Dreams at Work

2016 Annual Report
Dear Friends:

It is amazing to be a part of dreams becoming reality. The thousands of people and hundreds of communities that make up Nebraska Community Foundation are shaping our future in profound ways.

Nebraska Community Foundation empowers local leaders to combine their vision, and focus their energy and impact, in ways that create communities of choice in the 21st century. Here is how a world-renowned community scholar describes our unique approach to community-building:

“In our long-term research about local civic development, I have never seen any initiative that has cost so little, spread so widely, created so much civic engagement and required minimal dependence on a central system...They have created a citizen-driven community learning process that is remarkable.”

John McKnight, Co-Founder
Asset-Based Community Development Institute

As local leaders learn how to use philanthropy to build communities that attract young families, enthusiasm for building charitable assets has accelerated. In the past 10 years, NCF and its affiliated funds have grown 17 percent annually, with total assets more than quadrupling from $25 million to $118 million.

People attraction is a community and economic development imperative for rural Nebraska. Today, people can live and work just about wherever they choose. We must focus on making our hometowns places of optimism that attract talent; places with stories that propose a bright future; places where everyone – especially young people – feels they have chosen an honorable path.

This report trumpets community efforts and success stories throughout our great state. Please read it with pride in what you’ve accomplished and in what you aspire to achieve!

Jeff Yost  
President and CEO

Denny Stara  
Board Chair

Cover photo: Shelby Kittle (left), age 16, is a five-year veteran of Valley County’s EntrepreneurShip Investigation camp. She is pictured with first-year camper, Julie Broker, age 13. The camp teaches young people how to develop, finance, promote and market their own products. Read Shelby’s story on page 5.
Nebraska Community Foundation board, staff and volunteers are in the ‘people attraction’ business. Together we are building communities of choice for young families, our elders, tourists, new Americans and a 21st century workforce. We are laying out the welcome mat for returners, stayers and newcomers alike.

Abby Wondercheck recently joined the volunteer Fund Advisory Committee of NCF’s Stuart Community Foundation Fund.

“My dream for our communities is to keep seeing progress. To have playgrounds and parks for the kids, opportunities to grow and to bond with one another. There is just nothing like home. Nothing has that same feeling!”

After studying and working in Lincoln for several years, Abby and her husband, Josiah, returned home in 2009 to raise their family. Like so many young adults returning to their roots, the Wonderchecks brought along their own jobs. Abby works from home for Lincoln Family Medical Group, her employer of 14 years. Josiah owns a custom cabinet-building business.

Abby is living a dream she’s held since her youth. “I always knew I wanted to come back. We knew we wanted to raise our family here and have our kids go to the schools here, and be close to both of our parents and families.

“I want to impress upon the high school kids that it is perfectly fine to go off to school and become a doctor. But we need doctors here, too!”

Attracting people to our hometowns is a long-term, multi-faceted strategy the Nebraska Community Foundation has modeled for two decades. Today, more than 50 rural counties are seeing an increase in people in their 30s and 40s. The stories in this report reflect many of the reasons we are seeing this kind of progress in our affiliated fund communities.

According to the Center for Public Affairs Research at UNO, Nebraska is seeing its most widespread growth since the early 1990s.

From 2010 to 2015, 31 of the state’s 93 counties added people. That compares with 25 from 2005-2010 and 18 from 2000 to 2005. Another 23 counties had less than a 2 percent decline. These data may indicate that population is beginning to stabilize in more than half of Nebraska’s counties.

This is the case in Holt County (pop. 10,435). After a nearly 10 percent decline in the first decade of this century, population appears to be stabilizing. More than 400 individuals and families moved into Holt County in the last 10 years.

Being close to family is only one of the reasons young adults are returning home. Quality schools, health care, recreation, jobs and business opportunities are just as important.

Community-focused affiliated funds in Holt County have a combined $5,186,756 in endowed assets and planned gifts that will help make living in north-central Nebraska a smart choice for generations to come.

Today, 125 affiliated funds are using charitable endowments to build the kind of “quality” into their place that will attract a growing number of families. Thanks to our volunteer leaders and generous donors, communities of choice are on the rise.
**Growing Our Own**

In 2002, leaders in Ord, Nebraska, located in Valley County, more than 70 miles north of Interstate 80, began to create a comprehensive development strategy with Nebraska Community Foundation. With more than 20 “priorities” for community/economic development, they were ready for a different approach.

“When we began working with Nebraska Community Foundation, we learned the value of developing entrepreneurship, leadership, youth engagement and philanthropy programs. Developing these programs enabled us to start growing our community through a grassroots effort, which increased our probability for long-term success.

“NCF helped focus our energy on strategic efforts to produce sustainable results. The high impact outcomes of our efforts include increased youth connection, growth in our young adult population, new entrepreneurial business start-ups and a strong philanthropic culture.

“NCF brings so many value-added services to our county-wide community. For example, by investing our funds with NCF, we receive valuable financial oversight services which relieve us from many burdensome duties. Instead, we spend our time and energy building meaningful relationships and programs within our communities.

“I have a great depth of appreciation for all that the Nebraska Community Foundation shares with its affiliated fund communities. NCF is not just about raising money and making grants; it empowers communities to be agents of change by teaching communities to identify local assets and resources and take action.”

Bob Stowell, Past Chair, Valley County Community Foundation Fund

Valley County Community Foundation Fund is aiming for people attraction by targeting a variety of ages and audiences. The Fund has nearly $300,000 in endowments specifically designated for leadership, entrepreneurship and youth engagement, which helps to leverage program investment and buy-in from other community partners. In 2015, Valley County Community Foundation Fund earned the Nebraska Entrepreneurship Outstanding Service Award from Nebraska Entrepreneurship Task Force and the Nebraska Enterprise Fund.

