patricia L. Friedli
Nebraska City

Douglas and Judy Gaswick
Imperial

Mark and Linda Graff
McCook

William and Sandra Graves
McCook

Jim and Terri Gustafson
Lincoln

Don and Alice Harpst
McCook

In Memory of Leo Hink
Bingham

Bethanne Kunz
Ord

Fred and Carol Lockwood
Scottsbluff

Paul and Angie Madison
Nebraska City

Maxine and Francis Moul
Lincoln

Irv and Wanda Omveldt
Lincoln

Lori and Russ Pankonin
Imperial

Judy and Ron Parks
Papillion

Pete and Jonnie Peterson
Fort Collins, CO

Beverly and Jack* Pollock
Ogallala

Gail DeBuse Potter and James E.* Potter
Lincoln

Lynn and Dana Roper
Lincoln

Jon D. and Jennifer L. Schmaderer
Stuart

James P. Scholz
Omaha

Nicole Sedlacek
O’Neill

Frank and Shirley Sibert
Kearney

Dennis and Nancy Stara
Lincoln

Al and Lois Steuter
Johnstown

Bob and Jean Stowell
Ord

Brian and Kelli Thompson
Waverly

Kathleen Thuman
Lincoln

Estates of Dale and Jean Tinstman
Shickley

Gene Weedon
McCook

Ray and Deb Welsh
Pender

Marcia A. White
Lincoln

Diane M. Wilson
Lincoln

Jay and Susie Wolf
Albian

Jeff Yost and Cindy Ryman Yost
Lincoln

Benedict and Jane Zach
Omaha

* Donor is deceased

Ten Tools for Planning Your Gift

1) Charitable Bequest
   A provision in your will that creates a legacy

2) Gift of Retirement Plan
   Avoids potential double taxation

3) Gift of Life Insurance
   Easy, convenient and flexible

4) Donor-Advised Fund
   Presents maximum tax benefits and grantmaking flexibility

5) Charitable Gift Annuity
   Provides lifetime income

6) Gift of Securities
   Offers triple tax benefits

7) Gift of Ag Commodities
   A tax-wise gift compared to cash

8) Gift of Real Estate
   Produces significant tax advantages

9) Charitable Remainder Trust
   Increases income and bypasses capital gains taxes

10) Wealth Replacement Trust
    Helps provide for family and charity

To learn more about planning your gift, visit nebcommfound.giftlegacy.com.
The Jim and Elaine Wolf Club recognizes the generosity of those individuals, foundations, and corporations who have made cumulative, lifetime gifts of $100,000 or more to an NCF affiliated fund. The Club is named in honor of the late Jim and Elaine Wolf, who initiated NCF’s endowment with a gift of $100,000, and provided the first $100,000 challenge grant to Boone County to build a permanent endowment.

Russ and Laurie Allen
Pender
Lemoine “Andy” and Geri* Anderson
McCook
Gary Jon Aten and Caroline Skopec Aten
Atkinson
Howard and Peggy Atkins
Kimball
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska
Omaha
Brandt Family
Unadilla
Thomas D. Buckley Trust
Chappell
Wayne and Bev Buller
Albion
Larry and Mary Lynn Callen
Tucson, AZ
Cargill
Minneapolis, MN
Thomas and Charlene Chilvers
Pierce
Consolidated Companies/Thompson Family
Lincoln
Cornerstone Bank/Holthus Family
York
W.H. and E.C. Damme
Farms LLC/Lora Damme
and Jay Longinaker
Talmage
Brandon and Tammy Day/Daycos
Norfolk
Rupert Dunklau Foundation
Lincoln
Charles* and Margre* Durham
Elwood Area Foundation, Inc.
Elwood
Bette J. and Robert A.* Essig
Burwell
Farmers National Company
Omaha
Don* and Artice* Fells
First National Bank of Omaha
Omaha
Frontier Bank
Pender
George F. Garlick
Richland, WA
Bud and Georgianne Gerhart
Lincoln
Lloyd* and Naomi* Geweke

