

Looking to the Future, Together

Endowment Campaign
for Keith County Foundation Fund

"I hope the people of Keith County will do just what I believe they have always done. They rise to the occasion. They look to the future. They want to leave it a better place than they found it and they're proud of where they come from."

Mary Weber,
Fund Advisory Committee member



kcff

keith county
foundation fund

dedicated to the improvement and
long-term viability of our community



Many things make Keith County special, among them a deep connection to our rich pioneer heritage and prime access to some of the best tourist attractions in Nebraska. But what makes Keith County truly exceptional is the friendly, welcoming character of our residents and widespread sense of volunteerism throughout our communities.

Community spirit makes Keith County a great place to work, play and raise a family. It is that spirit – and all of us working together – that will ensure our communities grow and prosper and provide places for families to thrive.

What is your dream for the future of Keith County? Is it business expansion? Is it young families raising their children here? State of the art health care? Each one of us can work towards making dreams come true in Keith County. We can look to the future, together and make it happen.

A group of visionary community leaders launched the Keith County Foundation Fund in 2001 as an affiliated fund of Nebraska Community Foundation. Now part of a statewide movement to spearhead community development and create future prosperity, the Fund is working to build a robust, permanent unrestricted endowment for communities in Keith County.

Building a permanent endowment will put philanthropy to work in our hometowns – providing a steady stream of resources for community improvements today and investments for tomorrow.

As an affiliated fund of Nebraska Community Foundation – a statewide nonprofit that works with over 250 communities across Greater Nebraska – Keith County Foundation Fund benefits from the highest standards for financial management and accountability as well as training and networking with peers in other communities. This empowered the Fund to successfully compete for an incredible opportunity.

Keith County Foundation Fund is one of only five affiliated funds selected for a \$250,000 challenge grant offered through the “Building Community Capacity in Rural Nebraska” initiative.

The challenge is to raise \$500,000 for our unrestricted endowment. Every \$2 in unrestricted contributions to the Keith County Foundation Fund's unrestricted endowment received by December 31, 2020 will earn an additional \$1, up to a maximum grant of \$250,000.

“I would like to see Keith County be a place my kids would want to raise their kids. This means that Keith County would have economic opportunity for young adults, available housing, great schools, state of the art medical facilities and many recreational possibilities.”

**~Teri Elmshaeuser,
Fund Advisory Committee
member**

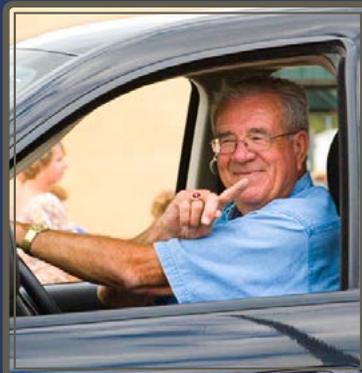




Imagine what a \$750,000 boost in endowment could mean for Keith County communities!

The campaign is off to a great start. Members of the Fund Advisory Committee have demonstrated philanthropy with both dollars and time and have pledged contributions to this endowment campaign. Pinnacle Bank stepped forward with a generous lead gift of \$50,000.

In making the kickoff gift to the campaign, Pinnacle Bank's Eric Duhachek said, "We have to invest in our future by relying on money we generate within our communities. Only with the flexibility of an unrestricted endowment is this possible."



"I believe everyone who makes a gift to the unrestricted endowment is dedicated to seeing Keith County prosper for future generations. This funding will help preserve our communities and encourage future generations to live, work and retire here."

*~ Sue Schilz,
Fund Advisory Committee
member*

Thanks to the generosity of community members like you, the Fund has helped with dozens of projects, with grants totaling over \$260,000.

An early grant made by Keith County Foundation Fund helped US Recycling start what became a primary business, providing employment to area residents. The Fund was also a major contributor to initial construction of the Wild West Soap Box Derby facilities and has provided significant funding for ongoing improvements. The track continues to draw visitors to our county from across the country.

Grants from the Fund have also supported:

- Lifesaving equipment for Keith County fire and rescue departments;
- Enhancements to the senior centers in Keith County, including health and wellness equipment;
- A workforce development program, coordinated with Keith County Area Development;
- Improvements to the pool and the addition of an exercise area at the Goodall Rec Center and
- Construction of a new library and learning center in Ogallala.

