



Luke and Teale Ryan took the Give Back 5 Pledge to role model charitable giving to their daughter Sloane.

## Mark your Calendar!

- 08/01 - First Friday- Julie Cates , 4-6 pm
- 08/15- GSCF Grant Apps Due
- 09/05 - First Friday- Steve Hoffman, 4-6pm
- 09/05 - Women Helping Women Grant Apps Due

## Give Back 5 Surpasses Goal!



The Greater Salina Community Foundation is proud to announce the successful completion of its Give Back 5 Community Giving pledge campaign. The Foundation surpassed its original one-year goal of 125 pledges with a total of 133 commitments to support local nonprofits through legacy giving.

The campaign invited individuals to pledge at least 5% of their retirement or investment assets to charitable causes in their communities after their lifetime. The results are nothing less than inspiring:

- 133 total pledges secured
- 58% of pledges came from next-generation donors (Gen X, Millennials, and Gen Z)
- 102 pledges resulted in the creation of permanent charitable funds
- 31 pledges are going directly to charities for immediate use

"I am truly blown away by the incredible response from our community," said Jessica Martin, President & Executive Director. "What I love most about the pledge list is its diversity—it includes people of all ages, backgrounds, and walks of life, making it a true reflection

of our community. The collective impact of these pledges lays a strong foundation for our nonprofits to continue their vital work for generations to come."

### Engaging the Next Generation

When the Give Back 5 campaign launched, Luke and Teale Ryan knew they wanted to participate. It was the push they needed to begin estate planning. After meeting with their attorney, they decided to increase the percentage of their retirement assets designated for charitable giving—ensuring their pledge reflects 5% of their total estate.

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### Still Time to Give Back!

Although the initial campaign goal has been reached, the Give Back 5 pledge continues as a powerful planned giving tool to support our community's future. Take the pledge at [www.giveback5.org](http://www.giveback5.org) or call the Foundation at 785-823-1800 to learn more.



# Give Back 5 (cont'd)

They also want to model charitable giving—both time and financial—for their 12-year-old daughter, Sloane. “Having moved to Salina from the Washington, D.C. area, it was difficult to see charitable donations in action in such a large city,” said Teale. “Through GSCF’s management of local funds and events like Match Madness, we’ve seen firsthand how our donations make a difference.”

Teale and Sloane annually volunteer at the Love, Chloe Foundation gala and donate to their fund at Match Madness. “We chose to include Love, Chloe Foundation in our pledge because all the money stays local to support families facing childhood cancer.”

## Creating a Strong Future

The campaign was originally

launched by a local committee to inspire giving and build long-term resources for the next generation. They believe nonprofits are essential to the social, economic, and cultural well-being of our communities.

“The Give Back 5 community giving campaign is one of the most exciting and transformative things I’ve ever been involved in. The future impact on our community is astonishing,” said Michael Chambers, VP of Community Impact. “Those that took the pledge have carved out 5 percent (or more) for the nonprofits that significantly improve the quality of life in our area. The generosity that I’ve seen throughout this campaign is inspiring and will strengthen our community forever!”

Personal connections to the work of nonprofits also inspired people like

Erica Chapel to take the pledge. “I know the value of nonprofits in our community and wanted to help contribute. Without donors, they wouldn’t exist,” said Erica. “I’m a Big with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Salina and deeply value the support they provide to children. When I was 8, I lost my brother and became an only child. I wish I could have had a Big to help me navigate life’s challenges.”



Erica Chapel, Trust Operations Officer  
Bennington State Bank

“I know the value of nonprofits in our community and wanted to help contribute.”