Great Plains Communications
Blair
Gerald* and Verlene Gunderson
Wausa
Bonnie McManigal Gupta
Sebastopol, CA
Robert Harr* Dom and Alice Harpst
McCook
In Memory of Lyndall Harris
Judy Hemberger
Estes Park, CO
Humboldt Community Foundation, Inc.
Humboldt
Robert Hunt* Darrel and Deb Johnson
Stickley
Kermit* and Lottie Wolf* Korns
Imperial
W.K. Kellogg Foundation
Battle Creek, MI
Ron and Wanda Kelly
Thurston
Kenner Family
Hebron

Peter Kiewit Foundation
Omaha
Richard P. Kimmel & Laurine Kimmel Charitable Foundation
Lincoln
In Honor of Vincent J. and Marie V. Kreifels
Nebraska City
Dan and Patty Kreitman
Wahoo
Larry R. Larson
Omaha
Lawler Foundation
Humble, TX
Wade Leak and Jay Yost
New York, NY
Raymond Lohmeyer* Joel* and Helen Lundak
Nebraska City
Duncan G. McGregor Revocable Trust and Janice E. McGregor Revocable Trust
Gibbon
Steven J. and Lorraine K. Miller
Lincoln
MNB Entities and Graff/Thomas Families
McCook
Kenneth Morrison*/Morrison Roberts Foundation
Hastings
L. Arvene* and Neva* Myers and Family
Nelson Family Foundation
Lincoln
Donald E. Nielsen
Foundation
Oakland
Nucor Corporation
Norfolk
Tom and Cynthia Olson
Lincoln
Omaha Hearing School for Children
Omaha
Judy and Ron Parks
Papillion
Pinnacle Bank, Nebraska
Omaha, Columbus, Gretna, Ogallala, O’Neill
Raimondo Foundation
Columbus
Anthony F. and Jeanne Raimondo
Columbus
Rolland R. Ramsthal*
Jim and Lanita Recob
Laurel
Reinke Manufacturing Company
Deshler
Jennifer S. Reinke
Hebron
Harold and Marilyn Rink
Pender
Rock County Growth, Inc.
Bassett
Suzanne and Walter Scott Foundation
Omaha
Harold W. Sears*
Paul and Karen Seger
Atkinson
Brad and Nancy Sherwood
Elkhorn
James Sherwood
Big Pine Key, FL
Frank and Shirley Sibert
 Kearney
Steinhart Foundation
Nebraska City
The ARC Norfolk
Norfolk
The Sherwood Foundation
Omaha
Kathleen Thuman, Lincoln/ Farmers State Bank, Maywood
Tietjen & Son LLC
Byron
Dale* and Jean* Tinstman
Tri-County Bank/Schmaderer Family
Stuart
W3 Cattle LLC
Pender
Ona O. Warden*
Dennis and Toni Werner
Chambers
Wiebe Ralston Foundation
Ralston
Hugh, Bill and Cam* Wilkins
Geneva
Wilkinson Family
Curtis
Paul John Anton and Doris Wirth Foundation
Nebraska City
Jay and Susie Wolf
Albion
Jim* and Elaine* Wolf
World’s Foremost Bank
Lincoln
Michael Yanney Family/America First Companies
Omaha
Dale and Janie Zadina
Ord
John and Frances* Zuroski
Albion

* Donor is deceased
The Connie Day Club honors individuals who have made a planned gift of $500,000 or more in their will, through a beneficiary designation or with a life income arrangement to an affiliated fund of Nebraska Community Foundation. By designating a $500,000 life insurance policy to establish the Connie Fund, Connie Day created an endowment to benefit the children of Northeast Nebraska.

Investing in Young Adults

Twenty-one years ago, the late Connie Day of Norfolk used a $500,000 life insurance policy to establish a donor-advised fund with NCF. Over the years, earnings from her endowment have funded nearly $300,000 in programs that improve the lives of children and young adults in Northeast Nebraska; yet the principal of the endowment has grown to $867,500.