Valley County Community Foundation Fund co-sponsors the EntrepreneurShip Investigation (ESI) summer camp for middle and high school students—an award-winning curriculum developed by UNL Extension, NCF and other collaborators. It also co-sponsors a Youth Entrepreneur Showcase during the Ord High School Wrestling Invitational Tournament and a Business Discovery Day and Career Exploration Day for regional high school students. The Fund partners with other community entities to support the School-to-Work and Youth/Young Adult outreach programs. These are just a few of the investments being made to ensure the vitality of Valley County for future generations.

A full-throttle youth engagement effort is likely one of the reasons 70 percent of Valley County graduating seniors indicate an interest in returning to their hometowns to pursue a career and raise their families. As they return, they are finding a more vibrant community with ample support for the arts, festivals, recreation, health care, an outstanding school system, and plenty of help for starting a career. Valley County’s $8 million in endowed assets and planned gifts promise an even brighter future.

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Our annual report readers first met Shelby Kittle of Ord five years ago as an eighth grader selling her hand-painted fishing lures at her first ESI camp. She was very grateful for the experience and told us, “I can’t believe people would do all of this for a 12-year-old girl!”

The people in Valley County say, “Why wouldn’t we?”

Shelby’s homegrown business took off. She expanded her product line to air brushed mailboxes and paintings of rural scenes. She marketed successfully at county and state fairs and at farmers markets. She presented at numerous statewide conferences and events, and most recently, addressed the Nebraska LEAD Alumni during its 2016 Ag Adventure tour.

Shelby has participated in Valley County’s ESI camp for five straight years. Why?

“I love it! Every year it’s different, with interesting business tours and guest speakers. Lately I’ve been mainly helping; working with the other kids. I really enjoy that,” she said.

When asked about her future, she was emphatic. “I want to be an entomologist. When I was a freshman I joined FFA and did beekeeping as my project.”

This past summer she was producing and selling her cut comb, which is honey in the wax, at the farmers market in Ord.

She says her ESI camp experience has turned up her dream switch. “Everything ties back to beekeeping. I’ve always been interested in bugs. My earlier... By age 14 Shelby had expanded her product line to include decorative mailboxes and wall hangings.

At age 12, Shelby Kittle’s first experience with EntrepreneurShip Investigation Camp was very profitable.

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At the 2016 ESI camp, Shelby (top left) uses an observation beehive to teach campers about raising bee colonies and harvesting honey. Products at ESI camps were profitable and they helped me earn and save the money. All the equipment I needed for two hives was funded by my fishing lures and air brushing business.”

Last December Shelby was awarded a scholarship from the Nebraska Beekeepers Association that gave her equipment for another hive and bees for her business, "Shel-bee’s Honey.”

“My long-term goal is to be an entomologist and somehow find a way to make that profitable here in Ord, because I want to come back here. It will be something to do with plants and pests. But I do want to come back to Ord. People in a small community really care about kids and families and do so much to help them out. Everyone knows everyone, and everyone is trying hard to grow the community.”
A Gift at Work Forever

Rudolph R. Elis, a bachelor farmer from Verdigre, believed in hard work, living within one’s means, saving and investing. In 2006 he created a donor-advised fund with NCF, which was funded with a bequest after his death in 2007. At the time, the $2.3 million gift was the largest NCF had ever received. Rudy’s dream was to help businesses grow and to attract new families to Norfolk, O’Neill and the surrounding areas.

Today, the value of Rudy’s endowment has increased by nearly 83 percent to $4.2 million, and it has provided more than $516,000 for community/economic development since its first grants were made in 2010.

“This bequest was profoundly important to the work of Nebraska Community Foundation,” said Jeff Yost, President and CEO. “For many years we have talked about the importance of small business development and people attraction to generate new wealth creation in our hometowns. With his gift, Mr. Elis gave us a great model to share with others.”

A Gift at Work Forever

Attracting Talent

“With Nebraska’s very low unemployment rate, attracting and nurturing a talented workforce is key to community and economic development. The Rudolph R. Elis Donor-Advised Fund is helping the City of Norfolk take strategic steps toward these goals.

In 2016, the Elis Fund made a three-year commitment to leverage—not replace—local funding in Norfolk. A grant of $150,000 is being provided to the City over a three-year period to support educational programs for students, teachers, employers and job seekers; development of a website that focuses on people attraction and career opportunities; and a community marketing campaign.

Amanda Barfuss is heading up the effort. She says that her first order of business was to develop a talent attraction website. The new site, norfolknow.org, offers a comprehensive exploration of all that the community has to offer.

The Elis Fund grant is also supporting the development of a local “talent pipeline” by helping to fund career academies within Norfolk Public Schools. Each academy will be taught by qualified high school instructors in partnership with an advisory team including industry leaders and Northeast Community College staff.

During the 2016-2017 school year, career academies will be offered in agriculture, construction, drafting, and health sciences. In the following year, the plan is to also offer academies in welding, family and consumer sciences, automotive and business and technology.

By better preparing students to enter career fields available locally, students and the community-at-large will benefit.

Attracting Talent

“The Elis Fund is a great example of what can be done with charitable dollars to promote economic and community development for Nebraska communities. It’s an honor to serve as a fund advisor!”

Brandon Day
Member, Elis Fund Advisory Committee
Nebraska Community Foundation worked with Holt County and municipal leaders to support a county-wide economic development office and hire its first director in 2007. A year later, the Elis Endowment was established, and in 2010, one of the endowment’s first grants provided salary support for a business coach. Holt County Economic Development (HCED) is an affiliated fund of Nebraska Community Foundation. This enables charitable contributions to support people attraction and leadership and economic development.

Over the past six years the Elis Fund has granted $282,000 to HCED to continue on its successful path. The HCED staff responds to inquiries from dozens of businesses each year, conducts on-site visits and provides assistance with loan packaging. This past year HCED organized its 11th Hometown Leadership Institute, with 156 graduates since 2005.