With a substantial increase in our permanent endowment, the Fund will be able to take a strategic approach in identifying grants and programs that will make a positive, lasting impact on communities in Keith County.

"Look at what we have done, the grants we've made, how we've impacted the community. Now we have the opportunity to do even more with the match."

*~ Pete Peterson, Honorary Co-Chair,
Looking to the Future, Together Campaign*



You can create a bright future through the Keith County Foundation Fund. Right now, our Fund is embarking on a campaign to build our permanent unrestricted endowment. The endowment is an important tool to keep Keith County communities growing and improving for people living here today and all who come after us.

While Keith County Foundation Fund grants out a portion of the income earned by the unrestricted endowment each year, the principal – and your gift – remains intact to continue to build the fund, making your contribution a “forever” gift that increases over time.

Achieving our campaign goal and adding the matching grant will increase the endowment by \$750,000, enabling the Fund to provide even more support to worthwhile causes throughout our communities.

The immediate impact of a robust unrestricted endowment is an increased capacity to award meaningful grants to local projects. The long-term benefit of building a permanent endowment for Keith County is the foundation it provides for a steady stream of revenue for future community needs.

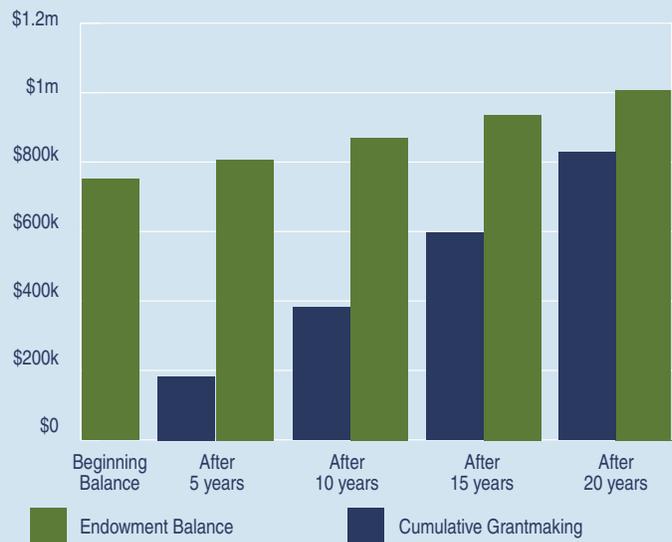
Projects come and go, facilities require updates and renovations over time, community leadership changes, but our endowment will continue to be a bedrock of philanthropic resources for Keith County communities for years to come.

“There is a time to contribute to bricks and mortar projects. There is also a time to look to the future. Let’s build an endowment that will allow future generations the ability to fund activities that will benefit themselves, their children and their neighbors. Let’s build it now.”

*~ Ken Snyder,
Fund Advisory Committee
member*

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,
Support Fee rates remain at the FY 2015 rate.*



Each gift to the permanent endowment helps assure the sustainability and vitality of Keith County.



Keith County Foundation Fund is about people.

Support for the Fund comes from young couples as well as elder friends, from long-time residents to newcomers and from people who no longer live in our area communities but care deeply about their hometowns.

While none of us can predict what will be important to the next generation of business and civic leaders, the Keith County Foundation Fund endowment will continue to grow, meeting needs and opportunities as they arise, and providing the flexibility to respond to changing times. You can be confident your gift to the Fund – with its strong leadership, broadly defined goals and sound financial management – will benefit Keith County communities long into the future.

Keith County is truly fortunate to be offered the generous \$250,000 challenge grant. We cannot pass up this opportunity to significantly build our permanent endowment.

Growing Keith County is a community effort. We all work together to create opportunities to grow and succeed. Towns and rural areas in Keith County are all places to have fun, launch a career, start a family and be part of a community.

Thanks to you, Keith County Foundation Fund will help people continue to do just that.

PARTNERS IN BUILDING COMMUNITY



For over 20 years, Nebraska Community Foundation (NCF) has been serving communities, organizations and donors throughout Nebraska with a range of services including financial management, strategic development, education, training, and peer learning to affiliated funds statewide. NCF builds relationships with community leaders, donors and their financial advisors to put charitable dollars to work, fuel community economic development initiatives and make rural communities better places to live and work. NCF believes building permanent community assets is an important step to helping everyone deepen or rekindle their commitment to the future of their hometown.



