

Stronger Together
2025 Annual Report



Gove Co.
Community Foundation

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

EST. 2012

GCCF is an affiliate of Greater Northwest Kansas Community Foundation located in Bird City, KS. It is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization governed by a board of 10 representing the Gove County communities of Gove, Grainfield, Grinnell, Park, and Quinter.

\$96,078

GRANT FUNDS

AWARDED IN 2025

14

GRANTS AWARDED

\$2.7 MILLION+

ENDOWED ASSETS

MISSION

The goal of the Gove County Community Foundation is to enhance the quality of life in Gove County through philanthropy, to increase economic and community development opportunities. We are driven by a mission to create a prosperous future for our community by supporting collaborative and innovative initiatives that address today's needs while paving the way for a brighter tomorrow.



GCCF BOARD MEMBERS

- Amy Gassmann** (Grainfield) - Chair
- Stephanie Manhart** (Grainfield) - Vice Chairman
- Dusty Zerr** (Gove) - Treasurer
- Amy Briggs** (Gove) - Secretary
- Roger Ringer** (Quinter)
- Dalton Snyder** (Quinter)
- Ryan Cooksey** (Quinter)
- Sue Machen** (Quinter)
- Duane Vollbracht** (Grinnell)
- Jorgen Lundgren** (Gove)

GCCF STAFF



Sheyenne Spresser

Executive Director

info@govecountycommunityfoundation.org

785-673-3112



A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR

As I reflect on 2025, I am truly awestruck by what an extraordinary year it was for the Gove County Community Foundation. When our board first set goals for the year, they felt ambitious—at times even daunting. Looking back now, it is incredibly rewarding to see what was accomplished and to take pride in a job well done.

One of the highlights of the year was our continued success during Match Month in November. Thanks to the generosity of those who care deeply about the future of Gove County, along with the matching support from the Dane Hansen Foundation and the Patterson Family Foundation, we raised more than \$309,000. This achievement is a testament to the strength of our community and the power of partnership.

In 2025, the Foundation awarded 14 grants totaling more than \$95,000 to local nonprofit organizations through a combination of Match Month proceeds and additional funding support. These grants continue to strengthen programs, enhance services, and improve quality of life across Gove County.

Beyond grantmaking, we also focused on building for the future. In 2025, we assisted donors in establishing eight new endowed funds, helping individuals and families create lasting legacies for generations to come. Those establishing funds received financial support from both the Dane Hansen Foundation and the Gove County Community Foundation, and we are excited to see this program continue into 2026.

This year also brought unexpected challenges. Following the tornado that impacted Grinnell, our Executive Director, Sheyenne Spresser, quickly mobilized efforts to support recovery. In partnership with the Greater Northwest Kansas Community Foundation, a disaster relief fund was established, raising more than \$135,000 to assist those affected.

Sheyenne also continued her work with the Gove County Community Foundation Youth program, helping cultivate the next generation of leaders. A highlight included sponsoring a food truck event at both high schools, bringing students and communities together in a fun and engaging way.

As I reflect on the past year, I am reminded of the quote, “A society grows great when people plant trees in whose shade they shall never sit.” It is an honor to serve on the Foundation Board and as Chairman. Together, we are planting seeds today that will benefit Gove County for generations to come

-Amy Gassmann

CHAIRMAN
GOVE COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As we look back on 2025, we are filled with gratitude and pride for all that the Gove County Community Foundation has accomplished this year. Thanks to our generous donors, dedicated board members, and incredible community partners, we were able to support meaningful projects that strengthen our schools, nonprofits, and communities across Gove County. From awarding impactful grants to launching new initiatives that address local needs, this year truly reflected the power of people coming together for the greater good.

One of the most impactful moments of 2025 was our Neighbors Helping Neighbors – Grinnell Strong Fund. Following the devastating tornado this summer, our community stepped up in an extraordinary way. Together, we raised over \$134,000 to support our neighbors in Grinnell. Every dollar was distributed directly to affected families, providing immediate relief and hope during an incredibly difficult time. This effort showcased the true heart of Gove County – resilient, compassionate, and united when it matters most.

Throughout the year, we also witnessed the ripple effect of local philanthropy in powerful ways. Once again, we reached our Match Month goal of \$100,000 raised for our Grow Gove County Endowment Fund. Because of this incredible community support, we also received \$200,000 in matching funds for both our Grow Gove County Endowment Fund and our Operating Endowment Fund – made possible through the generosity of the Dane G. Hansen Foundation and the Patterson Family Foundation. Their partnership continues to amplify the impact of giving in Gove County and strengthen our future for generations to come.

Beyond these milestones, we continued to see the difference local giving makes – from improving community spaces and supporting youth programs to investing in education and strengthening local organizations. Each grant awarded told a story of belief in our rural communities and the power of giving back.