This past year, the Fund made a commitment to a popular program for teens in Norfolk. The Zone is a place for youths to hang out with friends and play games. It is also a program that encourages community involvement, health and wellness, and leadership.

When federal funding disappeared in 2010, former Zone youths helped to form a new board and reopen The Zone in 2012. With 65 youths on its roster, the program is currently at capacity.

A $37,000 grant from the Connie Fund will provide bridge funding to allow staff and board members time to explore how to evolve to the next stage and address program development and leadership succession. Future funding will support sustainable growth of this important program through coaching and mentoring for staff as well as leadership development for board members.

Executive director Julee Pfeil of The Zone joins a discussion on how to decorate the windows for Norfolk’s Oktoberfest celebration. From left to right, staff member Hayley Stamp, Kallie Arnold, Julee Pfeil, and Maleia Taylor. The students in this photo have been coming to The Zone for three years.
THE HOMETOWN HERITAGE CLUB

The Hometown Heritage Club recognizes friends who have made provisions in their estate plans with a future gift intention of any amount to benefit an affiliated fund of Nebraska Community Foundation.

Colin and Teresa Albers
Nebraska City
Estate of Wyonna Alfs
Sally Andersen
Omaha
Estate of Laura “Merle” Atkinson
Larry and Kelly Ballinger
Pender
Estate of Dr. John L. Bathy
Guy and Bonnie Bechtel
Ogallala
Estate of Kenneth Beckmann
Kerry and Colleen Beltz
Columbus
Estate of Trudy L. Bergen
In Memory of Don Keenan
Estate of Charles Wilton Berryman
Estate of Barbara J. Birmingham
F. Kay Blackstone
Red Cloud
Marcia A. Boden
Roseville, CA
Wayne and Pat Boilesen
Albion
Estate of Mary Ellen Bosworth
Estate of Elizabeth Boyce
Jim and Helen Bradford
Norfolk
Jim Brennan
Atkinson
Janet S. Brewster
Stuart
Estate of Joe G. Brewster
Steven A. Brewster
Stuart
Judy K. and Don A. Brockmeier
Eustis
Steve and Sharon Brown
Valentine
Frank L. and Mary B. Bruning
Bruning
Fred and Penni Bruning
Bruning
Rick and Tracie Chochon
Columbus
Janet L. Krotter Chvala
O’Neill
Judith Scherer Connealy
and Matt Connealy
Decatur
Estate of John E. Daro
Edwin and Barbara Dickau
Newport
Estate of Gerald G. Grote
Jim and Terri Gustafson
Lincoln
Steven and Beverly Harms
Davenport
Don and Alice Harpst
McCook
Jerry and Kathy Heard
Howells
Peggy and Steve Hemphill
Diller
Estate of Ioan Hendrickson
Estate of Arnold W. Henrichs
Sharon A. Hersemann
Nebraska City
Carol Hilker
Pender
Estate of Blanche A. Fillipi
Bud and Rita Fleischer
Columbus
Estate of L.J. and Mitzi Fox
Estate of Paul M. Fox
Douglas A. and Patricia L. Friedli
Nebraska City
Estate of Kenneth Beckmann
Nebraska City
Douglas and Judy Friesen
Howells
Michael D. and Elizabeth Hunt
Lincoln
Stephen Hunt
Plattsburg
Estate of Richard W. Jacoby
Larry and Pat Jakubowski
Howells
Estates of Helen F. Jasa
Jana M. Jensen
Bingham
Nick and Susan Jensen
Pender
Estate of David C. Johnson
Gene and Beverly Johnson
Wausa
Estate of Franklin Kjeldgaard
Chad Lottman
Diller
Estate of Wayne C. Kjeldgaard
Dallas
Thedford
Estate of Joan Kjeldgaard
Richard Holland and
Kathleen High Holland
Lincoln
Estate of Eleanora F. Houser
Donz and Phyllis Hovendick
Four Seasons, MO
Dave Hunt
Holdrege
Nealz and Elizabeth Hunt
Albion
Stephen Hunt
Plattsburg
Estate of Richard W. Jacoby
Larry and Pat Jakubowski
Howells
Estate of Helen F. Jasa
Jana M. Jensen
Bingham
Nick and Susan Jensen
Pender
Estate of David C. Johnson
Gene and Beverly Johnson
Wausa
Loralz and Elna Johnson
Imperial
Estate of Franklin Kjeldgaard
Estate of Wayne C. Kjeldgaard
John C. Klosterman
David City
Keith and Karen Knudsen
Laurel
Dawn Koelehoos
Fremont
Wendellz and Joyce Kronberg
Ralston
Kurt and Jerene Kruse
Albion
Bethanne Kunz
Ord
Estate of H. Neil Lancaster
Larry R. Larson
Omaha
David and Susan LeGrand
Nebraska City
Estate of Arlen Lohmeyer
Estate of Raymond Lohmeyer
Susan Lorence and Ray Newton
Plattsburg
Mark and Jana Lorensen
Pender
Chad Lottman
Diller
Douglas and Cindy Lottman
Diller
Bonnie and Gerry Luckey
David City
Estate of Donald Lundeen
Ronald Maas
Bennet
Paul and Angie Madison
Nebraska City
Cora Lynn Fosler Malmberg
Pender
Estate of Bonnie and Eugene Martinson
Brian and Joan Mastny
Clarkson
Travis and Heidi McConnell
Wallace
Marilyn D. McNabb
Lincoln
Redge and Phyllis Meierhenry
Clancy, MT
Dorothy Meijsterz
Howells