Susan A. Buffett established The Sherwood Foundation in 1999. Reflecting her deep hometown roots and belief in social justice, the foundation focuses on racial and social equity initiatives in Omaha, particularly early childhood education, public education and poverty alleviation.

In 2011, The Sherwood Foundation broadened its efforts to partner with communities across the state of Nebraska. The intent is to help community members strengthen the places they call home, build local capacity and deepen participation in community life. The opportunity to work with the Keith County Foundation Fund reflects the Sherwood Foundation's belief that partnership and learning across communities is a powerful vehicle to build the common good we enjoy as fellow Nebraskans.



Peter Kiewit Foundation is providing technical support and peer learning opportunities for this initiative. The foundation was established by Peter Kiewit, a generous philanthropist and community leader who believed that Nebraska was the best place to live; he was determined to return his wealth and good fortune to its communities. Upon his death in 1979, the foundation was created to support charitable and public purpose projects in Nebraska. The foundation's mission is to create opportunities for people to live in and help build strong, vibrant communities, achieve economic success, and enjoy a high quality of life. To date over \$640 million has been invested in promising programs, systemic solutions, capital projects, capacity building and policy development.

How You Can Help

Your generous gift will not only help build the unrestricted endowment today, it will continue to grow and keep giving tomorrow.

Below are ways you can support the campaign:

Cash

A gift of cash may be eligible for income tax deductions as prescribed by current law. Your cash gift may be by check, credit card or electronic funds transfer, which authorizes the automatic transfer of funds each month from your checking or savings account. Pledging a gift over several years may allow you to increase its size and effect, while adjusting the timing and amount of each payment to optimize your tax position.

Marketable securities

A gift of publicly-traded stock, bonds or mutual fund shares is eligible to be matched at the full fair market value. Such a gift may provide you with additional tax benefits, as you will not pay capital gains tax on the appreciation in the value of the securities.

Gifts of IRA

Individuals who have reached age 70½ may contribute up to \$100,000 directly from their Individual Retirement Account (IRA), without having to recognize the IRA distribution in taxable income. If married, each spouse can transfer up to \$100,000 from his or her IRA.

Agricultural commodities

Gifts of grain or livestock may provide considerable income tax savings to a producer. Because the property is gifted, no revenue is recognized, and the cost of production may still be deducted as a business expense.



Pledges

All pledge payments received on or before December 31, 2020 will be counted toward the match, with every \$2 in unrestricted contributions earning an additional \$1 toward our goal of \$500,000.

Please note checks may be made payable to "Keith County Foundation Fund" and mailed to:

Keith County Foundation Fund
P.O. Box 104
Ogallala, NE 69153

Or visit KeithCountyFoundation.org

As with all financial considerations, we encourage you to discuss potential tax advantages and other aspects of charitable giving with your attorney, tax adviser or financial consultant.



CAMPAIGN LEADERSHIP

Looking to the Future, Together
Campaign Committee

Honorary Co-Chairs

Terry and Gwen Johnson
Pete and Jonnie Peterson
Bev Pollock
Jim and Deb Prange
Jerry and Joan Speck

Campaign Co-Chairs

Eric Duhachek
Ron Hollmann

Keith County Foundation Fund Advisory Committee

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Pam Abbott, Vice Chair
Susan J. Schilz, Secretary
Teri Elmshaeuser, Treasurer

Lorena Beckius
Doug Davis
Craig Draucker
Ron Hollmann
Jon Holzfast
Jacob Hovendick
Angie Kolste
Sheila Mitchell
Mark Perlinger
Ken Snyder
Mary Weber

VISION

Embracing our pioneer heritage while looking forward to a vibrant future, Keith County is growing communities where the trails of industry, agriculture and tourism converge, creating a place where people want to live, work, learn, have fun and prosper.

MISSION

The mission of the Keith County Foundation Fund is to enrich the quality of life in our county-wide community by:

- providing a means for people to give back to the community they love;
- building endowments and
- making strategic grants.

VALUES

Integrity:

We are fair, reputable, honest, and can be trusted to keep our word.

Inclusiveness:

We are open to and work with all people, organizations and groups and encourage diversity.

Proactivity:

We are open to changing needs of our community and will act on those needs.

Collaboration:

We will work with, assist and reach out to other organizations in our community.