Match Madness Returns

Basketball season is just beginning, but plans are already underway for the big tournament—Match Madness is back! Mark your calendars for Tuesday, March 12 from 7am to 6pm at Moka’s downtown. On that day, donors make a contribution to the endowment fund of one or more of the participating charities (score!) and the Foundation will give that charity a cash grant based on a percentage of your donation (an extra point!). It’s a three point play! Watch for more information and exciting changes for Match Madness 2013! You won’t want to miss it!

Randall delights Salina

Two Sharons, connected by a thin strip of newsprint; one the writer, the other the reader. Sharon Calloway made a phone call to her husband, Kyle, immediately after she heard nationally syndicated columnist Sharon Randall speak at the Foundation’s event to benefit Women Helping Women on November 11. Calloway wanted her husband to bring a copy of one of Randall’s columns to the auditorium at Central High School so Randall could sign it for her.
Journal on her first wedding anniversary. “I took it as a sign,” she said. She noted that she had cut out the column and placed it in a lock box with the couple’s marriage certificate. That is where Kyle retrieved it to bring to his wife.

Calloway shared her story as Randall signed the column. It was one of many heartfelt stories that audience members waited in line to share with the popular columnist. Nearly 1,000 people attended the event. Randall signed copies of her book, newspapers, brochures and slips of paper, or just visited or posed for a photo.

Randall’s visit was a huge boost for the Women Helping Women endowment held at the Foundation. Ticket and book sales and donations netted more than $30,000. In addition, another 15 women became Fairy Godmothers. Fairy Godmothers are donors who pledge to contribute a minimum of $500 to the fund over a two-year period. On Saturday night prior to the community event, Randall was the featured guest at a wine and cheese party for Fairy Godmothers and their guests. Major sponsors of the events were The Salina Journal and Salina Regional Health Center’s Women And Children’s Services. Twenty local businesses and individuals also contributed to cover the cost of the events.

Women Helping Women offers small, immediate grants to help Saline County women who are struggling or may be in crisis. Through an application process facilitated by nonprofit organizations in the community, women who need emergency assistance for things like car repair, dental needs or home repair can get one-time grants to help keep them on their feet. Income from the endowment at the Community Foundation and the generosity of donors provides the funding for the grants. For more information, visit www.gsfc.org, click on Initiatives and Impact, then Women Helping Women, or call the Foundation at 785-823-1800.

**Year-End Giving Options**

The Foundation is here to help you with your charitable giving needs. If you are considering starting a new fund or contributing to an existing fund as a part of your year-end giving, let us know if we can help. Here are some other things to consider...

**Holiday Gift Cards**

Give the gift that keeps on giving—forever. Make a donation to the Foundation in honor of a friend, loved one or colleague instead of that sweater or tie. Here is how it works:

- You select the charitable fund or funds to which you wish to contribute. More than 70 local charities have funds in the Foundation. (Find a list of funds on our website at www.gsfc.org, click on How to Give, and then Current Funds.)
- You provide us the name and address of the person or persons you wish to honor.
- You make a contribution to the Foundation ($25 minimum gift per card to be sent)
- We send a beautiful holiday card with an announcement of the gift made in the honorees name. (If you wish, you can personally sign the cards before they go out.)
- We provide you with a tax deduction for your contribution.
- We invest the gift on behalf of the charity and provide ongoing support.
- You avoid crowds, long lines and parking problems, relax and enjoy your holidays!

Visit our website at www.gsfc.org or give us a call at 785-823-1800 for an order form or for more information.

**Giving Cards: Great Gift for Out-of-Towners**

If you have charitably minded folks on your list who do not live in the area, consider spreading the holiday cheer with a Giving Card. Giving cards are similar to retail gift cards. Recipients are able to redeem them online to benefit any 501(c)3 charity in the United States.

