

Foundation Welcomes Program Officer

Troy Unruh recently began working as program officer for the Western Kansas Community Foundation. He began his position in October and is working part time to assist in the implementation of special projects initiated by the Foundation. Troy is a past grant committee chairman and a Garden City native.



He was born in Lyons, Kansas, and his family moved to the Garden City area in 1968. Troy graduated from Garden City High School in 1981. He attended college at Principia in Illinois and transferred to Baker University in Baldwin City, Kansas. In 1985, Troy earned two Bachelor of Science degrees, one in Business Administration and one in Computer Science. After working in Oregon and Missouri, Troy returned home in 1991 as the officer manager of State Farm Insurance. He enjoys music ministry and is an active member of Bible Christian Church. He is past president of the Garden City Chapter of Rotary and is involved in the Woodworker's Advisory Council of GCCC. Troy is married to Brenda and they have four children: Maggie, Emily, Elizabeth and Andrew. He enjoys his family and the people of western Kansas.

"Having Troy on board to work with local communities and promote collaborative efforts in these areas is such an asset," said Michelle Komlofske, Executive Director. "He has great enthusiasm for his new responsibilities. We are so excited to have him as part of the WKCF team."



Merry Christmas
And
Happy New Year
Best Wishes
In
2007



President's Perspective



Betty Benson
WKCF President

Greetings from WKCF,

What a year we have experienced - wonderful growth, a ten year anniversary celebration and two granting periods (which will increase to four in 2007.) I want to thank Dale Gabel for his guidance in 2006. It is a privilege to serve as Chairman of the Foundation and work with our excellent staff and enthusiastic board.

As you know, the Kansas Health Foundation (KHF) has been tremendous over the years in challenging us to meet desired goals and rewarding us when those goals were reached with matching grants, equipment and helpful seminars. As we move forward, the Western Kansas Community Foundation will continue its role in assisting donors with their philanthropic wishes and awarding of community grants. We also expect to expand the Foundation's role by bringing people together to discuss community issues. One opportunity made possible by the KHF places emphasis on nutrition and physical activity. Perhaps you have seen local commercials on TV encouraging Kansans to "change something."

Troy Unruh is the WKCF's new program officer and has been instrumental in bringing our first efforts to the Senior Center in Garden City. A class designed especially for adults age 60 and over will begin in January. A grant from the Kansas Department of Aging provides the necessary equipment and instructors. Watch for further details regarding upcoming sessions.

Best wishes for the New Year as we strive to make our communities an active and healthy place to live.