Progress appears to be speeding up in Holt County. In HCED’s first two years of operation 11 new businesses were created in Holt County. During the past fiscal year, Holt County saw 25 new businesses open and five businesses expand. What’s more, last year 99 new families began calling Holt County home! Because of this winning track record, the Elis Fund has committed another $240,000 over the next four years to support economic development and people attraction in Holt County.
People in southwest Nebraska gathered in July at the historic Fox Theater to sign up as project volunteers for McCook’s Marketing Hometown America projects.

Happy and at Home on the Range

McCook Community Foundation Fund is one of the sponsors of a new program through UNL Extension aimed at attracting new people, “Marketing Hometown America.”

McCook is one of five hometowns to begin work following successful pilot programs in Neligh and Kimball. According to Ben Dutton, an extension educator in Red Willow County, the program trains local residents to lead discussions among community members about strengths the community could better highlight.

Following study group discussions over the course of several weeks, a Town Hall meeting was held in July to announce focus areas that advanced as top priorities, and to invite people to get involved. One development was already well on its way, as tourism director Carol Schlegel announced the new brand for McCook and the surrounding area: McCook – Capital of the Buffalo Commons. The phrase, coined more than 25 years ago as a negative description of the area by two Rutgers researchers, has been flipped to a positive identity, with the naming of the bison as our national mammal, and with the growing popularity of McCook’s annual Buffalo Commons Storytelling Festival.

Other projects McCook citizens will be working on involve recruitment of owners for vacant homes, a neighborhood welcome and party trailer, a new community website, and a George Norris/REA memorial. Another interesting idea is to place billboards in the Denver area promoting short drive times in McCook with the slogan “It’s About Time!”

It will be fun to watch the progress and the partnerships that evolve on these and other projects designed to make southwest Nebraska a destination for visitors and a place to call home.

Working in Partnership

Developing a comprehensive community website is a mammoth undertaking. Fund Advisory Committee members of the Tilden-Meadow Grove Community Foundation Fund did it for both of their communities. They saw the need to send out a warm yet sophisticated welcome to their hometowns. They did more than just fund the development of the site. They provided the basic design, lots of content, and did all the leg work in working with the website developer. They brought village and city staff and officials onto their working subcommittee, and in July 2016 they launched the site with the promise to provide funding for long-term maintenance. The site at tmgcommunityfoundation.org averages about 100 hits a day.

The Fund also supported a downtown infrastructure study for Tilden, provided volunteers to canvas the town’s residents, and organized public input meetings to explore new opportunities.

“We feel that as an affiliated fund of Nebraska Community Foundation the most valuable things we can bring are the vision, leadership and talent needed to plant seeds that may grow into something far more extensive than anyone thought possible.”

John M. Dittrich, Chair
Tilden-Meadow Grove Community Foundation Fund
Reaching Out

Welcoming Visitors

The Nebraska City Community Foundation Fund Advisory Committee voted several years ago to set aside 20 percent of its annual unrestricted endowment payout for its Youth Advisory Committee. The youths develop strategies for projects that benefit Nebraska City and fulfill the Fund’s mission of investing in people.

This past year their grantmaking went for the development of a sophisticated tourism app for visitors, conference attendees and even local families. The youths did all the legwork, provided the funding source and had the app approved by the City. Having a tourism app has been on the City’s wish list for several years...but the youths were not aware of that. They saw a need and figured out a solution to bring Nebraska City tourism into the 21st century.

Interestingly, as has happened in the past, another donor heard about the Youth Advisory Committee’s great idea and offered to fund $3,000 of approximately $7,000 in expenses. So now the youths are “turning up their dream switches” again to find another good project. They will have about $10,000 in granting capacity in 2017.

Connecting Community

When Rev. Jeff Lorig first talked to his St. Ludger Catholic Church family in Creighton about starting a local radio station they were more than a little surprised. “We were talking about building community, but some parishioners thought it was a crazy idea,” Lorig said. “Now they kind of like it and some have even said they might have to eat their words.”

The local station was made possible by the Local Community Radio Act passed in 2010. It creates programming for the benefit of the community, not the parish. The Creighton Community Foundation Fund helped with support towards the $20,000 that was needed to get the station up and running. It is a low-power station over the air; however, its programming is available online, so it can be heard virtually anywhere. Also, anytime. It is on the air 24/7 thanks to a group of about a dozen volunteer programmers, from elementary school-aged kids on up. Some of the most popular features have been remote broadcasts of local baseball games.

Early supporters picked the call letters for their station, KNIL, which is LINK spelled backward. “It really shows how the radio station is connecting the community,” said Rev. Lorig.
Leveraging a Local Asset

Red Cloud, Nebraska, possesses a world-class cultural asset: the childhood home of Pulitzer Prize-winning author Willa Cather and the nation’s largest collection of historic sites that are dedicated to a single American author. More than 8,000 tourists visit the attractions each year. What if 10 percent of these visitors spent a weekend instead of a day?

An economic development study funded by the Red Cloud Community Foundation Fund indicated that heritage tourism could have a $3.5 million economic impact if steps were taken to greatly expand visitor attraction and services. The action plan called for the hiring of a heritage tourism development director. That would require a collaborative and guaranteed funding resource, and that is where the value of NCF’s partnership became especially apparent.

The shareholders of the Peoples-Webster County Bank of Red Cloud, including Brad and Nancy Sherwood and James Sherwood, were in the process of selling the bank. NCF showed the Sherwood family members the tax advantages of establishing donor-advised funds with gifts of bank stock, rather than first selling their stock and then donating part of the profits to various community organizations. The two Sherwood family donor-advised funds contributed a combined $500,000 to the Red Cloud Community Foundation Fund for heritage tourism. The Fund, the Chamber, the Willa Cather Foundation, and the City of Red Cloud now have a collaborative agreement to fund a heritage tourism director and support staff for five years.

In 2015 the Willa Cather Foundation hired native son, Jarrod McCartney, as Red Cloud’s heritage tourism development director. One of Jarrod’s first moves was to join Red Cloud’s Fund Advisory Committee.

