



GMCF

Greater Manhattan
Community Foundation



20



25



Annual Report

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Letter from the President & CEO

Vern Henricks



The year 2025 has been marked by change, growth, and new opportunities at the Greater Manhattan Community Foundation. As we near the completion of our strategic plan focusing on three strategic goals, to—Build Capacity, Grow Resources, and Increase Impact, it is clear this year will shape our future for years to come.

We welcomed three new team members to our Manhattan staff. We added four new affiliate executive directors to our Northeast Kansas communities. And community grantmaking reached new heights. Across every community we serve, Match Day programs once again set record-breaking levels of generosity. We also celebrated the life of one of our early staff members and community leaders—C. Clyde Jones. C. Clyde's presence will be missed but his impact will always be felt.

One of the year's most significant milestones was the planning, construction, and dedication of the Flint Hills Community Accelerator, along with the hiring of its inaugural Executive Director, Lisa Sederlin-Isaacson. This facility represents a bold investment in the future of childcare and has the potential to be a true gamechanger for collaboration, innovation, and impact on our community.

As GMCF enters its 27th year, our growth reflects the deep trust placed in us by donors, constituents, and communities. What began as an idea, reach a level of \$10 million after ten years, to more than \$100 million after twenty years, and is now nearly \$450 million after our twenty-sixth year. This momentum has inspired the Board of Directors to take a strategic look at our future to ensure we remain well-positioned for long-term impact.

With growth comes increased requests. We are receiving an increasing number of requests related to estate giving and real estate gifts. To meet these needs responsibly, the Board has approved the addition of two strategic positions: a Vice President for Development, with a focus on estate planning, and a Vice President for Investment and Real Estate Services. These staff investments will position us well in our efforts to continue being the largest community foundation in Kansas and one of the fastest growing nationwide.

This year has also been one of reflection, discussion, and careful planning. Through it all, one thing has remained constant—our commitment to service. Everything we do at GMCF centers on helping donors and constituents support the causes they care about in the most effective way possible. GMCF's continued growth has opened new doors for collaboration and strengthens our ability to respond to evolving community needs. And while we are proud of what has been accomplished, the best, truly, is still ahead.



Letter from the Board Chair

Beth Smoller

It has been a privilege to serve as Chair of the Greater Manhattan Community Foundation during a year defined by reflection, planning, and renewed purpose. This past year marked an important moment for GMCF—not only in recognizing the strength of our Foundation today, but in intentionally shaping how we will serve our community in the years ahead.

Over the last two years, our Board devoted significant time and thoughtful energy to developing GMCF's strategic plan. This process challenged us to listen closely, ask meaningful questions, and think deeply about how the GMCF can best support the people and organizations who make our region stronger every day. With this strategic framework now complete, we are excited to turn from planning to action as our talented staff begins the important work of translating vision into impact.

Central to that work is the incredible nonprofit community we are privileged to support. Across our region, nonprofit organizations provide direct services that meet essential needs—ensuring access to food, healthcare, housing, education, the arts, and opportunities for connection and growth. These organizations are often on the front lines, responding quickly and compassionately to challenges facing individuals and families. GMCF's role is to stand alongside them—connecting generosity to need, building capacity, and helping ensure their work is sustainable for the long term.

To strengthen our ability to do this work well, we were pleased to welcome Dr. Sarah Barrett as GMCF's Vice President for Impact Strategy and Grant Programs. Dr. Barrett brings deep experience and insight that will help guide our grantmaking, deepen our relationships with nonprofit partners, and ensure that our resources are aligned with meaningful, measurable impact throughout the communities we serve.

I am deeply grateful to the Board members, Trustees, and volunteers who give generously of their time, expertise, and leadership. I also want to thank our dedicated staff, whose professionalism, care, and commitment are evident in every aspect of the Foundation's work. Together, they help ensure that GMCF remains a trusted partner to donors and nonprofits alike.

Most importantly, I extend my sincere thanks to our donors. Your generosity fuels the vital work highlighted throughout this report and makes it possible for GMCF to respond to both immediate needs and long-term opportunities. Because of your support, the GMCF remains strong, forward-looking, and well-positioned to continue serving our community with purpose and integrity.

As you explore this annual report, I hope you see not only the accomplishments of the past year, but also the promise of what lies ahead. Our work continues, and I am confident that—with thoughtful strategy, dedicated partners, and a shared commitment to philanthropy—we will continue to make a meaningful difference in our community.



Greater Manhattan Community Foundation Five-year Strategic Plan

By 2030, GMCF will be the community's philanthropic choice to accomplish charitable goals, trusted source by constituents and leaders for the benefit of the area, and facilitator for decision-making for impactful programs in the community.

1 Build Capacity

Five-year Objective: To ensure GMCF has sufficient resources, revenues, internal systems, and staffing to continually build its capacity to meet the needs of our donors, grantees, and communities.

2 Grow Resources

Five-year Objective: Work strategically with donors by connecting them to community needs and nonprofit partners to create greater impact in the community.

3 Increase Impact

Five-year Objective: Work collaboratively to build engagement, alignment, and create measurable impact on issues of community interest.



Our Work, Our Purpose

At the Greater Manhattan Community Foundation, we work to connect people who want to give with intention to meaningful opportunities for community impact. For more than two decades, we've had the privilege of working alongside donors, nonprofits, and community members to help strengthen our region and improve the quality of life for those who call it home.

We hope to be a resource, partner, and connector—working to ensure that collective giving is thoughtful, informed, and responsive. Philanthropy isn't just about writing checks; it's about caring for your community, supporting causes you believe in, and staying engaged as needs and opportunities evolve.

GMCF endeavors to be both a steward of community goodwill and a catalyst for the ideas and organizations people care about. From helping address complex challenges like childcare, to supporting creative, educational, and basic human needs, we strive to ensure that resources reach where they're needed most and can make a meaningful difference.

We believe the true spirit of giving isn't seasonal—it's a year-round practice rooted in relationships, trust, and intention. By aligning generosity with strong projects and measurable impact, we aim to help donors build lasting legacies while supporting a vibrant and resilient community.

Above all, we're grateful to walk alongside those who believe in Manhattan and its people. Together, we can continue shaping a community that is caring, innovative, and full of opportunity... for all of its members.