Giving Cards are a great way to honor special employees or clients. There are several styles to choose from. To order, go to www.gsfc.org, click on How to Give, and then Giving Cards; or call the Foundation at 823-1800.

**Making Wishes Come True for Local Charities**

Check out our fun, Make A Wish Come True catalog to find lists of needs from local charities. The Foundation publishes and distributes the catalog every November at no cost to the charities. But this is a catalog you can keep around long after the holiday season. It includes information and a wish list for a number of local nonprofit organizations. Some as small as boxes of crayons others are more significant such as electronics or appliances.

The catalog can be a resource for office groups who wish to pool resources and select items to present to a charity for their holiday giving project. Or families can use the catalog to introduce children to charitable giving in a tangible way. School groups, youth groups and individuals have all found the catalog helpful for holiday projects. Nonprofit organizations benefit by receiving items from their wish list that help them provide service to their clients.

If you would like to receive a copy of this year’s catalog, give us a call at 785-823-1800. Copies are also available at the Public Library.
Fall Grants Help Meet Community Needs

The fall 2012 Fund for Greater Salina grants represent a cross section of needs from community nonprofits. The Foundation received 29 grant applications with requests totaling more than $110,000. Grant requests are capped at $5,000.

Since inception in 1999, the Foundation has awarded more than $30 million in grants, of that $750,000 has been from the Fund for Greater Salina. Funding for this grant program comes from donations, memorials, and other gifts to the Fund for Greater Salina Endowment. Significant donors to that endowment include:

Don & Opal Dieckhoff
The Turning Point
Bob & Marcia Anderson
Clark, Mize & Linville, Chld.
Tex & Betty Fury Fund
Charles E. Stevens Fund
Michael & Alice Sullivan
Chester & Laurabelle Smith
Joe & Mildred Pankaskie

$5,000 – Ashby House: To purchase exterior security cameras for improved safety of staff, residents and community volunteers

$3,000 – Salina Child Care Association: Staff training and scholarships for low-income families who do not qualify for government assistance

$2,000 – Salina Emergency Aid Food Bank: Assistance for individuals and families who are in danger of eviction or loss of utility services

$3,000 – CASA Program for Saline County: To provide training for volunteers who will represent foster children in court

$3,000 – New Start Family Life Center: To support a community and school event educating students about why school shootings happen and also to scholarship students into programs to reduce destructive behaviors

$900 – Smoky Hills Public Television: To support “Literacy Leadership for Kansas Children” which will provide free books to low-income children, ages 0-8 in Saline County

$1,000 – Martin Luther King Child Development Center: To purchase classroom and kitchen supplies

$3,000 – Friends of the River Foundation: To assist with an Economic Impact Study to determine economic, educational, cultural and community benefits of implementing the Smoky Hill River Renewal Master Plan

$3,000 – Salina Arts & Humanities Foundation Shakespeare Residency: Support for an extensive community residency featuring the American Shakespeare Company working with schools, community organization and individuals

The following grants were made possible through a partnership with the Salina Regional Health Foundation Community Health Investment Program (CHIP). Grants funded through this partnership meet specific funding criteria established by CHIP. Grant review, allocation of funding and grant administration is provided by the Community Foundation.

$2,000 – Child Advocacy & Parenting Services: Assistance for the family mentoring and support program

$3,000 – Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Salina/Saline County: To assist with the implementation of Circles of Salina/Saline County, a program that educates and mentors individual families to help bring them out of poverty

$5,000 – Big Brothers Big Sisters of Salina: To purchase new computers and software required to comply with changes in the national BBBS programming and to improve staff efficiency

$950 – Salina Family YMCA: To purchase supplies for family learning kits to be distributed at the Child Development Fair at Central Mall during the Week of the Young Child

$1,000 – St. Mary’s Grade School: To purchase books for a new initiative encouraging 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten where pre-school children read or are read to in an effort to prepare for school and a life-long love of reading