22 | 2017 Annual Report
Funding Together in Friend

Together a Greater Nebraska | 23

Avery Tuttle, age nine, enjoys the new park equipment installed with the help of community volunteers and funding from the Friend Area Fund. Additionally, the city constructed a new park clubhouse, thanks to funding from an endowed donor-advised fund, created by the late Leona Ihde of Beaver Crossing.
### CONTRIBUTIONS TO AFFILIATED FUNDS

#### $7,500 and above for the 12 months ending June 30, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donor</th>
<th>Beneficiary Affiliated Fund</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$500,000 and above</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
First National Bank of Omaha Fund, Butler County, Nebraska Cattlemen Research & Education Foundation Fund, Diller, Nebraska, LEAD Program Foundation Fund  
Estate of Russell D. Devoe  
John T. Zurosko Trust  
$250,000 $499,999  
The Sherwood Foundation  
Estate of Mary Louise Weverka  
Duncan G. McGregor Revocable Trust and Janice E. McGregor Revocable Trust  
Jennifer R. Reinke |
| $100,000 to $249,999 |  
Rock County Growth, Inc.  
Anonymous  
Raimondo Foundation  
Graff Charitable Foundation  
The ARC Norfolk  
Lawler Foundation  
W3 Cattle LLC  
Fillmore County Hospital Foundation  
Harold and Marilyn Rink  
Frontier Bank  
$50,000 to $99,999 |  
BHE Renewables  
Estate of Lance F. Johnson  
Tri-County Bank  
Russ and Laurie Allen  
Estate of Oscar Hemenway  
Daycos  
National Fish & Wildlife Foundation  
The Jerry & Blanche A. Fillipi Foundation  
Faith Regional Health Services  
Biles Farm  
Anonymous  
Rupert Dunklau Foundation  
Anonymous |
| $25,000 to $49,999 |  
Alice E. Christiansen  
Estate of Esther Pilster  
Nucor Corporation  
Estate of Kendall M. Peterson  
Cornerstone Bank  
Sherwood Foundation Fund for Rural Nebraska  
Calamus Area  
McGregor Family Donor-Advised Fund  
Jennifer Reinke Donor-Advised Fund  
Rock County  
Columbus  
Graff Charitable Foundation Donor-Advised Fund, McCook, Stratton  
Norfolk  
Orin and Ruby Barlean Scholarship Fund  
Pender-Thurston  
Pender-Thurston  
Pender-Thurston  
Atkinson, Chambers, Holt County, O’Neill, Stuart  
Wymore Public Library Foundation Fund  
Atkinson, Holt County, O’Neill, Rock County, Stuart  
Pender-Thurston  
Wheeler County  
Daycos/Good Donor-Advised Fund, Norfolk  
Rainwater Basin Joint Venture Fund  
Pender-Thurston  
Norfolk, Wayne  
Pender-Thurston  
Chief Standing Bear Journey for Justice Scholarship Fund  
Pender-Thurston  
Perkins County  
Norfolk Iron & Metal  
Elna Johnson  
Penro Construction Company  
James E. Gran  
Gottsch Livestock Feeders  
Ron Bruns Feed Yards |
| $15,000 to $24,999 |  
Neil and Kristen Jack  
Kayton Farms  
Richard E. and Joan S. Adkins Jr.  
Gary and Beverly Meyer  
Anonymous  
Larry and Mary Lynn Callen  
V & J Family Trust  
Estate of Wayne Kjeldgaard  
Pender-Thurston  
Wymore Public Library Foundation Fund  
Leadership Nebraska Foundation Fund, Norfolk  
Ralston  
Boone County, First State Bank Nebraska  
Donor-Advised Fund, Nebraska Business Hall of Fame Scholarship Fund, Nebraska LEAD Program Foundation Fund, Red Cloud, Wheeler County  
Spencer  
Valley County  
Nebraska Business Hall of Fame Scholarship Fund, Brown County  
Red Cloud, Yost/Leak Donor-Advised Fund  
Nebraska Cattlemen Research & Education Foundation Fund, Stuart  
Nebraska Statewide Arboretum Fund, Pender-Thurston  
Boone County  
Red Cloud  
Pender-Thurston  
Diller  
Nebraska LEAD Program Foundation Fund, Pender-Thurston  
Valley County  
Nebraska Business Hall of Fame Scholarship Fund, Norfolk, Rock County  
Norfolk  
Imperial  
Pender-Thurston  
Nebraska Cattlemen Research & Education Foundation Fund  
Red Cloud  
Pender-Thurston |
| $10,000 to $14,999 |  
Eustis  
Boone County  
Laurel, Nebraska LEAD Program Foundation Fund  
Red Cloud  
Pender-Thurston |
| $5,000 to $9,999 |  
Anonymous  
Perkins County  
Perkins County |
| $2,500 to $4,999 |  
Anonymous  
Perkins County |
| $1,000 to $2,499 |  
Anonymous  
Perkins County |
| $250 to $999 |  
Anonymous  
Perkins County |
| $100 to $249 |  
Anonymous  
Perkins County |
| $50 to $99 |  
Anonymous  
Perkins County |
| $25 to $49 |  
Anonymous  
Perkins County |
| $25 |  
Anonymous  
Perkins County |
| $15 |  
Anonymous  
Perkins County |
| $10 |  
Anonymous  
Perkins County |
| $5 |  
Anonymous  
Perkins County |
| $1 |  
Anonymous  
Perkins County |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donor</th>
<th>Beneficiary Affiliated Fund</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Riverview Donor-Advised Fund</td>
<td>Rock County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Central State Bank</td>
<td>Red Cloud</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dolores K. (Dot Kokes) Speidel</td>
<td>Valley County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jay Yost and Wade Leak</td>
<td>Yost/Leak Donor-Advised Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lorensen Lumber &amp; Grain LLC LLC</td>
<td>Nebraska Statewide Arboretum Fund, Pender-Thurston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jay and Susie Wolf</td>
<td>Boone County, Nebraska Cattlemen Research &amp; Education Foundation Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eustis Body Shop</td>