Flint Hills Community Accelerator



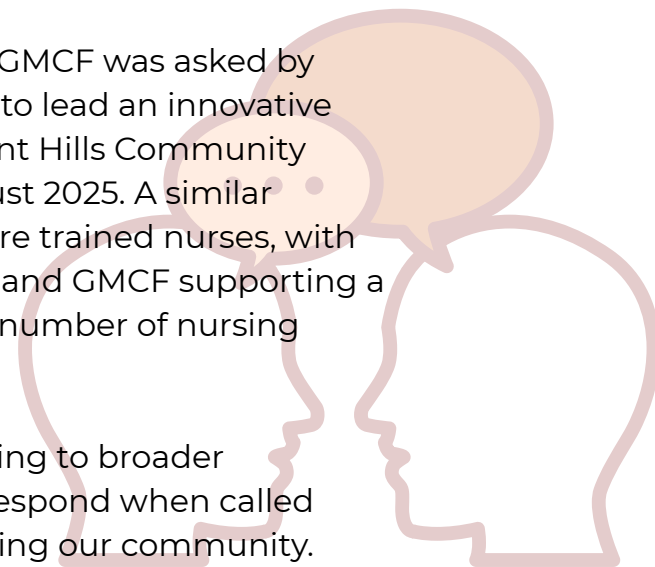
The Flint Hills Community Accelerator's Childcare Business Initiative (FHCA/CBI) was developed in direct response to Manhattan's significant childcare shortage, which had been a barrier for workforce participation and family well-being in the region. By providing eight fully equipped childcare suites and incubating independent childcare businesses with training, mentoring, and operational support, the program helps new providers launch and sustain quality childcare services more successfully. This model is expected to add roughly 96 new childcare slots annually, helping reduce the gap between supply and demand for childcare that has constrained parents' ability to work or pursue education. The accelerator also co-locates workforce, education, and health services—including partnerships with Manhattan Area Technical College, Kansas WorkforceONE, and Manhattan Free Clinic—creating a holistic support hub for families and early educators. Local leaders, including the governor and federal representatives, have highlighted how the initiative helps attract and retain young professionals by addressing childcare needs and fostering small business ownership. As a community-driven solution, FHCA/CBI strengthens the regional economy, expands childcare capacity, and supports long-term workforce participation and educational opportunities.

Listening to Community Needs

The Greater Manhattan Community Foundation is committed to listening to our community and responding to its evolving needs. Over the years, conversations have highlighted priorities such as mental health and transportation, with housing, food access, and childcare emerging as growing concerns.

In response to sustained dialogue around childcare, GMCF was asked by community leaders and the Chamber of Commerce to lead an innovative solution, culminating in the ribbon-cutting of the Flint Hills Community Accelerator and Childcare Business Initiative in August 2025. A similar community-driven effort addressed the need for more trained nurses, with Manhattan Area Technical College stepping forward and GMCF supporting a five-year fundraising initiative now training a record number of nursing students.

While future needs may range from affordable housing to broader community infrastructure, GMCF remains ready to respond when called upon to help meet the most pressing challenges facing our community.



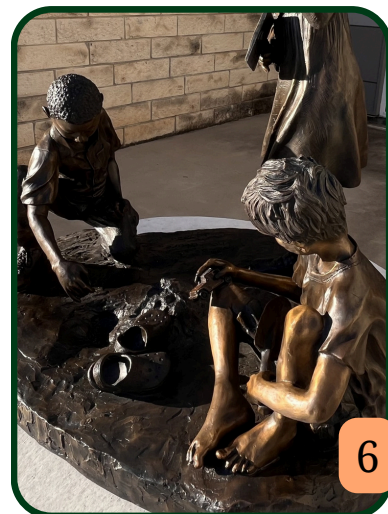
Where Art Takes Root

On Anderson Avenue, a vibrant mural now brightens Lee Elementary School, celebrating its history and diverse student body while creating a welcoming landmark for students, families, and neighbors. Planned by Lee teachers and staff and brought to life by muralist Layne Stafford, the project reflects the pride and connection art can inspire.

Across town, Bluemont Elementary School features Seeds of the Future, a sculpture depicting three bronze children from different

eras planting acorns together—symbolizing growth, learning, and the enduring impact of education. The piece adds beauty, character, and meaning to the school grounds.

The impact of the Deihl Art & Humanities Fund continues to expand, with additional projects approved at Ogden Elementary, Amanda Arnold Elementary, and Frank V. Bergman Elementary. Made possible through the generosity of Lincoln and Dorothy Deihl, this endowed fund continues to strengthen and beautify the community through art that inspires connection and pride for generations to come.



Listening, Learning, Leading

At GMCF, every grant, program, and partnership is an opportunity to strengthen our community. As we work to ensure that our granting has the greatest possible impact, we're strengthening how we measure, learn from, and improve what we do. This updated approach will give us a clearer picture of what's working and why, so we can adapt with intention, stay responsive to community needs, and recognize (and celebrate) meaningful progress together.

Led by Dr. Sarah Barrett, our new VP for Impact Strategy and Grant Programs, this framework connects data, stories, and lived experiences to capture the true impact of GMCF grants. Our new shared understanding centers the voices and needs of the people we serve and will help to ensure that we are thoughtfully stewarding our growing resources.

Working alongside community partners and grantees supports timely and reflective insights that will better inform our decisions and granting over time. We're creating a new culture of curiosity that encourages us to ask "why?"—not only when things fall short, but particularly when they succeed. To be clear, this is not about extra reporting or collecting numbers to collect numbers; it's about making our learnings useful, actionable, and known across the region.

Looking ahead

Donors, grantees, and partners can expect:

- More regular impact stories
- Thoughtful updates on grants and programs
- Opportunities to share insights, feedback, and lessons learned

Together, we'll strengthen the connection between donors, grantees, and the evolving needs of our community, ensuring every investment leads to enduring, meaningful AND measurable change.

This fall GMCF welcomed Dr. Sarah Barrett as the organization's first Vice President for Impact Strategy & Grant Programs. Dr. Barrett joins GMCF with a distinguished record in nonprofit leadership, community engagement research and coalition building. Prior to joining GMCF,

Dr. Barrett served as the Senior Research, Learning, and Evaluation Officer for the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, where she focused on translating data into actionable insights. She has also held leadership roles with the Ministerio de Educación in Zaragoza, Spain, and served as an Assistant Dean of Student Life at K-State where she played a pivotal role in launching the Cats' Cupboard, supporting students facing food insecurity.



“

Clarity drives impact. When you know what you're measuring, progress becomes clear, and that's when you'll see the needle start to move.

– Dr. Barrett

”

2025 Grants

**Programming,
Outreach, &
Expenses
\$9,772,622**

**Goldstein
Foundation
\$2,449,169**

**Deihl Arts &
Humanities
Grants
\$190,692**

**Scholarships
\$1,065,497**

**Howe Family
Foundation
\$200,000**

**Grants for
Greater
Manhattan
\$189,520**

**Donor Advised
Fund Grants
\$8,036,429**

**Designated
Fund Grants
\$9,065,885**

**Eichman
Family
Foundation
\$11,600**

**YES! Fund
Grants
\$227,000**

**Butler Family
Community
Foundation
\$1,420,828**

**Deihl
Community
Grants
\$768,979**

Total: \$33,398,221

2025 GMCF Grant Recipients

Grants for Greater Manhattan provide up to \$10,000 to support project-based work by nonprofits serving Greater Manhattan and Riley County across key focus areas, including basic needs, education, health, arts, and community development. Approximately \$200,000 is awarded annually through a competitive application process, with applications accepted in January and awards announced in late February or March.

Arts & Culture: \$13,970



Manhattan Symphony Orchestra: \$5,450 (Celebrating American Voices)

Under the evening sky on a warm June Sunday, more than **500** community members gathered in lawn chairs and on blankets as **75** volunteer musicians, ranging from high school students, university affiliates, and longtime community players, took the stage for a community celebration of early American Orchestral music. United by the theme Celebrating American Voices, the Manhattan Symphony Orchestra transformed Anderson Lawn into a vibrant shared cultural space.

