

## Community Foundation Opens Competitive Grant Cycle

(Butler County, February 24, 2010) Continuing to make an impact in Butler County, the Community Foundation of Greater Butler County is now incorporating an annual competitive grant cycle to their repertoire.

The Community Foundation is a local leader with roles that include being an advocate for philanthropy, a community convener, an endowment builder and now a competitive grant maker.

March 1, 2010 the competitive grant cycle will be open to qualifying 501 (c) (3) organizations and other qualifying entities for the general grant categories that include: Arts and Culture; Community Preservation and Revitalization; Health and Human Services and Animal Welfare.

In 2008 the Board of Directors established the Greater Butler County Community Endowment to be positioned for general grant making. Many of the Community Foundations notable funds (i.e. Leadership Butler, Alex's House, Downtown Augusta Inc.) distribute grants routinely, yet they are restricted to the cause established by donors or have specific guidelines for a designated agency. "The board made a decision to establish this Community Endowment so we can be more responsive to the local needs and trends," said Don Patry, Chairman of the Board.

The general grant cycle could not come at a better time. Many programs and services are suffering cutbacks. The distribution this year will encompass mini-grants ranging from \$150 to \$300. "We hope to fund approximately 10 grants during this cycle" said Angie Baur, CEO of the Community Foundation. She went on to state, "this is a starting place for us, and we anticipate our grant cycle to grow annually...awareness about our role as a grant maker is crucial in these hard economic times."

In addition to the Greater Butler County Community Endowment providing dollars for grants during this cycle, the community foundation also incorporated two other funds that will be giving 5% of their earned income to the charitable purposes for which they were established. The El Dorado Community Foundation Fund, established for park and recreation projects, is one fund that will be rolled into the grant cycle this year. The other is the Kansas Health Foundation Children's Well-Being Fund. This fund is focused under the health and human services category for projects and/or programs that address health issues for children.

Three scholarship sources are also available for students seeking higher education. They are The Clifford and Rubye Angleton Scholarship, The Chelsea Gerbitz Scholarship and The Gary McEachern Memorial Scholarship. There are some restrictions and specific eligibility criteria for each of them. For instance the Clifford and Rubye Angleton Scholarship has restrictions for students pursuing a physician or nursing degree. You must also be a resident of Butler County to apply.

Please see the Community Foundation website, [www.communityfoundationgbc.org](http://www.communityfoundationgbc.org), on Monday, March 1, 2010 for all the details. Angie Baur is also available to answer questions regarding the general grant cycle, as well as the scholarship funds. The grant and scholarship cycle will close on April 9, 2010. Notification of awards will go out no later than April 30, 2010. To celebrate the Community Foundation will host an Annual Awards Banquet on May 15, 2010, 6:00 pm at the Red Rooster Banquet Hall.

Want to ensure this Community Endowment grows. Consider making a donation in the name of the Community Endowment today. You may send checks to Community Foundation of Greater Butler County, Community Endowment, PO Box 851, Andover, KS 67002 or use Pay Pal on-line at [www.communityfoundationgbc.org](http://www.communityfoundationgbc.org) .