Over the course of a year the community has secured grants for a new Comprehensive Plan, an improved City website and a heritage tourism branding campaign. The community also launched a Marketing Hometown America program in partnership with UNL Extension.
Addressing a Critical Need

When Jeff and Ashley Armstrong moved their family from Kansas City to Red Cloud, Ashley’s first question was, “What is the child care situation?” As in most rural communities, child care options are limited in Red Cloud. Ashley’s current in-home provider is ready to retire and three other unlicensed providers are at full capacity. Ashley is a pediatric physical therapist and the mother of three young children. In Kansas City her children benefited from high-quality early childhood development programs, and she understands the influence that early education has on future academic and social success. That is why she is so enthusiastic about the Red Cloud Community Foundation stepping up to the challenge of helping with building a new child development center facility, staffing it with qualified early childhood development employees, and building an endowment to help subsidize operations.

The Nebraska Community Foundation provided guidance as the Fund put together a project plan, recruited a child development steering committee, developed a case for support and a budget. NCF helped Fund Advisory Committee members identify local donors and provided training in fundraising. Once again, the Brad and Nancy Sherwood and the James Sherwood Donor-Advised Funds have committed significant resources. The project will qualify for CDAA tax credits through Nebraska Community Foundation.

One of the most important contributions Nebraska Community Foundation can bring to our work is to encourage volunteer leaders to think beyond bricks and mortar. Communities know how to raise money to build buildings. But it takes real leadership to commit significant resources to high-quality programming.

“Due to the quality we are striving to attain, the child development center will create approximately 10 to 12 good paying jobs. We’ll use the Child Care Subsidy Program to enable families of all income levels to benefit from its services. Due to regular assessments, referrals to appropriate interventions can be made at an earlier time, before the child even enters our school district’s preschool program. With reliable and affordable child care, employees will miss fewer days of work, making employers more satisfied. I think Red Cloud will be an even more attractive small town to newcomers with high-quality childcare in place. It has the potential to strengthen our school district and stabilize our town’s population,” Ashely Armstrong said.

Measuring Community Impact

In the “big little town” of Shickley, population 341, success can be measured by the number of alumni returning to find employment or start businesses. There are 35 businesses and at least another seven home-based enterprises. Shickley Community Foundation Fund Advisory Committee member Colin Wilson says, “In the last several years more than 10 alums have come back to town and found employment. All are under 30 and the majority have started families. Of all of our businesses, only six have managers over the age of 60.”

One of the town’s most attractive aspects for young families is its exceptional education system. High quality programs are in place for children age seven weeks through 12th grade. The Fund invests in a superior early childhood development program by providing support for facilities, equipment and enhancements that cannot be funded with tax dollars.

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Dale Dueland of McCook
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Manager of Public/Private Partnerships
Angie Zimmer
General Counsel
Nebraska Community Foundation is deeply grateful for the lifetime support of our Benefactors, whose significant contributions have enabled us to carry out our community-building mission throughout the years.

One key measure of mission fulfillment is the growth of endowments in community-focused affiliated funds. The list below identifies the top 25 funds based on endowed assets and planned gifts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Endowed Assets + Planned Gifts</th>
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<td>Lynch</td>
<td>245</td>
<td>$1,072,738</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Edward</td>
<td>705</td>
<td>$1,055,078</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Benefactors: Cumulative Lifetime Gifts through June 30, 2016**

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

- **$250,000 to $999,999**
  - Jim* and Elaine* Wolf, Albion
  - Robert and Jeanette Hunt, Great Plains Communications
  - Donor-Advised Fund, Blair
  - Consolidated Companies/Thompson Family, Lincoln
  - First National Bank of Omaha, Omaha

- **$100,000 to $249,999**
  - Kathleen Thuman, Lincoln/
    Farmers State Bank, Maywood
  - Peter Kiewit Foundation, Omaha
  - Frank and Shirley Sibert, Kearney
  - W.H. and E.C. Damme Farms LLC/Lora Damme and Jay Longinaker, Talmage
  - Ameritas Charitable Foundation, Lincoln
  - Judy Hemberger, Estes Park, CO

- **$50,000 to $99,999**
  - Brandon and Tammy Day/Daycos, Norfolk
  - MNB Entities and Graff/Thomas Families, McCook
  - Great Plains Communications, Blair

- **$25,000 to $49,999**
  - Union Bank & Trust Company, Lincoln
  - Lemoine “Andy” and Geri* Anderson, McCook
  - Pinnacle Bank, Nebraska, Omaha

- **$10,000 to $24,999**
  - Bob and Jean Stowell/Springdale Title & Realty, Ord
  - Dennis Berens Rural Health Fund, Lincoln
  - Diller Telephone Company, Diller
  - Tri-County Bank/Schmaderer Family, Stuart

- **$5,000 to $9,999**
  - Bettenhausen Family Foundation, Robert Bettenhausen, Lincoln

**Benefactor Recognition**

- America First Foundation, Omaha
- Bob and Michelle Dudley, Norfolk
- Abel Foundation, Lincoln
- Anonymous
- Shannon Harner and Philip Goddard, Lincoln
- Wolf Foundation, Albion
- Sara Coffee Radil and Gary W. Radil, Omaha
- Security Bank/Laurel, Laurel
- HunTel Systems, Blair
- Judy and Don Brockmeier, Eustis
- Jay and Susie Wolf, Albion
- Bellevue University, Bellevue
- Walter Insurance, Shickley
- Elkhorn Valley Bank, Norfolk
- Sandra and Steven Wendell, Axtell
- Jeff Yost and Cindy Ryman, Yost, Lincoln
- Pinpoint Communications, Cambridge
- Diane Wilson and Kay Richter, Lincoln
- Anonymous

