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Michelle's View

Arthur C. Frantzreb once said, "The act of philanthropy is a spiritual act, an expression of caring for one's fellow human beings. It is a belief in the future that the future can be good. It is investing in that future. It is helping to make the dream come true." Mr. Frantzreb, who passed away in 2004, was an advisor for the Center on Philanthropy and truly lived his beliefs.

The picture is no different in western Kansas. Individuals and businesses in our communities have stepped forth with gifts that benefit a variety of organizations. Giving back is apparent everyday and your vision for the future is inspiring. Local support has enabled the Western Kansas Community Foundation to grow and offer grant cycles four times a year. Thank you for helping us give back to the community!

Along with the expansion of our grant season, the Foundation has joined forces with Finnup Foundation, Finney County United Way, Garden City Community College and Commerce Bank in Garden City to offer capacity building workshops to area non profit agencies. Collaborating with additional funders presents opportunities to engage more people, minimize cost and encourage working together. A grantwriting workshop was held in June with over 40 participants in attendance. A strategic planning workshop is planned for Friday, October 19th in Garden City at the Community College. Bringing educational opportunities to western Kansas eliminates travel expenses for many agencies and allows staff to be out of the office for a short time. As we continue our work together, we anticipate many opportunities to serve both donors and non profit agencies alike.

Stewardship Counseling, LLC offers comprehensive estate planning for you and your family. John W. Griffin, Esq. travels across Kansas to offer this service through a wide range of community and private foundations. He will review your existing plan free of charge. No products are sold or endorsed through this counseling process, only the opportunities to gain ideas. Garden City Community College Endowment Association, Commerce Trust Company of Garden City, Finney County Farm Bureau Association and Western Kansas Community Foundation are proud to sponsor this program. Please call the WKCF office for more information.

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Kirk Olomon and Nick Burroughs, Trust Officers

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