## Pledge List (07/01/24-06/30/25)

Adrienne Allen	Heather Ebert	Peter Johnston	Hannah Nichols	Chad Robinson
Jim Allen	Karen Ebert	Sara Peckham	Lane Nichols	Megan Robl
Bonnie Anderson	Ken Ebert	Johnston, MD	Rita Northup	Abbey Rupe
Eric Anderson	Aaron Esping	Jenni Jones	Dennis Oakes	Chris Rupe
Anonymous (x6)	Kelli Exline	Cathy Krug	Martha Oakes	Luke Ryan
Julie Beswick	Rob Exline	Randy Krug	J.J. O'Connor	Teale Ryan
Marc Beswick	Amy Freelove	Lori Lankhorst	Tammy O'Connor	Matt Shaffer
Jim Bishop	Rob Freelove	Pilar LaPointe	Bob Peck	Rita Shaffer
Leslie Bishop	Rick Frisbie	Jim Loader	Cindy Peck	David Simmons
Kristin Blake	David George III	Jerry Lonergan	Pete Peterson	Mac Steele
Roger Bott	Caroline Gorrell	Nancy Lonergan	Rita Peterson	David Tangeman
Danielle Brown	Clay Gorrell	A. Wayne Lowen	Katie Platten	Vickie Tangeman
Eric Brown	Gabe Grant	Colleen Marrs	Tom Platten	Larry Van Der Wege
Kelly Brown	Mark A. Gruenthal	Dahx Marrs	Brianna Quinley	Rebecca Van Der Wege
Bill Cathcart-Rake	David Hawksworth	Aaron Martin	John Quinley	Aaron Wedel
Ruth Cathcart-Rake	Susan Hawksworth	Dave Martin	Kevin Quinley	Carolyn Wedel
Michael Chambers	Maggie Hemmer	Jessica Martin	Mary Quinley	David Wedel
Erica Chapel	Tom Hemmer	Casey McCoy	Bailey Ramsey	Mark Wedel
Beverly Cole	Hannah Holt	Melissa McCoy	Jon Ramsey	Sarah Wedel
Dale Cole	Austin Hoppock	Bill Medina	Michelle Ramsey	Monte White
Doyle Comfort	Lisa Hoppock	Jake Mitchell	Sharlene Ramsey	Pennie White
Maureen Comfort	Mike Hoppock	John Mize	John Reber	Jacob Yarochowicz
Andrew Couch	Polly Hoppock	Karen Mize	Martha Rhea	Garrett Young
Karen Couch	Jenell Hulse	Barb Neustrom	Bobby Richardson	Loren Young
Janet Dubois	Katherine Jester	Patrik Neustrom	Jericca Richardson	Sara Young
Brandon Ebert	Phyllis Johnson	Lisa Newman	Mark Ritter	

# Choose the Investment Strategy that Reflects Your Values and Goals

We understand that every donor has unique financial goals, values, and preferences. That's why we offer three distinct investment pool options to help you align your charitable giving with your personal philosophy and long-term vision.

## 1. Vanguard Index Funds – Low-Cost, Broad Market Exposure

(\$270.8M in assets under management)

Our Vanguard Index Fund Pool is ideal for donors seeking a diversified, low-cost investment strategy. This pool is passively managed and designed to mirror the performance of the broader market, offering long-term growth potential with minimal fees. It's a great option for those who value simplicity, efficiency, and steady performance over time.

## 2. Catholic Values SRI – Faith-Aligned, Socially Responsible Investing

(\$3.4M in assets under management)

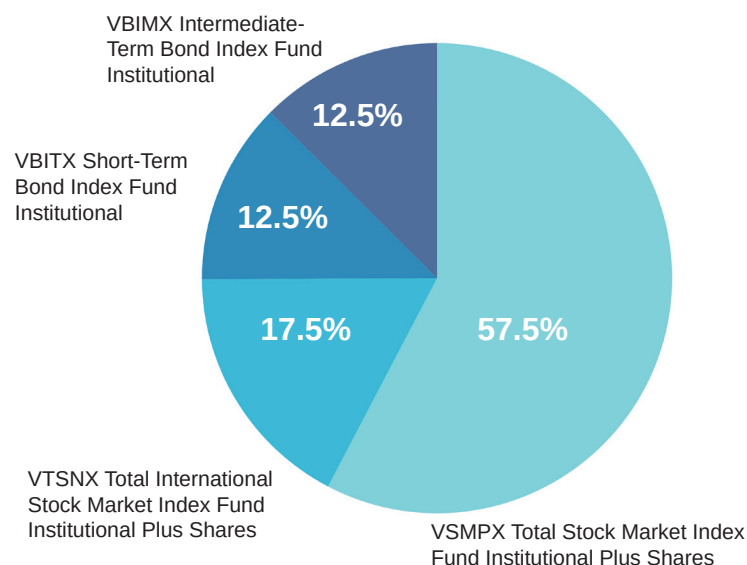
For donors who wish to align their charitable assets with their faith and values, our Catholic Values Socially Responsible Investment (SRI) Pool offers a thoughtful alternative. This pool follows investment guidelines consistent with Catholic teachings, avoiding companies that conflict with core values while promoting ethical and sustainable practices.