* Donor is deceased
224 Affiliated Funds
of the Nebraska Community Foundation

Benefitting 251 Communities in 79 Counties
June 30, 2016

This map depicts counties and communities that benefit from planned gifts and affiliated funds of the Nebraska Community Foundation.
96 Community-Based Affiliated Funds

Ansley Area Community Foundation Fund
Arnold Community Fund
Arthur Area Community Foundation Fund
Atkinson Community Foundation 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
Cheyenne County Fund
Columbus Area Community Foundation 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
Elwood Community 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 Community 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
Plattsburg 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
Stanton 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
Trumbull Community Foundation Fund
Unadilla Area Community Foundation Fund
Valley County Community Foundation Fund
Verdigris Community Foundation Fund
Wallace Community Foundation Fund
Wauketa Community Foundation Fund
Wausa Community Foundation Fund
Wayne Community Foundation Fund
Wheeler County Community Foundation Fund
Wilber Area Community Foundation Fund
Wymore-Blue Springs Area Fund

Making Your Hometown Attractive

Imperial Community Foundation Fund was the major sponsor for a mural brightening up the City Building on Imperial’s main street. Denver Graffiti artist, Jeremy Uliberri, completed the work during Imperial’s ‘Smokin’ On Broadway’ BBQ contest and festivities in August, culminating with a performance from Hear Nebraska’s Good Living Tour. Hear Nebraska founder Andrew Norman grew up in Imperial. Eight of this year’s 12 concerts by Nebraska artists were held in communities where NCF affiliated funds provide significant support.

Endowment-Building for Community-Focused Affiliated Funds

Endowed assets plus expectancies (in millions)
Native American students in higher education contributed to the endowed fund to support the shortage of Native Americans engaged in post-high school education. Joe Starita of Lincoln, author of "I Am A Man – Chief Standing Bear's Journey for Justice," is donating proceeds from the sale of his book, and many other donors have contributed to the endowed fund to support Native American students in higher education. To learn more visit nebcommfound.org/fund/standing-bear.

Pursuing Dreams

The Chief Standing Bear Journey for Justice Scholarship Fund honors the Ponca chief who walked 600 miles through snow and cold to bury his only son. His landmark court victory established that Native Americans have civil rights as "persons within the meaning of the law." This NCF affiliated fund addresses the alarming shortage of Native Americans engaged in post-high school education. Joe Starita of Lincoln, author of "I Am A Man – Chief Standing Bear's Journey for Justice," is donating proceeds from the sale of his book, and many other donors have contributed to the endowed fund to support Native American students in higher education.

To learn more visit nebcommfound.org/fund/standing-bear.

224 Affiliated Funds of the Nebraska Community Foundation (continued)

33 Organizational Affiliated Funds
Brown County Hospital Endowment Fund
Chase County Hospital Foundation Fund
Christian Heritage Endowment Fund
Country Club Neighborhood Association Charitable Foundation 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 Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture Fund
Nebraska Independent Bankers 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
St. Monica’s Endowment Fund
Syracuse Library Foundation Fund
The WealthSpring Fund
Ukena Charitable Trust Fund
Valley County Health System Foundation Fund
Wachiska Audubon Society Fund
West Holt Medical Services Foundation Fund
Wymore Public Library Foundation Fund
8 Public/Private Partnership Funds
Basin Coalition Fund
FutureForce Fund
Nebraska Habitat Projects Fund
North Platte Decree Committee Fund
Partnerships for Innovation Fund
Platte River Colorado Fund
Platte River Recovery Implementation Program Fund
Rainwater Basin Joint Venture Fund
41 Donor-Advised Funds
Howard and Peggy Atkins Fund
Erma R. Badstieb Trust Donor-Advised Fund
BCBSNE Fund for Quality & Efficient Health Care
Bruning State Bank Donor-Advised Fund
Cabelas’s Donor-Advised Fund
Connie Fund
William H. and Erma C. Damme Fund
Dennis and Ruth Demmel Family Donor-Advised Fund
Rudolph R. Els 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
Dale and Sharon Harlan Donor-Advised Fund
Robert and Janice Hunt Great Plains Communications Fund
Leona Ihde Fund
Kenner Family Fund
Kreutz Bennett 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
Marguerite 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
Sherwood Foundation Fund for Rural Nebraska
Frank and Shirley Sibert Donor-Advised Fund
Irene C. Stenger Donor-Advised Fund
The Nelson Institute Fund
Thuman Family Donor-Advised Fund
Dale and Jean Tinstman Family Fund
Wolf Family Donor-Advised Fund
Yost/Leak Donor-Advised Fund
Anonymous Donor-Advised Funds (3)
24 Designated or Field of Interest Funds
Butte Anoka Scholarships Fund
Chief Standing Bear Journey for Justice Scholarship Fund
Concordia University Nebraska Endowment Fund
Don and Artice Fells Fund
Bobby Foehliger Memorial Scholarship Fund
Ken Good Scholarship Fund
Lyndall 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
L. Arvone and Neva E. Myers 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 Reinke 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
Wayne County Historical Society Endowment Fund
Youth Scholar College Scholarship Fund
22 Life Income Funds
Additional gifts are invested through NCF to benefit Nebraska communities and organizations and provide income for the donors.
Nebraska Community Foundation would be unable to carry out our community-building mission without the financial contributions of our generous donors. As we continue to grow our base of annual support, our programs and services have steadily increased, along with demand for training, peer learning, marketing support and mentoring on a formal and an on-call basis.

Fees paid by affiliated funds cover less than 40 percent of the cost to provide this kind of one-on-one support, plus gift planning assistance and financial management throughout the year.

We appreciate these annual gifts from people who believe in our mission and support it!
The Transfer of Wealth Opportunity

In Nebraska we have hardworking, generous people who have built their lives and their wealth with the support of their hometowns. Nebraska Community Foundation makes it possible for our citizens to provide for family, realize tax benefits, and importantly, create a lasting legacy through charitable gifts to their community.