Manhattan Arts Center: \$8,520

Clay Creations Collective-From Earth to Art

Youth: \$95,000



Kansas Youth Empowerment Academy: \$2,500 (EmpowerMe)

The EmpowerMe program equips youth with disabilities with the skills, knowledge, and self-confidence needed for their next chapter of life. Through a supportive and enriching environment, participants learn not only how to navigate the workplace, but how to see themselves as capable, contributing members of their communities. With more than **15** sessions and community events for students to jump into throughout the school year, the program reaches over **1,000 students** across Kansas, creating opportunities to connect, serve, and grow. When potential is recognized, confidence is built, and futures are changed.

Boys & Girls Club Manhattan: \$10,000
Summer Programs

Flint Hills EEA Chapter 1364: \$10,000
Youth Aviation Aircraft Build Project

MASA Club at Manhattan High School: \$800
American Rocketry Competition

Sole Reason Foundation: \$9,250
Manhattan Project

Sunflower Children's Collective: \$10,000
CASA Advocate Support

The House Cafe. Inc: \$10,000
The Way Early Learning Center

UFM Community Learning Center: \$6,000
Project Excell

First Tee Manhattan: \$10,000
Manhattan Programs

Kids Bike Recycling/Bike Swap: \$6,000
Kids Bike Recycling & Bike Swap Events

Special Olympics Kansas: \$5,000
State Basketball & Cheerleading Competition

Thrive! Flint Hills Foundation: \$7,500
Breaking the Cycle of Poverty for Youth

Friends of the Konza Prairie: \$3,000
Konza Summer Teachers' Workshop

Kansas Science Festival: \$5,000
Annual Kansas Science Festival

Basic Human Needs: \$80,500

Laundry Love MHK: \$5,000 (Monthly Events)

Each month, the program provides up to 5 free loads of laundry for the families it serves—turning clothes and bedding into something that smells fresh and feels new again. As participation continues to grow month over month, this work is about much more than just saving a few dollars. (Or quarters in this case.) By easing the cost of laundry, families can redirect their limited resources toward rent, utilities, medical care, and food. Clean clothes mean students can attend school with confidence, job applicants can interview with pride, and families from Odgen and around Manhattan can face one less difficult financial choice.



Crisis Center: \$10,000

Riley County Police Response Advocate Program

Good Shepherd Homecare & Hospice: \$10,000

Charitable Care

Pawnee Mental Health Services: \$10,000

Advancing Mental Health Care

Shepherd's Crossing: \$10,000

Prescription & Medical Equipment Program

Flint Hills Breadbasket: \$10,000

Dairy Dollars

Habitat for Humanity: \$10,000

Hope ReStored Program

Manhattan Emergency Shelter, Inc.: \$10,000

Severe Service Needs Program

Riley County Health Department: \$5,500

Community Baby Shower

Funded by: Fund for Manhattan, Kansas Health Foundation Children's Fund, Don Dodge Fund, Frances Van Scoyoc Fund, Florence Day Fund, Fund for Manhattan-Permanent, Jean Caul Fund, C. Clyde and Margaret S. Jones Fund, Manhattan Community Memorial Fund, Lois Blackman Fund, and Instruments for Youth Fund.



Ward & Brenda Morgan Community Grant



Ward and Brenda Morgan Community Grants support affordable, meaningful experiences that bring the community together and provide care for vulnerable or disadvantaged youth and older adults in the Greater Manhattan and Riley County area. Grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$20,000 are awarded through a bi-annual application process, with approximately \$100,000 distributed each year.

Spring Awards

\$74,980 | 10 Organizations

Fall Awards

\$75,000 | 10 Organizations

Lincoln & Dorothy Diehl Grants

COMMUNITY GRANTS \$768,979.24

Manhattan Emergency Shelter: \$12,119
Controlled Access Upgrade

Flint Hills Breadbasket: \$66,000
Building A Healthy Future

The House Cafe, Inc: \$19,330
Building Preservation

Downtown Farmers Market of Manhattan: \$10,000
Market Match

Manhattan Arts Center: \$15,500
Youth Tech Academy

The Wareham Hall: \$166,667
Renovation Project Committee Pledge

Boys & Girls Club of Manhattan: \$25,000
Outdoor Recreation Areas & Security Enhancements

Manhattan Free Clinic: \$10,000
Clinic Equipment at Flint Hills Community Accelerator

Flint Hills Summer Fun Camp: \$9,651
Summer Camp 2025

Sunflower Children's Collective: \$10,000
Strengthening Community Child Advocacy

Diehl Arts & Humanities Grants Fund: \$150,000
Distribute Community Arts & Humanities Funds for 2025

YES! Fund (Youth Empowerment for Success): \$75,000
After-school programs supported by the YES! Fund

Grow Green Match Day: \$100,000
Distribute funds for 2025 Match Day

Boys & Girls Club of Manhattan: \$14,580
Expanded Sports Program

No Stone Unturned: \$10,132
Care Crisis Prevention Training

Big Brothers Big Sisters: \$15,000
Empowering Parents Partners in Youth Success

Flint Hills Breadbasket: \$60,000
Steps to Stability

ARTS & HUMANITIES GRANTS \$190,692

Frank V. Bergman Elementary School: \$40,000
Community Wave Sculpture & Beautification

Manhattan Arts Center: \$23,440
Outdoor Classroom & Community Space

Museum of Art + Light: \$33,502
Projection Mapping Building Façade

Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art: \$45,000
Expanding Horizons

Black Entrepreneurs of the Flint Hills: \$10,000
Echoes of Yuma

Bluemont Elementary School: \$750
Seed to the Future Sculpture

Friends of Zeandale: \$20,000
Music Playground & Enhancements

Sonus Chamber Choir: \$18,000
Give Me Your Stars to Hold

Lincoln & Dorothy Diehl Community Grants support high-impact, project-based initiatives addressing basic human needs and youth in Greater Manhattan and Riley County, with grants of \$10,000 or more. Approximately \$400,000 is awarded annually through a quarterly competitive process, with multi-year funding considered for sustainable projects.

Lincoln & Dorothy Diehl Arts & Humanities Grants provide \$10,000 or more for long-term, free, and public-facing arts and humanities projects across all art forms in Greater Manhattan and Riley County. Approximately \$200,000 is awarded quarterly through a competitive application process to eligible nonprofit organizations or projects in partnership with a 501(c)(3).



Grants in Action

Manhattan Arts Center Gather. Shape. Belong. Give.

What started as a small group of people gathering around clay, has formed into the MHK Clay Collective. This group of **45 artists** collaborated to create more than **75** handcrafted bowls for the Empty Bowls initiative at the MAC & Cheese Arts and Music Festival, raising over **\$2,500** for Common Table to help address food insecurity in our community. For many participants, the MAC's clay studio is the only local place where they can learn, create, and feel as though they belong.

This space and place is more than just ceramics—it's community, shaped by hand.