As we head into 2026, we are excited to build on this momentum. We look forward to expanding legacy giving opportunities, growing endowment funds, and continuing to help donors turn their philanthropic dreams into lasting impact. Our focus remains on creating sustainable change that will benefit generations to come.

Thank you to everyone who supported GCCF in 2025 – through donations, volunteerism, advocacy, and encouragement. None of this would be possible without you. Together, we are shaping a brighter future for Gove County, and we can't wait to see what's ahead.

-Sheyenne Spresser

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



GRANT RECIPIENTS

In 2025, 14 organizations received funding for projects in Gove County, and 12 organizations received sponsorship funding from GCCF.

10
GRANT CYCLES

14
GRANTS GIVEN

1
YOUTH FOUNDATION
GRANT GIVEN

15
SPONSORSHIPS

\$115,878
FUNDS AWARDED

SPONSORSHIPS

Buffalo Park Community Development, Inc.
Operating

GP3 – Grinnell Promoting Pride & Progress
Neighbors Helping Neighbors Fund
Logan Mize Concert
Operating

Grainfield Community Development Committee
Cruise Shoes & BBQs
Operating

Quinter Community Development
Operating

Revitalize Gove Community, Inc.
Operating

City of Gove
Old Settler's Day

City of Park
Rodeo Club

Gove County
Gove County Fair

City of Quinter
Party in the Park

Castle Rock Health & Fitness Inc.
Waldo McBurney

City of Grinnell
After Harvest Fest

Church of the Brethren
Food Pantry Assistance

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**WHEATLAND
HIGH SCHOOL**
WATER FOUNTAIN
REPLACEMENTS



**QUINTER
PUBLIC
SCHOOLS**
AMERITOWN EXPERIENCE



**CASTLE ROCK
HEALTH &
FITNESS**
REPLACEMENT OF
EQUIPMENT AT QUINTER
LOCATION

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GOVE COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER

COMMUNITY MENTAL
HEALTH OUTREACH
PROGRAM



MAIN STREET ARTS COUNCIL

2025 MAIN STREET
SUMMER THEATER
FESTIVAL: DISNEY'S DARE
TO DREAM



CASA OF THE HIGH PLAINS

CHAMPIONS FOR
CHILDREN EXPANSION
PROJECT

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GOVE COUNTY

AIRPORT UPGRADES AND EXPANSION



GOVE COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER

THERAPY POOL
DEHUMIDIFIER
REPLACEMENT



CITY OF GOVE

LIBRARY HEAT AND AIR
REPLACEMENT

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QUINTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ARCHIVAL ROOM AND
MAINSTREET UPGRADES



QUINTER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

THE DEPOT: PHASE 2



QUINTER AMBULANCE INC

LUCAS DEVICE

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WESTERN PLAINS ARTS ASSOCIATION

CULTURAL EVENTS IN
GOVE COUNTY



QUINTER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

CLOTHES LIKE NEW ROOF
REPLACEMENT



WHEATLAND HIGH SCHOOL

WATER FOUNTAIN
REPLACEMENT -
GOVE COUNTY YOUTH FOUNDATION GRANT

1ST ANNUAL DONOR GALA

The Gove County Community Foundation proudly hosted its 1st Annual Donor Gala in 2025, an evening dedicated to celebrating and thanking the generous individuals who continue to invest in the future of our communities. Held in Grainfield at the historic Opera House, the event provided a warm and inviting setting that reflected both the charm and strength of rural Northwest Kansas.

Guests were welcomed with an assortment of charcuterie and cocktails, creating a relaxed and enjoyable atmosphere where donors could connect, share stories, and build relationships with one another. The evening was intentionally designed to give our supporters the opportunity to simply enjoy the company of fellow community-minded individuals while reflecting on the impact of their generosity.

A highlight of the evening was hearing from our local economic development groups, who shared updates on current projects, as well as their visions and aspirations for the future. Representatives from the Grainfield Community Development Committee and Buffalo Park Community Development spoke about the progress being made in their respective communities, along with the opportunities that lie ahead. Their presentations offered valuable insight into how donor support directly fuels growth, sustainability, and innovation across Gove County.

In addition to community updates, the Foundation facilitated a meaningful discussion on estate planning and the role it can play in long-term giving. Donors were introduced to ways they can leave a lasting legacy through thoughtful planning, including the “Keeping 5 in Kansas” initiative. This encourages individuals to consider dedicating 5% of their estate to a local foundation or nonprofit organization, ensuring that future generations continue to benefit from strong, vibrant communities.

The evening served not only as a celebration, but also as a reminder of the powerful impact that collective generosity can have. Thanks to the incredible support shown during Match Month 2025, our donors truly exceeded expectations and demonstrated their unwavering commitment to Gove County.

We are deeply grateful for each and every donor who made this inaugural event such a success. With such strong momentum and enthusiasm, we are already looking forward to hosting our 2026 Donor Gala and continuing this meaningful tradition of gratitude, connection, and community impact.