This work is urgent. Our 2011 Transfer of Wealth Study estimates 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 that supported us throughout our lifetimes, our hometowns would have abundant resources for reinvestment.

Nebraska Community Foundation is succeeding in harnessing intergenerational wealth for the future of our hometowns. 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 298 planned gifts, conservatively estimated at $53 million, to benefit at least 65 communities across the state.

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

For Family and Community

Don and Alice Harpst of McCook began partnering with Jim Gustafson, NCF director of advancement and gift planning, in 2007 when they used the new Charitable IRA Rollover law to establish several endowed accounts within the McCook Community Foundation Fund. Through the years they have been staunch community investors, providing more than $100,000 to charitable causes in McCook, Cambridge and southwest Nebraska.

Don and Alice had originally planned to complete their charitable giving during their lifetimes. But when they learned about the tax implications upon their deaths and the impact on their five children, they turned to Jim Gustafson and their financial advisors to discuss options for a planned gift using an annuity.

After several months of consideration and reviewing numerous options with Jim and their advisors, Don and Alice decided to make a charitable gift in their trust. In addition to benefiting their favorite charitable interests in the McCook area, their plan allows them to benefit their children, and receive tax benefits.

In recognition of the service NCF has provided to their community and to them personally, Don and Alice have included NCF as one of the beneficiaries of their estate.

“Alice and I appreciate Nebraska Community Foundation for all they do to help our communities become strong advocates of giving back,” said Don. “We thank our partner, Jim Gustafson, for his guidance, and we encourage future donors to consider planned giving as a way of thanking their communities.”

(Nl-r) NCF’s Jim Gustafson meets with longtime NCF friends and supporters, Alice and Don Harpst, along with their attorney, Eric Eisenhart.
Becoming a Member of the Legacy Society

The Nebraska Community Foundation’s Legacy Society is our way to celebrate and say thank you to generous donors of current gifts and future gift provisions through estate plans that benefit communities and organizations. 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, Gift Planning Director, 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, 2016.

The Legacy Society

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
Fred and Penni Bruning Bruning
Wayne and Bev Buller Ericson
Judith Scherer Connealy and Matt Connealy Decatur
Brandon and Tammy Day Norfolk
Douglas A. and Patricia L. Friedli Nebraska City
Douglas and Judy Gaswick McCook
Mark and Linda Graff McCall
Jim and Terri Gustafson Lincoln
In Memory of Leo Hink Bingham
Bethanne Kunz Ord
Fred and Carol Lockwood Scottsbluff
Maxine and Francis Moul Lincoln
Irv and Wanda Omtvedt Lincoln
Lori and Russ Pankonin Imperial
Judy and Ron Parks Papillion
Pete and Jonnie Peterson Brule
Beverly and Jack* Pollock Ogallala
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
Dale and Jean* Tinstman Lincoln
Richard and Darlene Walter Shickley
Gene Weedin McCook
Ray and Deb Welsh Pender
Marcia A. White Lincoln
Diane M. Wilson Lincoln
Jay and Susie Wolf Albion
Jeff Yost and Cindy Ryman Yost Lincoln
Benedit and Jane Zach Omaha
* Donor is deceased

Ten Tools for Charitable Gift Planning

1) Charitable Bequest
   A provision in your will that creates a legacy
2) Gift of Retirement Plans
   Avoids potential double taxation
3) Gift of Life Insurance
   Easy, convenient and flexible
4) Donor-Advised Fund
   Provides 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
   Provides significant tax advantages
9) Charitable Remainder Trust
   Increases income and bypasses capital gains taxes
10) Wealth Replacement Trust
    Helps provide for family and charity

Free Wills Guide

Nebraska Community Foundation is pleased to offer a free guide for developing a will. It is filled with useful information and templates to record your family information, accounts, assets, liabilities, beneficiaries and charitable intentions. Our new “Planning Your Legacy” tool is a guide to providing for your family and supporting the community you care about.

Find it at 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.

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
Charles* and Margre* Durham

Elwood Area Foundation
Elwood
Bette J. and Robert A.* Essig
Burwell
Farmers National Company
Omaha
Don* and Artice* Fells
First National Bank of Omaha
Omaha
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 Harm*
Don and Alice Harpst
McCook
In Memory of Lyndall Harris
Judy Hemberger
Estes Park, CO
Humboldt Community Foundation
Humboldt
Robert Hunt*
Darrel and Deb Johnson
Shickley
Kermit and Lottie Wolf* Korns
Ron and Wanda Kelly
Thurston
Kenner Family
Hebron
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
Raymond Lohmeyer*
Joel and Helen Lundak
Nebraska City
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
McCook
Karl H. & Wealtha H. Nelson Family Foundation
Lincoln
Tom and Cynthia Olson
Lisco
Omaha Hearing School for Children
Omaha
Judy and Ron Parks
Papillion
Peter Kiewit Foundation
Omaha
Pinnacle Bank, Nebraska
Omaha, Columbus, Gretna, Ogallala, O’Neill
Raie Family
Benkelman
Anthony F. and Jeanne Raimondo
Columbus
Rolland R. Ramsthel*
Jim and Lanita Recob
Laurel
Jennifer S. Reinke
Hebron
Reinke Manufacturing Company
Deshler
Harold and Marilyn Rink
Pender
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
The Sherwood Foundation
Omaha
Steinhart Foundation
Nebraska City
Syracuse Library Foundation
Syracuse
Kathleen Thuman, Lincoln/Farmers State Bank, Maywood
Tietjen & Son LLC
Byron
Dale and Jean* Tinstman
Lincoln
Tri-County Bank/Schmaderer Family
Stuart
W.K. Kellogg Foundation
Battle Creek, MI
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
Albion
World’s Foremost Bank
Lincoln
Michael Yanney Family/America First Companies
Omaha
John and Frances* Zuroske
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.

