Charities win with Match Madness!

Total charitable benefit $155,000 from one-day event

Eleven hours after it began, Match Madness 2013 ended with 47 local charities being big winners. The March 12 event brought in 368 donors and more than $102,000 in contributions to the endowed funds of the participating charities. With the matching dollars offered and bonus grants awarded every hour and to the “final four” charities, the total charitable benefit was $155,503.75.

K-State Salina’s Amy Cole spent the entire day at the event, making good on her offer to buy a cup of coffee for any KSU donor. “This is a great way to get us out in the community,” she said “This is one of my favorite fundraising events of the year.”

Match Madness is a one-day, on site event that started last year. It is designed to give local nonprofits an easy way to share the value of endowed giving with their donors. The event generates new gifts to the endowed funds for the organizations for permanent long-term support, but also offers matching cash grants to help meet the immediate needs of the organizations. The available match pool this year was $50,000, which came from Foundation funds and a generous donor.

“We learned a lot our first year and made some changes for 2013 that were very well received.” Wearing said. “Several Charities win with Match Madness!

Misty Elder from St. Francis Community Services did double duty at Match Madness, representing her employer and making a donation. Her two children were also donors, making philanthropy a family affair.

It’s back! Make a Charitable Gift Directly from Your IRA

In late December 2012, Congress renewed the IRA rollover provision for 2013. The provision allows individuals who are 70½ or older to take tax-free withdrawals from their IRAs as long as that money goes directly to a charity, such as the Greater Salina Community Foundation. Although the donor cannot claim the gift as a tax deduction, the IRA withdrawal that’s donated directly to a charity is excluded from income, up to $100,000. The withdrawal counts against the required minimum distributions for the year.

For more information, call your financial adviser, or the Foundation office at (785) 823-1800.

Baseball Grants Now Available

If you are a parent or coach of a little league baseball player who needs assistance in order to participate this summer, visit our website at www.gscf and click on Apply For a Grant, then on Youth Baseball. Funds are available to help youth with equipment, uniforms or fees.

Make plans now to join us on Thursday, May 16 at 11:30 at the Salina Country Club for our annual grants and scholarship luncheon. Come learn about the Foundation’s work this past year and be there when we announce the 2013 Salina Award for Outstanding Citizenship. For more information, call the Foundation office at (785) 823-1800.
Creating a Path for a Healthier Salina

The Greater Salina Community Foundation has been awarded a $25,000 planning grant through the Kansas Health Foundation’s Healthy Communities Initiative. The Foundation will serve as the grant administrator on behalf of Salina’s Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition. Salina is one of eight new grantees in the state to receive this funding, joining 12 other communities already involved in this initiative, designed to partner with communities to promote policy, systems and environmental changes that support healthy eating and active living.

“The Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition is excited to have the opportunity to further its work in the Salina community,” said Ellen Hogeland, coalition chairman. “The environment greatly influences our ability to be active, stay healthy and be nutritionally sound. Our goal is to bring people together and continue the conversation about changes we can make in our community that support physical activity and increase access to, demand for and affordability of healthy foods. The KHF grant will support planning to begin looking at strategies for these changes.”

During an initial planning year, the coalition will draw on recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Institute of Medicine as a part of its work. Communities that complete the planning process will have the opportunity to apply for up to three additional years of funding through KHF to implement strategies.

Watch for more information as this exciting venture unfolds.

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of our nonprofits operate state-wide, so even though we wanted to keep our event as an on-site activity, we allowed charities to collect checks from out of town donors in advance and bring them in that day. We had a lot of positive feedback about that change. We received several contributions from out of state and even got a check from New Zealand!”

Another change for 2013 was that every donation was matched. Instead of offering matching funds until the pool was expended, the match was proportional. Every gift was matched at the same percentage, which was determined by the total amount of donations received. As it turned out, total donations were slightly more than the $100,000 required to get a full 50% match on all gifts, so the Foundation added funds to the match pool so that every gift could receive a full 50% match.

In addition to the matching funds, the Foundation also gave away hourly bonus grants. At the end of each hour, a donor form was drawn at random and $100 was added to that contribution. At the end of the day, additional grants were awarded to the “Final Four,” organizations that raised the most for their endowments and organizations that had the highest number of donors. Ten percent of each donation went to Fund for Greater Salina.
Education in Action!