## 3. Outside Investment Manager – Personalized Portfolio Management

(\$40.8M in assets under management)

Prefer to work with your own financial advisor? No problem. Our Outside Investment Manager Option allows you to recommend a qualified investment professional to manage your fund. This option provides flexibility and customization, giving you the ability to tailor your investment strategy to your specific financial goals and risk tolerance. We currently partner with a network of 17 trusted advisors to manage 54 funds totaling \$40.8M.

### Vanguard Pool- Asset Allocation



### Investment Performance (as of 06/30/2025)

	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year	Expense Ratio
Vanguard Index Funds	13.8%	13.2%	10.8%	8.7%	.032%
Catholic Values SRI	12.08%	11.95%	9.02%	N/A	.47%
Benchmark	11.74%	14.07%	10.99%	9.17%	N/A

Note: Benchmark performance is based on a blended index consisting of 75% S&P 500 and 25% Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index. Performance of Outside Invested Funds may vary but must remain in compliance with the Foundation's Statement of Investment Policy.





# NEWS & Impact

## 2025 Scholarship Banquet

### Donor and Students Connect at Annual Scholarship Banquet

On May 21st, we gathered in Salina at the Hilton Garden Inn to honor the achievements of our local scholarship recipients. With over 160 attendees, including 40 students and 22 generous donors and committee members, the annual Scholarship Banquet was a night of celebration and connection.

This special event offers a meaningful opportunity for donors to meet with the students who received their scholarship and for recipients to express their gratitude in person.

At the scholarship banquet, our donors witness the impact their scholarship has on student lives. What often begins as a desire to honor a loved one or inspire future generations evolves into a lasting legacy through

the creation of a scholarship fund.

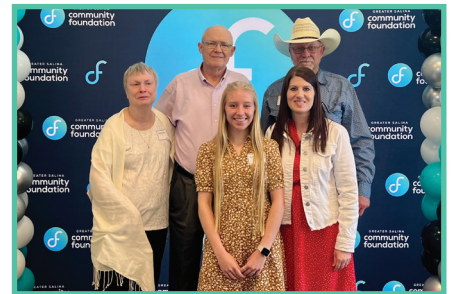
A highlight of the evening was guest speaker, Carrie Roe, a two-time recipient of the Hale Family Sunflower Promise Scholarship. Carrie shared how scholarships helped her succeed in college.

“Because of scholarships, I was able to focus on my schooling, participate in campus activities, and soak in everything my junior college and university had to offer,” she said.

Carrie closed with this advice to students- “Figure out what you want to do, never forget your roots, don’t be afraid to ask for help, and continue looking for scholarships.” Her story is a powerful testament to the lasting impact of donor generosity.



Carrie Roe, Speaker, and two-time recipient of the Hale Family Sunflower Promise Scholarship



Marcella Dowling Oakes Art Scholarship Recipient: Daegen DeGraff



GSCF Scholarship Recipients



Frances E. Curtis NAACP Scholarship Recipient: Tamia Cheeks



“The scholarship banquet is my favorite event of the year. It is a night of celebrating students’ achievements, allowing scholarship donors to see the impact they make in their community, and witnessing the generosity of the community we live in.”

~Jessica Fuller, Director of Grants & Scholarships

# Foundations Team Up to Re-Fund Kansas STARBASE



Saline County fifth graders were able to attend STARBASE Salina after spring break thanks to the generosity of grant dollars from the L.P. "Pat" Mullen Fund, GSCF donor advised fundholders, and a donor from the McPherson County Community Foundation. A total of \$55,000 of the \$100,000 needed was raised

to partially restore operations so that students could continue the program in a limited capacity. In addition to the monetary donations, several STARBASE staff on unpaid leave volunteered their time to teach because they believe in what the program does for the state of Kansas.