Youth Philanthropy Contest

For more than a decade an endowment established by the late Connie Day of Norfolk has enriched the lives of children in northeast Nebraska. For the past five years, her legacy has helped to leverage overwhelming support for the Youth Philanthropy Contest, organized by the Philanthropy Council of Northeast Nebraska.

It started in 2012, with the Connie Fund granting eight $1,000 project awards to groups of children and young adults who wanted to make a positive difference in their community. At the awards ceremony, audience members were so impressed with the applicants, all six additional projects were funded by individuals and organizations.

Each year the contest has continued to grow. In 2016, 27 youth projects ranged from building a swing for children who use wheelchairs, to a gardening project at the Norfolk veteran’s home.

Just as the Connie Fund continues to grow, so does the influence of its founder. There was no philanthropy council or youth contest during her lifetime. However, because of Connie Day’s vision, hundreds of young people have learned the heartwarming lessons of giving back to thousands of others.

Lemoine “Andy” and Geri* Anderson
McCook

Estate of Erna R. Badstieber
Shirley Kreutz Bennett

John* and Maurine* Biegert
Shickley

Estates of Bruno and LaVerne Boettcher

Densil* and Elaine Christiansen
Pender

Estates of Leonard and Audrey Cumming

Tom and Deanne Damkroger
Lincoln

Brandon and Tammy Day
Norfolk

Estate of Connie Day

John Day
Ravenel, SC

Mary Kay Dolejs
Omaha

Estate of Rudolph Ellis
Estate of Don and Artice Fells
Estate of James Fisher
Estate of Lawrence Goscha
Bernard and Susan Hay
Scottsbluff, NE

Estate of Sharon K. Holmberg
Jerry and Karla Huse
Norfolk

Estate of Leona M. Ihde
Estate of Clarence W. Kettelhut
Mark A. and Suzanne M. Koltermann
Seward

Estate of Glenn Korff
Estate of Margaret and Mary Linhart
Estate of Helen E. Martens

Estate of Grace Moller

Dr. D.J.* and Josephine Nagengast
Bloomfield

Greg M. Retzlaff
Adams

Estate of Margaret Russell
Frank and Shirley Sibert

Kearney

Estate of Irene C. Stenger
Allen D. Strunk
Las Vegas, NV

Estate of Gerhard J. and Amelia A. Tunink

Estate of Mildred and Verner Vinzant

Jay and Susie Wolf

Albion

Lester* and Helen* Wolfe
McCook

Estate of John and Alyce Wozab

Benedict and Jane Zach

Omaha

* Donor is deceased
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. Battie
Guy and Bonnie Bechtel
Ogallala
Estate of Kenneth Beckmann
Kerry and Colleen Belitz
Columbus
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
Estate of Joe G. Brewster
Steven A. Brewster
Stuart
Judy 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
Eugene and Judy Dondlinger
Shickley
Bob and Michelle Dudley
Norfolk
Eric Duhaichek
Ogallala
Estate of Raymond W. Eisenhauer
Rori D. Erickson
Albion
Bette J. and Robert A.* Essig
Burwell
Estates of Dale and Irene Fadschild
Jared and Julie Faltyse and Family
Norfolk
Joe and Bev Ferguson
Norfolk
Estate of Blanche A. Fillipi
Bud and Rita Fleischer
Columbus
Estates of L.J. and Mitzi Fox
Estate of Paul M. Fox
Douglas A. and Patricia L. Friedli
Nebraska City
Erv and Marcia Friesen
Nebraska City
Douglas and Judy Gaswick
Imperial
Estate of Kenneth J. Good
Mark and Linda Graff
McCook
Wayne and Linda Green
Chambers
Daniel and Tacy Griess
Alliance
Estate of Gerald G. Grote
Jim and Terri Gustafson
Lincoln
Steven and Beverly Harms
Davenport
Jerry and Kathy Heard
Howells
Peggy and Steve Hemphill
Diller
Estate of Joan Hendrickson
Estate of Arnold W. Henrichs
Shickley
Sharon A. Hersemann
Nebraska City
Carol Hilker
Pender
In Memory of Leo Hink
Richard Holland and
Kathleen High Holland
Lincoln
Estate of Eleanor F. Houser
Don* and Phyllis Howendick
Four Seasons, MO
Dave Hunt
Holdrege
Neal* and Elizabeth Hunt
Albion
Stephen Hunt
Plattsmouth
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
Loral* and Elna Johnson
Imperial
Calvin* and Audrey Jones and Family
Thedford
Jay Jones
Thedford
Sally Julifs
Nebraska City
Joseph R. and Gina D. Kamler
Shickley
Estate of Franklin Kjeldgaard
Estate of Wayne C. Kjeldgaard
John C. Klosterman
David City
Keith and Karen Knudson
Laurel
Dawn Koehlmoos
Fremont
Wendell* and Joyce Kronberg
Raisen
Kurt and Jerene Kruse
Albion
Bethanie 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
Plattsmouth
Mark and Jana Lorenzen
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
Estates of Bonnie and
Eugene Martinson
Bennett
Brian and Joan Mastny
Clarkson
Travis and Heidi McConnell
Wallace
Marilyn D. McNabb
Lincoln
Rodge and Phyllis Meierhenry
Clancy, MT
Dorothy Mejstrik
Howells
Jerry and Nadia Meyer
Callaway
Estate of Martin H. Meyer
Estate of Doris B. Miller
Randall Moeller
Pender
Maxine and Francis Moul
Lincoln
Jordan and Jennifer Mueller
Columbus
Michael and Lynn Namuth
Sidney
Kathryn Nelson
Nebraska City
Estate of Barbara Fassler Neumann
Elsie A. Newman*
Imperial
James F. and Ginger Nissen
Lincoln
LG Norman
Pender
An Easy Way to Plan

“Cathy and I attended an annual banquet in Kearney a few years back where NCF honored several couples who had made a beneficiary designation to their community. While sitting there, I thought that’s something we could do and set an example for others to do. I went home, made the change on our life insurance policies and have since helped others do it. It’s very simple to do. Call your insurance agent and make a percentage of your policy or a dollar amount using a beneficiary change form. Then file it with the insurance company. It doesn’t cost anything to do this and when you die that amount is left to your community fund. Wallace is where my parents grew up, raised our family and where Cathy and I raised our seven children. It has been the best decision of my life to come back to Wallace and make it our home all these years. Small town Nebraska is just hard to beat!”