$1,000 – USD 305 Heartland Program: To create a Born Learning Trail at the bus stop near Heartland Early Learning Center that gives young children and their parents a fun and physical way to practice important early learning skills

$900 – Smoky Hills Public Television: To support “Literacy Leadership for Kansas Children” which will provide free books to low-income children, ages 0-8 in Saline County

$1,000 – The Salina Chapter of KAYEC: To purchase supplies for family learning kits to be distributed at the Child Development Fair at Central Mall during the Week of the Young Child

$750 – Ottawa County Head Start: To purchase classroom materials that reinforce phonics, numbers and counting, science, the alphabet, patterns and sequences for pre-school children

$600 – Salina Child Care Association: To purchase new computers and software required to comply with changes in the national BBBS programming and to improve staff efficiency

$275 – Ottawa County Head Start: To purchase classroom materials that reinforce phonics, numbers and counting, science, the alphabet, patterns and sequences for pre-school children

$3,000 – Salina Child Care Association: To purchase classroom materials that reinforce phonics, numbers and counting, science, the alphabet, patterns and sequences for pre-school children

$950 – Salina Family YMCA: To purchase supplies for family learning kits to be distributed at the Child Development Fair at Central Mall during the Week of the Young Child

$1,000 – St. Mary’s Grade School: To purchase books for a new initiative encouraging 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten where pre-school children read or are read to in an effort to prepare for school and a life-long love of reading

$600 – Salina Child Care Association: To purchase new computers and software required to comply with changes in the national BBBS programming and to improve staff efficiency

$5,600 Total Grants Awarded

Grants Awarded for Early Childhood Programs

Grants from the Fund for Early Childhood Care, Education & Development assist with the important work of preparing children to enter kindergarten ready to learn.

Established in 2010 by Salinans Mark & Jane Berkley, grants are awarded through an annual application process. Special consideration is given to programs or organizations that work with children in poverty or with other significant barriers to learning.

$1,000 – USD 305 Heartland Program: To create a Born Learning Trail at the bus stop near Heartland Early Learning Center that gives young children and their parents a fun and physical way to practice important early learning skills

$1,000 – The Salina Chapter of KAYEC: To purchase supplies for family learning kits to be distributed at the Child Development Fair at Central Mall during the Week of the Young Child

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$950 – Salina Family YMCA: To purchase supplies for family learning kits to be distributed at the Child Development Fair at Central Mall during the Week of the Young Child

$1,000 – St. Mary’s Grade School: To purchase books for a new initiative encouraging 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten where pre-school children read or are read to in an effort to prepare for school and a life-long love of reading

$600 – Salina Child Care Association: To purchase new computers and software required to comply with changes in the national BBBS programming and to improve staff efficiency

$5,600 Total Grants Awarded
Nine Salina elementary schools participated in the 2012 School Marathon program. The Foundation awards grants designed to help the schools offer school marathons for students in grades 1-5. The Foundation estimates more than 3,250 students participated, and though final numbers are not yet in, we anticipate more than 2,250 will complete a full marathon.

A school marathon provides a structure for students to run or walk distances that add up to a marathon (26.2 miles) over a period of 5-6 weeks. Modifications are made for students with special needs to ensure that all have an opportunity to be successful. Students receive incentives along the way. Parents, teachers and community volunteers assist with the tracking and coordination of the events.

The School Marathon Grants are part of GSCF’s Nutrition and Physical Activity Initiative, funded by the Kansas Health Foundation, Wichita. Additional support comes from the Community Health Investment Program at the Salina Regional Health Foundation. GSCF provides all administration for the program.

The 2012 School Marathon Grant recipients are:
- Coronado Elementary School
- Cottonwood Elementary School
- Heusner Elementary School
- Meadowlark Ridge Elementary School
- Oakdale Elementary School
- St. Mary’s Elementary School
- Schilling Elementary School
- Stewart Elementary School
- Sunset Elementary School