<td>Eustis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James A. Vanous</td>
<td>Butler County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elmer and Mary Beth Vanous</td>
<td>Butler County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wanda M. McCabe</td>
<td>Callaway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathleen Lute</td>
<td>Keith County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$7,500 to $9,999</td>
<td>Nebraska City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard P. Kimmel &amp; Laurine Kimmel Charitable Foundation</td>
<td>Brown County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renée and Jim Adriansson</td>
<td>Pender-Thurston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthew and Leslie Timm</td>
<td>Arnold, Diller, Dorchester, Holt County, Imperial Leadership Nebraska Foundation Fund, Nebraska LEAD Program Foundation Fund, Perkins County, Verdigré</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pinnacle Bank</td>
<td>Eustis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judy K. and Don A. Brockmeier</td>
<td>Nebraska Cattlemen Research &amp; Education Foundation Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska Cattlemen</td>
<td>Pender-Thurston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charter West Bank</td>
<td>Plattsmouth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mike Schuldte</td>
<td>Thedford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master Hand Feeds</td>
<td>Boone County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert and Myrna Krohn Family Foundation</td>
<td>Brown County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Al and Lois Steuter</td>
<td>Friend, Nebraska Cattlemen Research &amp; Education Foundation Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizens State Bank</td>
<td>Diller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dennis D. Schmidt</td>
<td>Red Cloud</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heritage Bank</td>
<td>Nebraska Statewide Arboretum Fund, Pender-Thurston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill and Maureen Wenke</td>
<td>Norfolk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laugh &amp; A Half Marathon</td>
<td>Norfolk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terry and Lynette Roth</td>
<td>Laurel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elkhorn Valley Bank &amp; Trust</td>
<td>Boone County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alice J. Chace</td>
<td>William H. and Erma C. Damme Fund, Nemaha County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rex A. and Julie K. Mahoney</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lora Damme and Jay Longinaker</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donor</th>
<th>Beneficiary Affiliated Fund</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Matthew D. and Connie Felber</td>
<td>Pender-Thurston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donald B. and Arlyce Ausdemore</td>
<td>Crofton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuttle Inc.</td>
<td>Friend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gerald and Darlene Ehlers</td>
<td>Brown County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John C. and Patricia K. Phillips</td>
<td>Red Cloud</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne and Bev Buller</td>
<td>Boone County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bob Dudley</td>
<td>Norfolk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bob and Marilyn L. Harris</td>
<td>Nebraska Business Hall of Fame Scholarship Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard A. and Mary Heyne</td>
<td>Pender-Thurston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janet L. Krotter Chvala</td>
<td>Stuart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Todd G. and Brenda Syfie-Mundhenke</td>
<td>Brown County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Josh Swan</td>
<td>Norfolk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advance Services</td>
<td>Norfolk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Byron State Bank</td>
<td>Nebraska Cattlemen Research &amp; Education Foundation Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cornhusker Auto Center</td>
<td>Pender-Thurston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harmar Farms Consolidated</td>
<td>Stuart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pillen Family Farms</td>
<td>Brown County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stutterheim Crop Advisory</td>
<td>Norfolk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Svajgr Family Descendants Trust</td>
<td>Byron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Leroy Thom, Jean Thom and T-L Foundation</td>
<td>Norfolk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union Pacific Foundation</td>
<td>Cheyenne County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valley County Health System Foundation</td>
<td>Valley County Health System Foundation Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estate of William A. Wisnieski and Patricia J. Wisnieski</td>
<td>Howells</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Statement of Financial Position