Cathy and Jim Smith
Wallace, NE
## Contributions to Affiliated Funds

**$5,000 and above for the 12 months ending June 30, 2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donor</th>
<th>Beneficiary Affiliated Fund</th>
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<td>Red Cloud, Sherwood Foundation Fund for Rural Nebraska, Valley County</td>
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<td>Omaha Hearing School for Children Donor-Advised Fund, Omaha Hearing School for Children Scholarship Fund</td>
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<td><strong>$250,000 $499,999</strong></td>
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# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

**June 30, 2016 and 2015**

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<th>2015</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total net assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>108,844,498</strong></td>
<td><strong>100,674,210</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total liabilities and net assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$117,669,502</strong></td>
<td><strong>$107,590,578</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

# STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

**For the Years ended June 30, 2016 and 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHANGES IN NET ASSETS</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenue and support</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>$27,229,661</td>
<td>$25,529,647</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment income</td>
<td>95,487</td>
<td>68,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net unrealized and realized gains</td>
<td>(336,189)</td>
<td>1,942,195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Actuarial gain/(loss)</td>
<td>(34,271)</td>
<td>(30,039)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative fee revenue and reimbursements</td>
<td>1,250,198</td>
<td>1,271,699</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total revenue and support</strong></td>
<td><strong>28,204,886</strong></td>
<td><strong>28,782,052</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program services</td>
<td>17,920,764</td>
<td>17,854,776</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management and general</td>
<td>1,766,800</td>
<td>1,789,333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>347,034</td>
<td>246,736</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>20,034,598</strong></td>
<td><strong>19,890,845</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>INCREASE IN NET ASSETS</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,170,288</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,891,207</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Net assets, beginning of year | 100,674,210 | 91,783,003 |
| Net assets, end of year | **$108,844,498** | **$100,674,210** |

---

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 the Nebraska Community Foundation with its Affiliated Funds

**Total Assets**
(in millions)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>07</th>
<th>08</th>
<th>09</th>
<th>10</th>
<th>11</th>
<th>12</th>
<th>13</th>
<th>14</th>
<th>15</th>
<th>16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>As of 06.30</td>
<td>32.9</td>
<td>46.3</td>
<td>48.8</td>
<td>56.6</td>
<td>69.5</td>
<td>78.7</td>
<td>83.6</td>
<td>98.8</td>
<td>107.6</td>
<td>117.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Endowed Assets**
(in millions)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>07</th>
<th>08</th>
<th>09</th>
<th>10</th>
<th>11</th>
<th>12</th>
<th>13</th>
<th>14</th>
<th>15</th>
<th>16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>As of 06.30</td>
<td>22.8</td>
<td>25.0</td>
<td>25.5</td>
<td>32.1</td>
<td>39.7</td>
<td>44.1</td>
<td>52.1</td>
<td>66.7</td>
<td>68.4</td>
<td>70.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grants and Disbursements**
(in millions)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>07</th>
<th>08</th>
<th>09</th>
<th>10</th>
<th>11</th>
<th>12</th>
<th>13</th>
<th>14</th>
<th>15</th>
<th>16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7.9</td>
<td>10.8</td>
<td>20.1</td>
<td>22.0</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>24.5</td>
<td>22.6</td>
<td>20.8</td>
<td>20.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Number of Contributions Per Year**
To NCF and its Affiliated Funds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>07</th>
<th>08</th>
<th>09</th>
<th>10</th>
<th>11</th>
<th>12</th>
<th>13</th>
<th>14</th>
<th>15</th>
<th>16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6,946</td>
<td>8,018</td>
<td>7,794</td>
<td>7,018</td>
<td>6,573</td>
<td>6,898</td>
<td>7,445</td>
<td>8,833</td>
<td>7,465</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Brown County Community Foundation Fund is one of 21 community-based affiliated funds currently working to meet a challenge grant for its unrestricted endowment. The Fund, serving Ainsworth, Johnstown, Long Pine and the surrounding area in north-central Nebraska, is well on its way toward raising $500,000, which will secure a match of $250,000 for its unrestricted endowment. When completed, Brown County’s unrestricted endowment – which has been building since 2008 – will total more than $1.2 million.

Soon the Fund will be able to reinvest more than $50,000 in its communities each year. As time goes on, the level of discretionary funding will increase, and the endowment will continue to grow because the principal has remained intact.

Having an unrestricted endowment does more than generate funding for a community. It empowers volunteer leaders with the responsibility of making strategic decisions about grantmaking. As more and more communities are seeing their endowments grow, we are increasingly turning to our peers and our partners for guidance on the most effective ways we can now put our dreams to work.

In the past four years, community-based unrestricted endowments have more than doubled, from $11.8 million to $24.2 million today. When our 21 in-progress challenge grants are completed, community-based unrestricted endowments will increase by at least another $10 million by 2020. We cannot envision the opportunities that lie ahead. We can only be assured that the opportunities are abundant.

The Power of Endowment

This example uses the following assumptions: 7.50% return (net of fees), 4.5% annual endowment payout, Asset Allocation: 75% equities, 25% fixed income.

"People feel strongly about their hometowns. Perhaps not just the one they live in now, but the one where they were raised or where their parents and grandparents grew up. Imagine the impact if every person in the state made arrangements in their will to leave just a small percentage of their wealth for their home communities. It would build very strong, sustainable communities across the state, and it would build a great future for Nebraska."

Doug Bereuter
NCF Board Member
Member of Congress (1979-2004)