STARBASE is a Defense Department initiative that works to increase access to STEM education in school districts across the state. There are five host sites for Kansas STARBASE, each of which have dedicated equipment, teachers and classrooms designed for STEM education. Salina's STARBASE serves 14 counties and provides 25 hours of "hands-on, age-appropriate STEM

education to local schools."

"They get to see what a real engineer does," said Billie Jones, director of STARBASE Salina. "We do rocketry and chemistry lessons with students and focus on getting their hands on things as quickly as we can."

Students participated in engaging lessons on the Engineering Design Process, Newton's Laws of Motion, rocket building, and a chemistry experiment to determine if the reaction was endothermic or exothermic (email us at GSCF if you know what that means ;)).

## Local Funders

- Anonymous
- Kim and Conee Brown
- Brad Stuewe and Paula Fried
- L.P. "Pat" Mullen Fund
- Mac Steele



## New GSCF Funds (established 02/15/25-06/30/25)

- A Better Smile Fund
- Ed Ingram Memorial Fund
- Kansas Legal Services Fund
- Aaron & Jessica Martin Family Fund
- Neustrom Family Fund
- Pat & Barb Neustrom Fund
- Douglas K. Schwan Fund
- Smoky Hill Equality Coalition Fund

- ### Funds for the Future
- Edward Deatherage
  - Janet DuBois
  - Katherine Jester
  - A. Wayne Lowen
  - Chris & Abbey Rupe



# Loyal, Passionate and Kind - Smile

## John & Mary Quinley

a better smile fund



John and Mary Quinley recently established “A Better Smile Fund” at the Greater Salina Community Foundation, an endowed hardship field of interest fund that will help cover dental care costs for children who otherwise couldn’t afford it. We had the opportunity to sit down with John to learn more about their connection to the Foundation and what inspired them to create a fund that will bring

healthy smiles to children for generations to come.

### A Lifetime of Service and Generosity

John and Mary have always been generous with their time and money. John retired from Great Plains Manufacturing as the President of Land Pride Division, and Mary retired from Salina Regional Health Center having worked as a Nurse Administrator for many years. Their philanthropic journey in Salina spans decades. John has served twice as a fundraising chair for Salina Area United Way, and three terms on the GSCF board, including two years as Board Chair. Mary currently serves as chair for the Salina Regional Health Foundation board.

The Quinleys recently took the Give Back 5 pledge, committing to leave 5% of their retirement account to charity, but they also wanted to give while they live. “John and Mary exemplify the ideal community foundation relationship,” said Michael Chambers, VP of Community Impact. “They have journeyed the full continuum of giving and transitioned from donors to various funds held at the Foundation to permanent endowed fund holders.”

### A Spark of Generosity

John said, “While growing up, there were unknown people in my life that contributed to my family’s well-being in many ways; spiritually, emotionally, and financially.” He made his first charitable donation at the age of 16, and that “lit a spark of generosity” that

has continued to grow over the years. The “real spark” for John, however, is revealed when he talks about his family, especially the joy of having both his children returning to Salina to raise families of their own. John shared that his lifelong goal has been to “give his kids the kind of childhood he wished he could have had.” That perspective, shaped in part by the help his own family received, fuels his passion to help others, especially children.

### Smiles that Last a Lifetime

The idea for “A Better Smile Fund” has been something that John and Mary have talked about for many years. “I didn’t have a healthy smile growing up,” said John. “If we can help kids who need help, it will be a wonderful thing for them as they grow into adults.”

“It has been a privilege to assist John and Mary with this fund,” said Jessica Martin, President & Executive Director of GSCF. “Having worked with John on our Board of Directors, I’ve seen firsthand his deep commitment to helping others—this fund is yet another example of that dedication.”

A Better Smile Fund is one of the Foundation’s newest permanently endowed funds. The principal is invested to grow over time, with annual distributions made to help children access the dental care they need. Through this fund, John and Mary are not only creating brighter smiles—they are building brighter futures for generations to come!



John and Mary with their children, grandchildren, and family.

# Connecting with Our Community

Community is generally defined as a group of people who share something in common. This could be a geographic location, interests, values, goals, culture, or circumstances. Over the past year we have been meeting with individuals and families about the Give Back 5 Community Giving Pledge. Each person who took the pledge received a follow up. They were asked about what they want to do with their 5%, and how they want it to make an impact. I found that the reasons for leaving a gift at the end of life are as varied and unique as the people taking the pledge.