### June 30, 2017 and 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assets</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and temporary cash investments</td>
<td>$6,436,752</td>
<td>$22,342,039</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificates of deposit</td>
<td>28,694,043</td>
<td>22,578,969</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>94,910,394</td>
<td>72,269,318</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment in real property</td>
<td>75,131</td>
<td>75,131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest receivable</td>
<td>57,281</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gift annuities insurance</td>
<td>309,449</td>
<td>328,001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due from related party</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property and equipment, net</td>
<td>83,172</td>
<td>76,028</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$130,566,222</strong></td>
<td><strong>$117,669,502</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liabilities</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Funds held for agencies</td>
<td>$8,670,617</td>
<td>$7,920,637</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued payroll liabilities</td>
<td>69,250</td>
<td>52,048</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued other liabilities</td>
<td>2,931</td>
<td>6,991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gift annuities payable</td>
<td>812,505</td>
<td>845,328</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,555,303</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,825,004</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Net Assets</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted, undesignated</td>
<td>104,033,110</td>
<td>90,589,127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted, board designated</td>
<td>1,016,101</td>
<td>1,004,552</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily restricted</td>
<td>14,112,373</td>
<td>15,401,984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanently restricted</td>
<td>1,849,335</td>
<td>1,848,835</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total net assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>121,010,919</strong></td>
<td><strong>108,844,498</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total liabilities and net assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$130,566,222</strong></td>
<td><strong>$117,669,502</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Statement of Activities

