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Donations Matched During December

If you are looking for a place to make that year-end charitable contribution, look no further. During the month of December, tax-deductible charitable donations made to the Cheyenne County Impact Fund will be matched by the Dane G. Hansen Foundation, dollar for dollar, making a \$1 donation worth \$2! In addition, the Hansen Foundation will award the foundation with an extra \$25,000 that will go towards operating expenses if the goal of \$50,000 is reached.

“There has never been a better time to donate in Cheyenne County,” said Carla Lampe, Cheyenne County Kansas Community Foundation board president. “This is a tremendous opportunity for Cheyenne County to build a county-wide ‘savings account’ to help fund needed projects and for us to become more self-sufficient.”

This is the fifth year that the Dane G. Hansen Foundation has challenged 26 northwest Kansas communities, including Cheyenne County, to establish or grow county-wide endowment funds with a \$50,000 match challenge. Over the past four years, the Hansen Foundation has donated \$162,398 in matching funds to the Cheyenne County Impact Fund. Local donations have totaled \$276,359, which includes several large challenge donations from Bill and Cindy Keller / Stanion Wholesale Electric.

In addition to donations to the Impact Fund, Cheyenne County Kansas Community Foundation (CCKCF) has received \$60,000 towards an operational endowment fund and \$20,000 towards general operating funds from the Hansen Foundation for past successful match months.

The Cheyenne County Impact Fund provides grants annually to charitable organizations, government entities, educational institutions, and religious organizations serving Cheyenne County. In October, CCKCF awarded \$11,000, which was nearly double of what was granted in 2019, back to Cheyenne County organizations from this endowment fund. As the Cheyenne County Impact Fund grows with your generous donations, the amount of grant funds available increases likewise. An endowment funds are permanent and intended to provide grant funds perpetually.

With the Dane G. Hansen Foundation offering to match incoming contributions through the month of December, now is the perfect time to get your year-end tax contributions made with DOUBLE the impact. If the community donates the full \$50,000 to the Cheyenne County Impact Fund, Cheyenne County would receive \$100,000 total in donations.

In 2015, the Hansen Foundation established a Cheyenne County community initiative grant program under the Greater Northwest Kansas Community Foundation. Through this program, it has funded more than \$600,000 for charitable projects in Cheyenne County. The foundation plans to continue this program at least one more year. The Hansen Trustees’ intentions are for local community foundations to build endowment funds, like the Cheyenne County Impact Fund, to provide grants locally after their initiative ends.

The Dane G. Hansen Foundation has supported Cheyenne County through their numerous scholarships awarded, grants (through our local fund as well as those awarded through them directly), and with this

endowed matching initiative as they look to the future of our county and how they can continue to impact it for the long term.

Donations can be made securely online at <https://www.gnwkcf.org/donate-cncomatch>, by mailing a check to GNWKCF, c/o Cheyenne County Impact Fund, P.O. Box 593, Bird City, KS 67731. Also, gifts of grain through a grain elevator can be made resulting in a reduction of income to pay taxes on rather than a charitable donation. Donations must be received or envelopes post-marked by December 31, 2020 to be applied toward the matching initiative.

For more information, contact any CCKCF Board Member or call Greater Northwest Kansas Community Foundation at 785-734-2406. Information is also available on our website at www.cckcf.org.