Throughout the last 12 months a **new community** within our community has emerged. The community of Give Back 5 is something to truly behold. The group ranges in age from 25 to 94. Some are leaving a gift to a single charity and others are including multiple organizations in their list. Some are leaving gifts directly to charity and others are creating permanent endowed funds to support organizations forever.

The diversity of giving interest among the group is fascinating. Everyone I spoke with has a specific and unique reason for leaving something behind when they are gone. I'm thankful to be part of the Give Back 5 community and delighted to be able to say I took the pledge to leave something behind for the next generation. I have enjoyed the many opportunities to connect with people about why they choose to give so generously.

Even though we've met our goal of securing 125 pledges within the year, the Give Back 5 community is open to all. I hope you'll take the pledge too. Our team would love to connect with you and help you leave a legacy for our community.

~Michael Chambers,  
VP of Community Impact



## In the Region

### Giving Days Make a Big Impact

Two of our affiliates recently hosted incredible giving day events—and the results speak for themselves:

Republic County Community Foundation held its first-ever giving day, Fund the Future of Republic County, on May 1. The event raised over \$115,000 for 23 local nonprofits!

Solomon Valley Community Foundation hosted its second Give to Grow event on April 30, raising more than \$138,000 for 28 nonprofits!

These events, along with match months, passionate volunteer boards, dedicated staff, and generous donors, are fueling growth across the GSCF network.

### Celebrating 15 Years of Community Impact

This past fiscal year marked a major milestone for three of our affiliate foundations—Ottawa County, Washington County, and Post Rock Community Foundations—as they each celebrated their 15th anniversary!

Fifteen years ago, visionary community leaders planted the seeds for long-term local support. Today, those seeds have grown into thriving foundations that continue to serve, strengthen, and uplift their communities.

Congratulations to all involved—you are proof that great things happen when people come together with purpose!



**Serving 10 regional affiliates and  
13 counties throughout  
north central and western Kansas.**

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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<b>Kathy Schwerdtfager,</b> Vice-Chair	Kelly Brown
<b>Dr. Rob Freelove,</b> Secretary	Brandon Cheeks
<b>Bailey Ramsey,</b> Treasurer, Finance	Lindsay Garber
Committee Chair	Julie Goetz
<b>Karen Black,</b> Grants & Scholarships	Denice Justus
Committee Chair	Mark Palen
<b>John Quinley,</b> Community Impact	Jon Ramsey
Committee Chair	Jessica Stoppel
	Jeff Wacker
	David Wedel

## FOUNDATION STAFF

<b>Jessica Martin,</b> President & Executive Director	<b>Jessica Fuller,</b> Director of Grants & Scholarships
<b>Michael Chambers,</b> VP of Community Impact	<b>Natalie Wood,</b> Affiliate Relations & Grants Coordinator
<b>Rita Northup,</b> Executive Assistant	<b>Julia Diaz,</b> Community Impact Team Assistant
<b>Brandee Mayginnis,</b> Director of Operations	<b>Leah Wilson,</b> Marketing & Communications Coord.
<b>Kristin Blake,</b> Director of Finance	
<b>Shanna King,</b> Staff Accountant	

# Director's Message

This past fiscal year has been, without a doubt, the most rewarding of my 15 years at the Foundation. Witnessing the incredible generosity and community spirit through the Give Back 5 Campaign is something I will always remember.



When we launched the campaign, our goal was ambitious: to secure 125 pledges from individuals committing to leave 5% of their retirement accounts to charity after their lifetime. Thanks to the generosity of our community—and the dedication of our staff and volunteers—we surpassed that goal, ending the year with **133 pledges!**

Each of those pledges represents someone choosing to make their mark on the future of their community. Some chose to leave a direct gift to a favorite charity, while others created permanent funds that will support multiple causes for generations to come. No matter the path, 133 individuals came together to create lasting impact—and that's something worth celebrating.

**To everyone who took the Give Back 5 Pledge**—thank you for helping to impact today and transform tomorrow. **You've truly made your mark!**

Jessica L. Martin

**Our mission is to build permanent endowment funds and meet charitable community needs.**