### For the years ended June 30, 2017 and 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Changes in Net Assets</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenue and support</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>$29,253,406</td>
<td>$27,229,661</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment income/(loss)</td>
<td>8,322,283</td>
<td>(240,702)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Actuarial gain/(loss)</td>
<td>(49,691)</td>
<td>(34,271)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative fee revenue and reimbursements</td>
<td>1,711,731</td>
<td>1,250,198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total revenue and support</strong></td>
<td><strong>39,237,729</strong></td>
<td><strong>28,204,886</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program services</td>
<td>24,561,153</td>
<td>17,920,764</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management and general</td>
<td>2,142,543</td>
<td>1,766,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>367,612</td>
<td>347,034</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>27,071,308</strong></td>
<td><strong>20,034,598</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Increase in Net Assets</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net assets, beginning of year</td>
<td>108,844,498</td>
<td>100,674,210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets, end of year</td>
<td>$121,010,919</td>
<td>$108,844,498</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The financial statements of Nebraska Community Foundation are audited annually by an independent public accounting firm. A copy of the audited financial statements may be obtained by contacting the Foundation’s office. A copy of the Foundation’s tax filing (Form 990) may be obtained on the Foundation’s website or by contacting the Foundation’s office.
Assets, Disbursements and Contributions
of Nebraska Community Foundation with its Affiliated Funds

**Total Assets**
($ in millions)

**Endowed Assets**
($ in millions)

**Grants and Disbursements**
($ in millions)

**Number of Contributions Per Year**
To NCF and its Affiliated Funds
Drive through Pender, Nebraska and you’re sure to notice numerous construction projects taking place – a 38,000-square-foot community center, a hospital expansion, a new law enforcement center and jail, as well as new Main Street housing and storefront restoration. In all, that’s about $50 million being invested into community revitalization.

Fifty million dollars in a town of just over 1,100 people. That equates to about $45,000 for every Pender resident.

But “Pender Pride” extends far beyond financial contributions. At the heart of that pride is the Pender-Thurston Education and Community Foundation Fund.

Evidenced by its name, the Fund has long enjoyed a collaborative and mutually beneficial partnership with Pender Public Schools. For many years, the school has offered teachers and other staff members a payroll deduction opportunity to contribute to the Pender-Thurston fund. Nearly all employees — 51 of 56 — are taking advantage of this giving method this year.

In return, the Fund offers support to the school through a scholarship program for teachers, funding for the band program, and continuous aid and guidance as they navigate, together, the growing needs of an ever-expanding student body. Class sizes at Pender Public Schools have been rising significantly and steadily over the past several years.

“We are very fortunate to have a strong school system within our community and even more fortunate that a great partnership exists between our Fund and the school,” said chair, Katie Gutzmann. “We are humbled by how many staff members at the school choose to donate to our cause each year. Pender has a lot of great initiatives happening, and that’s because of everyone stepping in to help make things happen and supporting one another along the way.”

“Nebraska Community Foundation helped us achieve pride. A pride in our community and how we can work together to do something way beyond what we thought we could do. Or ever dreamed we could do – that we ever dreamed was possible!”

– Melissa Kuhlmann
Byron