What is the Keya Paha County Foundation Fund?
A group of visionary community leaders launched the Keha Paha County Foundation Fund in 2004 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 to benefit our communities and to fulfill our mission to inspire the spirit of giving in order to cultivate, preserve and enhance Keya Paha County now and forever.

What does the Keya Paha County Foundation Fund do?
The Keya Paha County Foundation Fund is working to improve the quality of life and create opportunities for prosperity in Keya Paha County and the surrounding area. We have created an endowment—which is like a community savings account—to support community projects, programs and people.

Over the years, our grants have supported a variety of worthy causes and projects including:

- Life-saving EMT and vehicle extrication training for local volunteers
- Improvements to the Keya Paha County Senior Citizens Center
- Repairs and upgrades to the local ballfield
- Scholarships and the KBR Leadership Academy to benefit Keya Paha County youth
- Community amenities like new playground equipment in the park

Why is this important?
The biggest threat Keya Paha County faces is the loss of local resources that helped to build our community from the start: capital investments, businesses, jobs, young people who are tomorrow’s leaders, and importantly, intergenerational wealth.

Many of our senior residents no longer have heirs who live in the area. When this generation passes on, the wealth they have built right here in Keya Paha County—in the form of land, retirement funds and other assets—often leaves, too.

The Keya Paha County Foundation Fund is providing a way for people to give back to the community they love . . . in fact, we often encourage our donors to think of Keya Paha County as “another child” when planning their estate.

What is the Keya Paha County Fund doing to achieve its goals?
We are committed to creating a “culture of giving” in Keya Paha County. We invite all residents and people with a connection to Keya Paha County to make gifts of all sizes to our community.

Each year, a portion of those contributions are placed in a permanent endowment, which is invested to create a source of funding for annual grants to improve the community. The endowment funds will be held and invested in perpetuity, creating an asset that remains and grows forever.
In order to broaden our impact, the Fund has recently created a challenge grant that has the potential to build the Keya Paha County Foundation Fund’s permanent unrestricted endowment significantly. For every two dollars contributed to the Fund’s unrestricted endowment on or before December 31, 2020, the Keya Paha County Foundation Fund will match one dollar.

With a substantial increase to our community endowment, we will be able to take a strategic approach to future grant making and fund programs that will make a positive, lasting impact on the communities of Keya Paha County.

**How is the Keya Paha County Foundation Fund governed?**

The Keya Paha County Foundation Fund is an affiliated fund of Nebraska Community Foundation (“NCF”) and is governed by an all-volunteer group of local Fund Advisory Committee members. Current members include:

- Teresa A. Bammerlin, Chair
- Ryan Richey, Vice Chair
- Ricky D. Nelson, Treasurer
- Linnea Steinhauser, Secretary
- Vance Baker
- Patty Barstow, Former FAC Member
- Stanley Libolt
- Lloyd Taber
- Katheryn Ann Titus

Working with NCF enables us to reduce administrative costs and provides access to financial and legal services, training and education, marketing services and gift planning assistance. This means that more of every dollar received in donations benefits Keya Paha County. More information about NCF can be found at www.nebcommfound.org.

**How can I support the work of the Keya Paha County Community Fund?**

There are many ways to contribute, and all gifts are tax-deductible. We can accept gifts of cash or pledges over a multi-year period, appreciated property, life insurance, or bequests in wills. Our affiliation with NCF makes it possible to give gifts of real estate, livestock, grain and more. You can even give a gift that provides a guaranteed income and tax savings through a gift annuity or a charitable remainder trust.

**Why should I contribute to the Keya Paha County Foundation Fund?**

With today’s technology, young people can choose to live and work almost anywhere, including right here in Keya Paha County.

According to surveys conducted by Nebraska Community Foundation, more than half of young Nebraskans from small towns would prefer to return home to work and raise their families if career opportunities are available. More than 40 percent would like to own their own business someday. It is our job to make these dreams a reality.

The future of Keya Paha County depends on our ability to make it a place where the next generation, and beyond, can rediscover the good life we have always enjoyed.

*Please direct all inquiries to Teresa Bammerlin, Chair of the Keya Paha County Community Fund, at 402.244.5398.*