YES! Fund

YES! Fund Grants support after-school and youth-focused programs that provide diverse opportunities and foster success, well-being, and a sense of belonging for young people. Approximately \$230,000 is awarded annually through a competitive online application process, with applications accepted in September and awards announced in October or November.



Boys & Girls Club of Manhattan: \$80,500
Before & After School Programs

First Tee - Manhattan: \$9,500
Programs

Flint Hills Volunteer Center: \$9,000
Connecting Students to Communities

Girls on the Run of the Flint Hills: \$11,000
Financial Assistance Initiative

Big Brothers Big Sisters: \$23,000
One-to-One Mentoring

Manhattan Arts Center: \$10,000
Youth Arts Education Programs

Manhattan Basketball Association: \$5,500
Breakfast Club & Club Practices Fund

Manhattan Marlins Swim Team: \$10,000
Pool Space

Manhattan Mayham Volleyball Club: \$7,000
Scholarship Fund

Manhattan Public Library: \$500
After-School & No-School Programs

Museum of Art & Light: \$7,500
Connecting Creativity - Student Exhibitions

Mustang Baseball: \$6,000
Indoor & Outdoor Facility Rental Fund

Pawnee Mental Health: \$7,000
Supporting Youth with SED

PUMA FC Manhattan: \$3,500
Scholarship Program

Wonder Workshop Children's Museum: \$22,700
Wonder Teens, Discovery Days & After School Club

KSU Modern Languages: \$1,300
¡Cuenta cuentos!, and Celebrate Culture

Coronado Ara Council BSA: \$4,000
Growing Scouting in Riley County

The House Cafe: \$9,000
Operations

For more than 20 years, the YES! Fund has helped young people throughout our community thrive by supporting programs that foster learning, leadership, and connection.

Supporting Organization Grants

Our supporting organizations operate under the GMCF “umbrella,” providing donors with the Foundation’s benefit while maintaining independent boards to manage their grantmaking and investments. These organizations hold public charity status due to their close connection with the Community Foundation, which elects their board members.

Butler Family Community Foundation Grants support projects that advance wellness, education, innovation, and creativity in the communities of Manhattan, Minneapolis, and Seattle. Approximately \$1 million is distributed annually through bi-annual, board-directed grantmaking that prioritizes sustainability, inclusivity, diversity, and progressive, entrepreneurial ideas.

Butler Family Foundation: \$1,420,828

Manhattan, KS - \$474,328

Yuma Street Cultural Center: \$102,000
Flint Hills Breadbasket: \$45,000
Grow Green Community Match Arts Fund: \$49,828
LightMHK: \$10,000
Kansas Public Radio: \$20,000
Good Shepherd Homecare & Hospice: \$50,000
Black Entrepreneurs of the Flint Hills: \$20,000
Fairy Godmothers: \$10,000
Meadowlark Hills: \$10,000
KSU Business Scholarship: \$10,000
Seth Gordon Honor - Humane Society: \$5,000
Riley County Genealogical Society: \$5,000
KSU Rise Up: \$30,000
No Stone Unturned: \$5,000
Common Table: \$10,000
Be Able: \$8,000
Call Me Mister: \$5,000
Laundry Love: \$2,000
Crisis Center: \$10,000
Manhattan Public Library: \$2,500
Manhattan Emergency Shelter: \$10,000
Dolly Parton Imagination Library: \$15,000
Girls on the Run: \$5,000
Manhattan Arts Center: \$10,000
Wonder Workshop: \$10,000
Pawnee Mental Health: \$10,000
Juneteenth: \$5,000

Minneapolis, MN - \$370,000

Seattle, WA - \$473,500

Other: \$103,000



The Butler family’s philanthropy honors their father Bernie’s legacy and reflects a commitment to strengthening communities across the country.



Eichman Family Foundation: \$11,600

Wamego Match Day Matching Funds: \$5,000
FOCUS, Jesse Brummett Missionary: \$6,600

Goldstein Family Foundation Grants provide general support for the Greater Manhattan community, with an emphasis on capital projects that strengthen local organizations and infrastructure. Approximately \$1 million is distributed annually through bi-annual, board-directed grantmaking, with awards announced in April and November.



Goldstein Foundation: \$2,449,169

Big Lakes Development Center Capital Campaign: \$250,000
Bishop Stadium Improvements Fund, Video Board: \$241,969
Grow Green Match Day, Matching Fund: \$100,000
Clay Center Multi-Generational Life Center Campaign: \$500,000
Flint Hills Community Accelerator Campaign: \$150,000
Good Shepherd Foundation Campaign: \$125,000
Manhattan Emergency Shelter, Inc., Grant Match: \$53,000
Museum of Art and Light, Inc., Lobby Elevator: \$50,000
Stormont Vail Foundation, MRI Software: \$67,000
Wareham Hall Renovation Campaign: \$350,000
YES! Fund Grant: \$10,000
Mid-West Educational Center, Wonder Workshop Grant: \$21,000
Meadowlark Hills Foundation, Inc. Campaign: \$100,000
Sunset Zoo Capital Campaign: \$250,000
Make A Difference Foundation Youth Facility: \$50,000
Flint Hills Breadbasket Emergency Food Funds: \$25,000
Honor Our Fallen Heroes Memorial: \$50,000
Manhattan Arts Center: \$56,200

Jack and Joann's shared commitment will continue to shape and strengthen Manhattan for generations to come. They truly saw philanthropy as an intentional way to care for the community they loved.

For Jack and Joann, entrepreneurship was a powerful engine for opportunity and community growth. Their support and investment in entrepreneurs continues to fuel innovation.

Howe Family Foundation Grants support projects that strengthen family bonds, promote physical and mental health, and foster an entrepreneurial spirit. Approximately \$600,000 is distributed annually through a quarterly review and notification process.



Howe Family Foundation: \$200,000

Wareham Hall Renovation Campaign: \$200,000

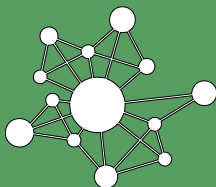
Scholarships at a Glance

GMCF 94
scholarships
\$292,538
awarded



377
scholarships
\$772,959
awarded

Affiliates



Scholarships in Action

One scholarship applicant shared a story worth highlighting. From an early age, he demonstrated a strong aptitude for engineering and graduated with a 4.0 cumulative GPA. With his parents unable to assist with college costs, he anticipated graduating with significant debt. After learning about Clay Center scholarships, he applied for twelve awards and was honored to receive the Spreer Family Scholarship in the amount of \$6,000 to help offset his college expenses.

An applicant shared how her parents' current financial responsibilities—graduate studies and support for aging family members—left them unable to assist with her college expenses. With no outside financial support, she noted that scholarship assistance would ease financial stress and allow her to focus on her education. In recognition of her diligence, she was awarded the LaVaun Saylor Memorial Nursing Scholarship (\$1,000) and the Donald Wenger Memorial Scholarship (\$1,500), helping relieve some of the financial strain.

2-Year School

20%

94 Students

4-Year School

80%

379 Students

Undecided

0%

0 Students

Your impact
across Kansas

83%

of scholarship
recipients are
attending a Kansas
school.