Mullen Youth Grants

Pat Mullen wanted his legacy to include helping students learn by doing. Through his estate, he established the L.P. “Pat” Mullen Funds for youth Arts and Humanities and for Science, Technology and Invention. This is the fourth year the Foundation has awarded grants from these innovative funds.

$11,682 — Salina Arts and Humanities Commission: To redesign the children’s art area at the Smoky Hill River Festival, connecting it more closely with “Arty”, the mobile art van, to encourage increased participation in Arty’s post-festival children’s art activities.

$5,150 — Salina Art Center: To provide hands-on computer training and learning opportunities for students in the Teen Docents, Discover and Snapshots programs. The students will then lead other youth projects at the Art Center using new technology.

$3,600 — Salina Community Theatre: To implement “cloud” technology in the youth theatre and dance programs. The new system will store music and video that can be used simultaneously throughout the four classrooms.

Total Mullen Arts & Humanities grants: $20,432

$4,000 — Salina Central High School FIRST Robotics Team: The third year of a three-year grant to support the robotics program with the purchase of materials and registration fees for competition.

$4,000 — St. John’s Military School Robotics: The second year of a three-year grant for the new robotics program. Grant funds will purchase kits and support software.

$4,066 — Salina South High School: To purchase 12 Vernier Lab Quest devices used by students in the chemistry, biology and physics classes, as well as the Science Olympiad team and the Lab Chicks Club. The devises are used in the collection and analysis of data for a variety of hands-on science experiments.

Total Mullen Science, Technology & Invention grants: $12,066

In addition, the Mullen fund awards an annual $10,000 grant to KPTS for youth programming for science. The Mullen grant to KPTS supports Sid the Science Kid.

Total Mullen grants: $42,498

Governance Workshop

Coming in April

Mark your calendars! If you are part of a nonprofit board, or would like to learn more about governance for nonprofit organizations, you will not want to miss the Foundation’s upcoming workshop on effective governance with Dr. Sandra Hughes.

Sandy Hughes is a nationally known and respected governance consultant for nonprofit boards and senior management. She facilitates board retreats, leads programs, conducts governance training, and works with individual organizations on complex nonprofit governance change projects. She has led educational and training programs on nonprofit governance, strategic thinking and planning, organizational culture and values, teamwork, effective meetings, and other related topics. She is both a knowledgeable and entertaining presenter.

“We had Sandy here in 2007 for a governance program and the attendees really learned a lot and enjoyed the workshop. We are very excited to be able to bring her to the community again,” said Betsy Wearing, Foundation President. “I take every opportunity to hear Sandy speak- I can always learn from her.”

Solving the Governance Puzzle will be Wednesday, April 24, 9:00 to noon at the Greater Salina Community Foundation office. Call us at (785) 823-1800 for more information.
Love Your Community Grants

The Foundation celebrated Valentine’s Day this year by awarding grants through our Love Your Community grant contest. Any non-profit organization, business, group or individual was eligible to apply for one of five $1,000 grants. Projects had to meet established criteria and had to benefit the entire community. Voting took place on the Foundation’s Facebook page from noon on February 6 to noon on February 13.

Watch for these exciting projects this spring and summer — each demonstrating a love for our community!

North Salina Community Development: To beautify intersections along north Broadway Blvd. between 9th and North Streets. Parcels will be landscaped with low-maintenance plants, grasses, and trees. One site will feature a sculpture by Dick Bergen.

Webster Conference Center: In conjunction with the Salina Disc Golf Association Webster staff will develop a pro-quality 18-hole disc golf course. The course will be open to the community on a call to play basis, as well as available to host city, state and national tournaments.

The Friends of the River: To create signage for the new Riverwoods Nature Area, a trail system southeast of Cloud St. that offers views of the Smoky Hill River and wildlife. The trails are open to the public and the signs will direct hikers to the trail head and along the paths.

The Volunteer Connection: To support the 2013 Spring Spruce Up Salina, bringing together volunteers of all ages on Saturday, April 20, for neighborhood and river cleanup, minor painting, repairs and yard work for agencies and public areas.

Salina Arts and Humanities Foundation: To hire a local artist to create a stacked-can art installation for exhibit at the Salina Public Library. During the exhibit, the library will collect “Food for Fines”. The food items collected and the cans used in the sculpture will be donated to the Emergency Aid Food Bank at the conclusion of the exhibit.