

## Matching funds drive successful January 2021

More than 60 individuals and businesses joined together to support the Cheyenne County Kansas Community Foundation matching funds campaign held in December. Charitable contributions came as gifts of grain, online donations, and checks/cash. Combined with the matching donation from Dane G. Hansen Foundation, more than \$125,000 was raised for the benefit of Cheyenne County charitable organizations.

“It always amazes me how generous community members and alumni are, but especially this year during a pandemic and uncertain times,” said Carla Lampe, Cheyenne County Kansas Community Foundation board president. “The Dane G Hansen Foundation has pledged to continue issuing the \$50,000 matching funds campaign through 2026. If our community rises to the occasion each year, the Cheyenne County Impact Fund will reach more than \$1 million in assets. That will allow our county-wide foundation to make up to \$50,000 per year in grants locally every year – forever!”

All donations will be used to support qualified public charities, educational, religious or government organizations operating within Cheyenne County. This includes nonprofit organizations, schools (both Cheylin and St. Francis), churches, government agencies, and other civic projects with a local government sponsor.

During the month of December, donations to the Cheyenne County Impact Fund were matched \$1 to \$1 by the Dane G Hansen Foundation (up to \$50,000). The Hansen Foundation also provided a generous incentive that if the community raised at least \$50,000 for the Impact Fund, they would donate an additional \$20,000 for an operational endowment fund and \$5,000 for unrestricted operations of the Cheyenne County Kansas Community Foundation. The community exceeded the goal and these additional grant funds will be awarded.

With the funds raised in December, the Cheyenne County Impact Fund now has nearly \$600,000 as this is the fourth consecutive year for the matching fundraising challenge. With the incentive grant for the operating endowment fund, the foundation has more than \$170,000 invested to support ongoing administration of Cheyenne County Kansas Community Foundation.

As an endowment fund, the interest earned on the donated funds will be awarded through a competitive grant process periodically. The Cheyenne County Kansas Community Foundation board of directors is responsible for investing the funds, soliciting applications for donations, and dispersing grant awards.

With the income earned on the Cheyenne County Impact Fund, the Foundation has awarded \$17,362 to date to qualified charitable organizations in Cheyenne County. In 2021, CCKCF will have approximately \$20,000 available to award from the Cheyenne County Impact Fund. Each year, the amount of funds available should increase. A press release will be issued with the foundation is accepting grant applications.

Charitable donations can be made online at <https://www.gnwkcf.org/cheyenne>, by mailing a check to CCKCF, c/o Greater Northwest Kansas Community Foundation, PO Box 593, Bird City, KS 67731, by dropping a check off at FNB Bank in St. Francis, or by dropping a check off at The Bank in Bird City.

For more information about the foundation, contact the Greater Northwest Kansas Community Foundation at 785-734-2406 or by email at [info@gnwkcf.org](mailto:info@gnwkcf.org).