More Than Tuition: Scholarships as Community Legacies

Scholarships are about more than helping pay for tuition. They are about connection — between past and future, generosity and opportunity, remembrance and possibility.

For students, a scholarship can be the moment when college becomes attainable. It can be the difference between choosing a school based on cost or choosing one based on purpose. Beyond financial support, a scholarship signals belief: someone saw potential, invested in it, and trusted that learning could change a life. Each recipient builds their own academic legacy—one shaped by perseverance, curiosity, and ambition.

For families who establish memorial scholarships, the meaning runs just as deep. These funds honor loved ones by carrying their values forward—supporting learners who reflect the passions, dreams, or service that defined a life. Community Foundations serve as a steward of both resources and remembrance, ensuring that each award is managed with care, integrity, and long-term vision.

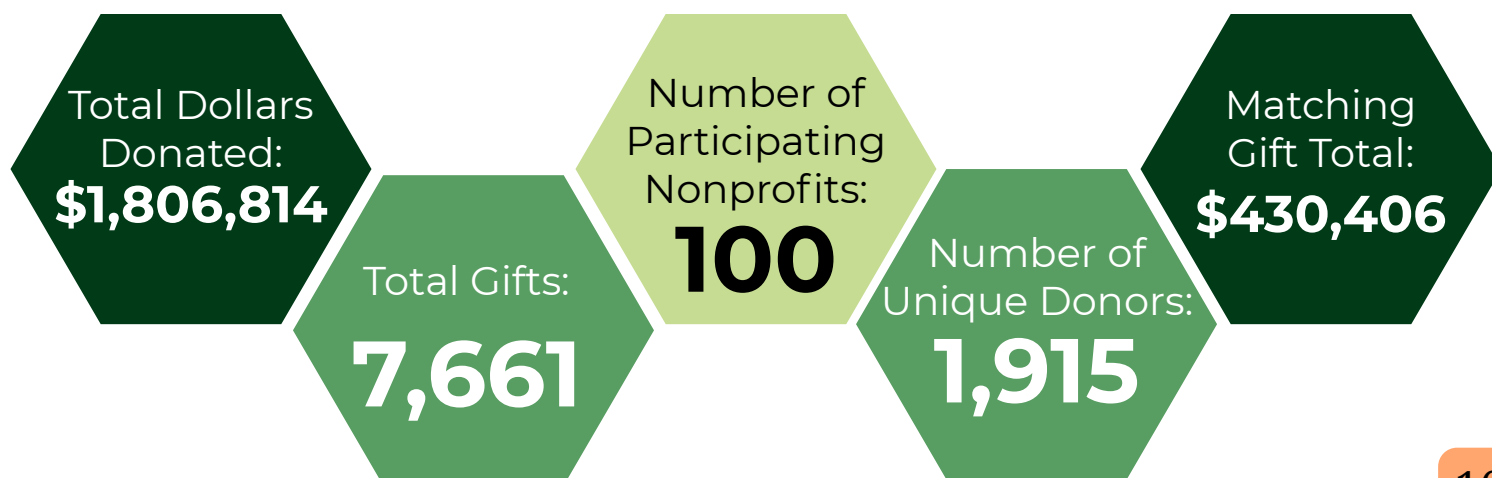
In a higher education landscape that is constantly shifting, community foundations offer something enduring: trust.



2025 GROW GREEN MATCH DAY



Grow Green Match Day created a powerful opportunity for nonprofits with endowed funds at GMCF, offering a 50% match on eligible donations. Community gifts supported immediate needs, while match dollars strengthened long-term endowments—helping local organizations meet today's challenges and build lasting sustainability.



2025 Financial Summary

Assets

2025 \$458,993,790*

2024 \$412,147,496

2023 \$367,402,049

2022 \$299,920,330

2021 \$215,413,469

*Unaudited

Financial Fast Facts

106% increase in assets since 2021 & **8%** since last year.

Match Day
In 2013, **\$101K** was raised in donations.
In 2025, **\$1.8M** was raised.

34% increase in disbursed grants from 2024 to 2025.

Match Day
In 2013, **\$40K** was available as matching funds. In 2025, it was **\$430K**.

Statement of Financial Position

Year ended December 31, 2025*

Assets

Cash and cash equivalents.....	\$2,564,974.83
Other (Prepaid expenses, deposits).....	7,457.70
Investments.....	211,111,110.50
Privately Held Stock.....	234,966,608.40
Annuities and insurance deposits.....	950,993.97
Real Estate (net).....	1,009,300.00
Notes Receivable	8,359,184.22
Fixed Assets (net).....	24,160.04

Total	\$458,993,789.66
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Liabilities and Net Assets

Liabilities

Annuities payable ST.....	\$28,573.81
Annuities payable LT.....	160,220.21
Grants payable.....	101,055.78
Funds held for others.....	12,234,565.16

Total Liabilities	\$12,524,414.96
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Net Assets

Fund Balance - Endowed.....	\$72,048,627.20
Fund Balance - Expendable.....	374,420,747.10

Total Net Assets	\$446,469,374.70
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Total	\$458,993,789.66
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Statement of Activities

Year ended December 31, 2025*

Revenues

Gifts and bequests.....	\$43,957,313.79
Investment performance.....	40,463,734.96
Other revenues.....	1,568,883.16

Total Revenue	\$85,989,931.91
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Expenses

Grants and program.....	\$33,398,221.36
Management and general	1,944,638.96

Total Expenses	\$35,342,860.32
-----------------------	------------------------

Increase in net assets.....	\$50,647,071.59
Net assets at beginning of year	395,822,303.11

Net assets at year end	\$446,496,374.70
-------------------------------	-------------------------

*Unaudited

GMCF AFFILIATE ASSETS

ALMA AREA

Established: June 21, 2023
of Funds: 30
Assets: \$1,115,814
2025 Donations: \$337,802
2025 Grants: \$197,093

ARMED FORCES

Established: Dec. 27, 2018
of Funds: 41
Assets: \$727,284
2025 Donations: \$192,147
2025 Grants: \$157,750

ATCHINSON AREA

Established: Mar. 11, 2019
of Funds: 126
Assets: \$3,889,662
2025 Donations: \$1,651,024
2025 Grants: \$570,601

DONIPHAN COUNTY

Established: July 12, 2016
of Funds: 60
Assets: \$12,884,915
2025 Donations: \$277,643
2025 Grants: \$167,091

GREATER PERRY

Established: Aug. 15, 2023
of Funds: 8
Assets: \$86,062
2025 Donations: \$37,405
2025 Grants: \$5,023

MARYSVILLE

Established: June 2, 2014
of Funds: 89
Assets: \$2,751,548
2025 Donations: \$716,835
2025 Grants: \$675,716

WAMEGO

Established: Mar. 1, 2016
of Funds: 172
Assets: \$9,102,606
2025 Donations: \$1,269,075
2025 Grants: \$648,122

BLUE RAPIDS

Established: Jan. 10, 2018
of Funds: 37
Assets: \$1,065,025
2025 Donations: \$243,838
2025 Grants: \$128,955

DOVER

Established: June 9, 2001
of Funds: 3
Assets: \$1,556,547
2025 Donations: \$8,605
2025 Grants: \$58,735

GREATER SABETHA

Established: Nov. 11, 2015
of Funds: 156
Assets: \$18,562,983
2025 Donations: \$1,784,194
2025 Grants: \$2,844,440

RURAL RILEY COUNTY

Established: Aug. 15, 2023
of Funds: 29
Assets: \$649,228
2025 Donations: \$463,687
2025 Grants: \$51,919

MANHATTAN-OGDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION*

Established: Mar. 1, 2016
of Funds: 28
Assets: \$3,681,654
2025 Donations: \$66,174
2025 Grants: \$215,307

BLUE VALLEY

Established: Sept. 26, 2022
of Funds: 10
Assets: \$52,127
2025 Donations: \$35,974
2025 Grants: \$28,225

FRANKFORT

Established: Nov. 15, 2005
of Funds: 64
Assets: \$3,350,260
2025 Donations: \$316,970
2025 Grants: \$241,485

HIAWATHA

Established: Dec. 11, 2019
of Funds: 69
Assets: \$1,370,909
2025 Donations: \$643,876
2025 Grants: \$456,393

SOUTH BROWN COUNTY

Established: Dec. 11, 2019
of Funds: 60
Assets: \$695,751
2025 Donations: \$337,603
2025 Grants: \$210,785

CLAY CENTER

Established: Mar. 8, 2017
of Funds: 125
Assets: \$12,332,866
2025 Donations: \$4,608,093
2025 Grants: \$1,047,921

GREATER GEARY

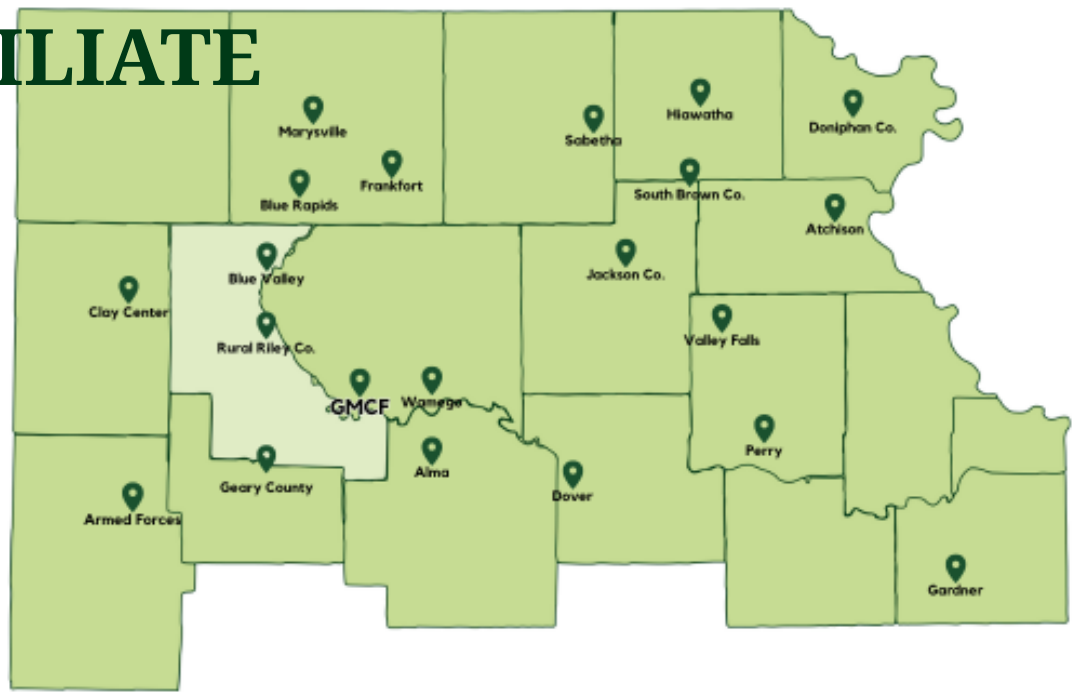
Established: Dec. 19, 2016
of Funds: 117
Assets: \$9,488,686
2025 Donations: \$1,166,319
2025 Grants: \$2,467,838

JACKSON COUNTY

Established: Mar. 15, 2019
of Funds: 68
Assets: \$2,545,230
2025 Donations: \$643,876
2025 Grants: \$456,393

VALLEY FALLS

Established: Nov. 12, 2018
of Funds: 63
Assets: \$576,322
2025 Donations: \$259,768
2025 Grants: \$165,993



*Educational Associate

Affiliate Asset Total: \$76,485,479



“We wanted nonprofit leaders and philanthropists in the same room, **understanding** each other’s **interests** and **needs**.” - Vern Henricks

The Community Foundation Awards were launched in 2013 as an effort to bring nonprofit leaders and local philanthropists together in a shared space of celebration and connection. With early leadership from GMCF, the event was designed to recognize the time, talent, and generosity that strengthen our community while highlighting the stories behind local impact. Award categories were intentionally created to reflect the many ways individuals, businesses, and organizations contribute to the greater good. Finalists and recipients are celebrated through storytelling that helps attendees better understand the people and causes shaping our community. Each year, the event brings together nearly 600 guests and consistently leaves attendees with a deeper appreciation for the impact happening around them. The Community Foundation Awards remain a meaningful tradition that honors service, inspires giving, and strengthens relationships across our community.

2025 Community Foundation Awardees



Sheila Ellis-Gasper
Rising Star



Ronnie Grice
Distinguished Volunteer



Dennis & Rhonda Mullin
Philanthropy



Manhattan Optimist Club
Civic Philanthropy



WTC
Business Philanthropy



Boys & Girls Club
Nonprofit Service



Center of Hope Ministry
Make A Difference

2025-2026 Executive Board & Trustee Committees

Executive Board

Beth Smoller '20, Chair
Matt Crocker '11, Past Chair
Eric Higgins '15, Chair Elect
Dave Rogers '15, Treasure
Eileen Hinkin '15, Secretary
Tracy Anderson '23
Mary Carter '21
Linda Cook '19
Lowell Kohlmeier '18
Doug Haverkamp '23
Chris Nibert '20 YT
Kerri Winter '19

Advisors

Lee Borck '24
Mark Knackendoffel '99
Neil Horton '02
Wayne Sloan '15
Johnny Taylor '20
Mary Vanier '99

Asset Development

Vern Henricks - Staff, Chair
Chris Braley '18
Kelly Briggs '18
Doug Hinkin '17
Terry Holdren '15
Ward Morgan '14
Marty Vanier '18

DeiHL Arts & Humanities

Beth Smoller '20, Co-Chair
Jackie Hartman Borck '18, Co-Chair
Dave Baker '16
Shawn Drew '18
Karen McCulloh '02
Barbara Nelson '12
Jeff Oliphant '18
Larie Schoap '11-'13, '21
Cindy Sloan '09-'12, '21
Alyn West '22

Investments

Eric Higgins '15, Chair
John Conley, '24
Mike Dodson '20
Jim Gordon '99
Seth Gordon '24
Tom Hintz '08
Tyler Lewison '24
Dennis Mullin '02
Calvin Pottberg '19
Brad Sidener '19
Dean Thibault '16
Gail Urban '10
Jake Wassenberg '23
David Weaver '14

Website

Steven Graham '21
Dave Lewis '20
Brad Roberts '22

Events - CFAs

Kim McAtee '19, Chair
Lori Able '24
Cheryl Grice '12
Ronnie Grice '02
Tracey Gros '21
Betti O '20
Annette Radina '18
Jill Sherman '18
--Chris Nibert '20

Young Trustees Board

--Dene Kaster '23, Co-Chair
--Jake Schulte '19, Co-Chair
--Chris Nibert '20
--Emily Dixon '16
--Tyler Daveline '23
--Lane Scoggins '23

Finance

Dave Rogers '15, Co-Chair
Mary Carter '21 Co-Chair
Brett Ballou '19
Dale Bradley '17
Connie Casper '02
Scott Emley '14
Brad Fagan '22
Therese Miller '17
Katie Seay '24
David Urban '13
--Ellen Knackendoffel '16
--Preston Schotte '22
--Dene Kaster '24

Fiscal Sponsorship

Vern Henricks - Staff
Dirk Daveline '99
Blake Kaus '16
Bob Shannon '16
Greg Wilson '23
Dan Yunk '03

Grants for Greater Manhattan

Eileen Hinkin '15, Chair
Allison Disbrow '19
Genie Emig '18
Jodi Kaus '01
Christy Linders '23
Mary Jo Nelson '23
Lana Oleen '05
David Pauls '18
Usha Reddi '19
--Cody Blake '20
--Chance Lee '16

Nominating

Matt Crocker '11, Chair
Neal Helmick, '09
Stacy Kohlmeier '14
Jan Marks '02

Lincoln & Dorthy DeiHL Fund

Beth Smoller '20, Co-Chair
Jo Lyle '06, Co-Chair

Kevin Ingram '11
Dr. Rebecca Klingler '16
Chuck Lyman '15
Barbara Nelson '12
Derrick Roberson '16

Marketing

Linda Cook '19, Chair
Lyle Butler '02
Bobbi French '20
Doug Haverkamp '23
Gordon Hibbard '17
Karen Hibbard '23
Dustin Lobaugh '10-'12, '16
Ashley Martin '22
Doug Meloan '03
Matt Walters '22
--Lauren Metheny '22

Professional Advisors

Bill Bahr '17
Tyler Darnell '19
Mike Hinkin '22
Mike Holtman '08
Joe Knopp '17
Summer Ott-Dierks '19
Lisa Ward '14
--Andy Ellis '16

Scholarship

Libby Cyr '24
Duane Dunn '03-'04, '16
Mark Hatesohl '20
Sue Maes '99
Michael Oldfather '02
Karen Roberts '09
Bruce Snead '12
Sheila Walker '20
--Emily Dixon '16

Strategic Initiatives

Lowell Kohlmeier '18 Co-Chair
Tracy Anderson '23 Co-Chair
John Armbrust '17
Grant Bannister '19
Blake Bauer '22
Theresa Bramlage '19
Kristin Brighton '20
Chris Eichman '18
Ron Fowles '17
Natalie Gordon '24
Rich Jankovich '17
Kelly Keogh '19
Bill Lansdowne '17
Blade Mages '24
Bruce McMillian '23
Randy O'Boyle '19
Tony Parker '19
Randy Peterson '22

--Young Trustee

@ Board member, non-Trustee

Stephanie Peterson '24
Tom Phillips '16
Gavin Schmidt '24
Jason Smith '22
Daryn Soldan '24
Harry Watts '08-'13 '19
Linda Weis '14
Jarrod Willich '18
Kerri Winter '19
--Cole Bachamp '20
--Ross Metheny '22
--Veronica Sims '16

Butler Family CF '18

@Brenda Butler, President
@Mark Butler
Sherry Butler '19
Jeff Sackrider '21
D'Anne Latimore '08
Kellie Pecoraro '24
Georginna Slade '24
Vern Henricks, Secretary '13

Goldstein Foundation '09

Terry Arthur, President '03
John Conley, Vice Pres. '24
Jim Gordon, Treasurer '99
Dirk Daveline '99
Eric Higgins '23
Clint Johns '22
Dennis Mullin '02
Matt Paquette '08
Kim McAtee '11
Vern Henricks, Secretary - Staff

Howe Family Foundation '13

Evan Howe '20
@Janet Daniel '25
Bill Riley, President '14
Bill Richter, Vice President '03
Terry Arthur, Treasurer '03
Vern Henricks, Secretary - Staff

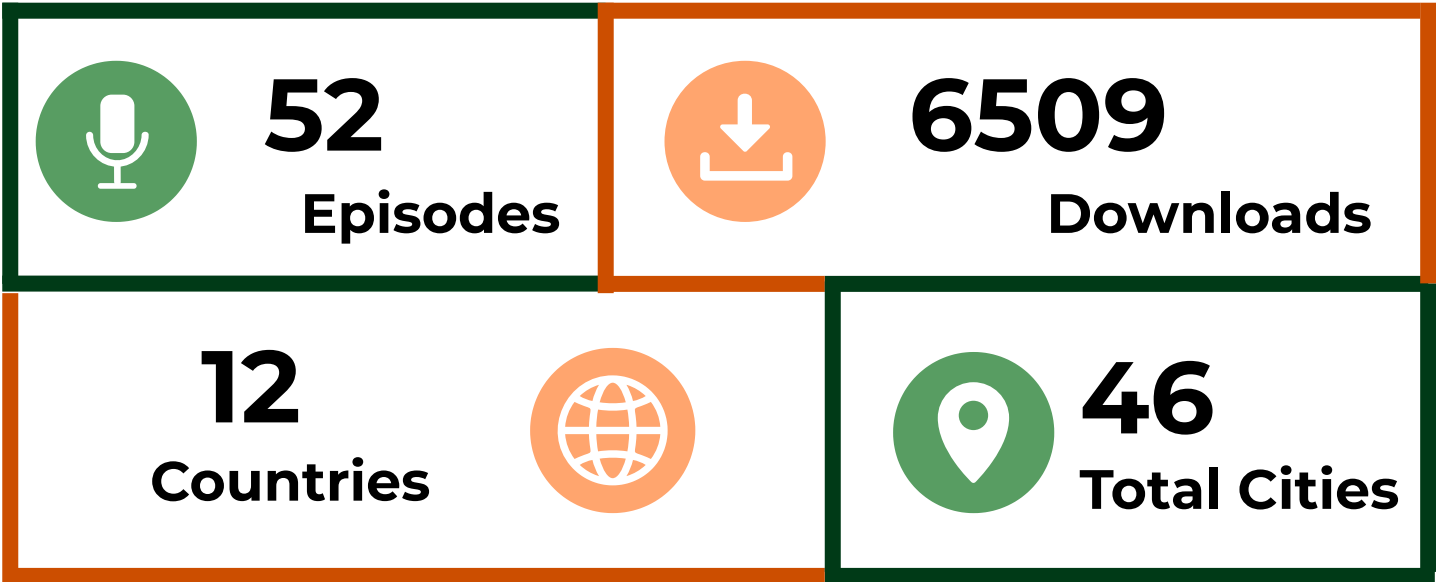


At the Greater Manhattan Community Foundation, planned gifts reflect the values of individuals and families who care deeply about this community and want their commitment to endure for generations. Planned gifts—including bequests, beneficiary designations, charitable trusts, and other deferred gifts—allow donors to make a meaningful future commitment while maintaining flexibility during their lifetimes. These gifts often represent a donor’s most **intentional expression of philanthropy**, shaped by a lifetime of care for family, education, the arts, health, and the overall quality of life in our region. Donors frequently share that a key motivation for planned giving is the desire to provide the community with flexibility to **address future challenges and opportunities**. By including GMCF in their estate plans, donors help ensure resources are available to meet needs not yet known, guided by local leadership and evolving community priorities. GMCF works closely with donors and their professional advisors to simplify the planning process and ensure each gift **honors the donor’s intentions**. We are deeply grateful to those who invest in the future of our community through planned giving, helping ensure the causes we care about today continue to thrive for generations to come.

Planned Gifts: Creating a Community Legacy



Philanthropy Today GMCF Podcast



Radio Show

The GMCF Community Hour on 1350 KMAN features conversations with local nonprofits and community leaders who are making a difference. Learn about the vital work happening right here and how you can get involved. It’s our commitment to connecting and strengthening the Manhattan community. Listen on Monday mornings to be informed, inspired, and engaged.

Growing to Serve



As GMCF enters its 27th year as a community foundation, our growth reflects the trust our community has placed in us—expanding from \$10 million after ten years to more than \$100 million after twenty years, and now on track to exceed \$450 million in our twenty-sixth year. This momentum has prompted the Board of Directors to develop a new strategic plan that positions GMCF for long-term stewardship and service. With this growth, we are seeing a significant increase in requests related to estate gift planning and investment services. To meet these evolving needs responsibly, the Board has approved adding two specialized roles: a Vice President for Development with a focus on estate planning, and a Vice President for Investment Services.

Meet the GMCF Team



Vern Henricks
President & CEO



Marla Brandon
Vice President of
Finance



Sarah Barrett
Vice President for
Impact Strategy &
Grant Programs



Mitzi Richards
Director of
Philanthropy



Jayna Ukrazhenko
Director of
Communications &
Engagement



Tyler Downey
Director of Media
Outreach



Felix Jimenez
Digital Marketing
Coordinator



Sally Braun
Finance Assistant



Derrick Jackson
Finance Assistant



Stacy Smith
Executive
Assistant &
Grants Manager



Kara Floersch
Intern



Liv Tubbs
Intern



Taylor Veatch
Intern

Affiliate News

Match Day 2025

Marysville	\$623,051
Hiawatha	\$483,970
South Brown County	\$290,194
Atchison	\$998,470
Alma Area	\$293,276
Rural Riley County	\$109,686
Blue Rapids	\$210,177
Clay Center	\$655,307
Valley Falls	\$240,040
Wamego	\$611,310
Geary County	\$753,391
Jackson County	\$396,862
Armed Forces	\$132,538
Greater Sabetha	\$855,797
Frankfort	\$295,878
Doniphan County	\$269,440

Affiliate Snapshot

A look at the reach of our affiliate network.

4 New Executive Directors
Meghan Stockman
Krista Thomas
Ashley Kracht
Deborah Geiger

\$10,515,953 in grants
disbursed between
all **16** affiliate
communities.

108% increase in
scholarship funds
awarded from
2024 to 2025.

Affiliate Executive Directors



Aimee Nelson
Wamego Community
Foundation & Affiliate
Liaison: Group 1



Leslie Scoby
Affiliate Liaison:
Group 2



Christine Benne
Director of Military
Relations & Affiliate
Liaison: Group 3



Ivy Stone
South Brown
County Community
Foundation



Grace Sammoury
Atchison Area
Community
Foundation



Connie Joy
Greater Sabetha
Community
Foundation



Deborah Geiger
Hiawatha
Community
Foundation



Meghan Stockman
Jackson County
Community
Foundation



Krista Thomas
Clay Center
Community
Improvement
Foundation



Ashley Kracht
Marysville
Community
Foundation



Military Relations: Serving Those Who Serve

At Greater Manhattan Community Foundation, supporting our military community is both an honor and a responsibility (or privilege).

With Fort Riley at the heart of our region, GMCF proudly stands alongside service members, veterans, and their families through meaningful partnerships and local investment. In 2025, we expanded our Military Relations efforts across the Flint Hills, working with community partners to strengthen relationships and engagement.

GMCF supported Fort Riley initiatives that improved daily life for soldiers and families, including transportation assistance, community programs, and events. We were also honored to help advance the Gold Star Family Monument, a lasting tribute to families who have lost loved ones in service. Through these efforts, GMCF Military Relations connected generous donors with local nonprofits, strengthening military-focused programs and expanding impact across the region.

Community giving played a key role: through Stand-To Match Day, Armed Forces Community Foundation helped raise over \$130,000, demonstrating the power of collective generosity. Through collaboration, compassion, and community support, GMCF Military remains committed to honoring service and strengthening the bonds that make the Flint Hills Region a welcoming place for all.



Thank You to Our Donors

At the Greater Manhattan Community Foundation, we are grateful to those who support our work every day, and we take great joy in serving our communities. Words can never fully express the appreciation our staff feels for the opportunity to do this work.

Our mission—to build relationships between donors and community needs—guides us daily. Our vision, enhancing quality of life through philanthropic giving, continues to shape our strategic planning as we are invited into more conversations each year about the future of our community. Our values of service, accountability, integrity, quality, respect, and transparency are not just words; they define how we show up for others.

The community foundation exists to bring people together to make a difference. We do not raise funds for ourselves, but rather serve the needs identified by the community. We look forward to continuing this work for years to come and extend our sincere thanks to all who support and believe in our mission.

Thank you



By the Numbers

Empowering Manhattan's future since 1999.

GMCF has reached

\$443
MILLION
IN ASSETS



\$33 M
INVESTED
IN OUR
COMMUNITY THROUGH
GRANTS

Grow Green Match Day: Giving Together

In 2025, over

\$2.4 M

Raised for
local nonprofits

With More Than

\$14.4 M

Raised for our community
SINCE 2013

SAVE
the
DATE

Wednesday,
April 22nd, 2026

Community
Cares Chest



Distributed More Than

\$5
MILLION
IN PRODUCTS SINCE
MARCH 2023

8
TRUCKLOADS
OF ITEMS
RECEIVED
EACH VALUED BETWEEN
\$100-300 K



Mission:

To build relationships
between donors and
community needs

Vision:

Enhancing quality of
life through
philanthropic giving

Core Values:

Service with accountability,
integrity, quality, respect,
and transparency

Greater Manhattan Community Foundation

555 Poyntz Avenue, Suite 269
P.O. Box 1127
Manhattan, Kansas 66505

785-587-8995
foundation@mcfks.org
www.mcfks.org

GMCF is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization
EIN #48-1215574
Incorporated in the State of Kansas



VISIT OUR WEBSITE