FUNDS



ALLAN & CONNIE WEBER FAMILY FUND

CLETUS & LOIS FELDT MEMORIAL FUND

DANE G. HANSEN FOUNDATION COMMUNITY GRANT FUND FOR GOVE COUNTY

DOUG & STEPHANIE MANHART FUND

DOUGLAS ROEMER FUND

GOVE COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OPERATING ENDOWMENT FUND

GOVE COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OPERATING FUND

GOVE COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OPPORTUNITY FUND

GOVE COUNTY FAIR BOARD SCHOLARSHIP FUND

GOVE COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER EDUCATION & SCHOLARSHIP FUND

GRAINFIELD DAYCARE FUND

GROW GOVE COUNTY FUND

GROW GOVE COUNTY INVESTMENTS, LLC

LEGACY G FAMILY FUND

MITCH & CARLENE GILLESPIE FAMILY FUND

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS FUND - GRINNELL STRONG

NICKOLAS & DUSTY ANN ZERR FAMILY FUND

QUINTER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND

QUINTER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT INC, JAY JOHNSON PUBLIC LIBRARY FUND

WESTERN PLAINS ARTS ASSOCIATION FUND - GOVE COUNTY

YOUTH PROJECT FUND

IF YOU HAVE A PASSION FOR A PROJECT, YOU'RE INVITED TO SUPPORT ANY OF THE LISTED FUNDS. EVERY CONTRIBUTION—BIG OR SMALL—HELPS TURN MEANINGFUL IDEAS INTO REAL IMPACT WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY.

IF YOU'RE INSPIRED TO CREATE SOMETHING LASTING, YOU CAN ESTABLISH YOUR OWN FUND TO SUPPORT A SPECIFIC PROJECT, NONPROFIT, OR EVEN YOUR FAMILY'S CHARITABLE GOALS. IT'S A FLEXIBLE WAY TO MAKE A MEANINGFUL, LONG-TERM IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY WHILE SUPPORTING CAUSES CLOSE TO YOUR HEART. TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW TO GET STARTED, REACH OUT TO A BOARD MEMBER OR CONTACT DIRECTOR SHEYENNE SPRESSER FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE THROUGH THE PROCESS.

FOR GOVE, FOREVER MATCH MONTH 2025



\$309,590.98 IMPACT

The 2025 “For Gove, Forever” Match Month was nothing short of extraordinary, showcasing the power of community and generosity across Gove County. Thanks to the support of 138 donors, we raised an impressive \$109,590.98. With a \$100,000 match from the Dane G. Hansen Foundation and an additional \$100,000 from the Patterson Family Foundation, the total impact reached an incredible \$309,590.98. This remarkable achievement reflects the deep commitment our donors have to building a strong and sustainable future for our communities, and highlights what is possible when local generosity is amplified through strong partnerships.

We wrapped up the month with our Match Month Grand Finale, an unforgettable evening filled with energy, laughter, and connection. Guests enjoyed a lively Dueling Pianos performance, made even more dynamic this year with the addition of a guitar player, keeping the crowd engaged all night long. The evening also featured great food, an exciting silent auction, and an incredible turnout that, truly

captured the spirit of Gove County. From start to finish, the event served as both a celebration of generosity and a reminder of the meaningful impact these funds will have across our communities. The momentum doesn't stop there. Be sure to save the date for next year's Match Month Kickoff event on November 7th, where Dueling Pianos will return—this time with the added flair of a fiddle player to take the energy to the next level. If this year was any indication,

it's an event you won't want to miss.



GOVE COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

2025 MATCH MONTH DONORS

AcuRich, LLC	D & J Insurance Services, Inc	Farmore Investments LLC
Adrian Coberly	Dale & Sharon Deaton	Garrett Werth
Alex Zerr	Darold Zimmerman	Gary Gassmann
Amy Gassmann	Daryl A. Zerr	Gina Hargitt
Andrea Hargitt	David Woods	Golden Plains Credit Union
Austin Powers	Delmar Kaiser	Gove County Historical Association, Inc.
Bart & Amy Briggs	Denise Wolf	Grainfield Community Development Committee
BBB Charolais	Don Finger	Grainfield Supply Inc.
Bill & Kerry Briggs	Doug Gruenbacher	Great Plains Backhoe & Trenching
Bob Keller	Doug Roemer	Hannah Gillespie
Bradley A. Mullins	Duane Vollbracht	Harry Sturgeon
Brianna Miller	Dusty K Living Trust	Heath & Amber Hutchison
Camron & Sheyenne Spresser	Ellie Anderson	Heather Hargitt
Chris Hartman	Emily Leiby	Home Roots Hair and Nail Salon, LLC
Cindy Werth	Emily Murrow	Hoxie Implement Co., Inc.
City of Gove	Equity Bank	Irwin C. Porter
City of Grainfield	Farmore Investments LLC	Jack Foster
City of Quinter	Garrett Werth	Jack's Automotive
CoBank	Gary Gassmann	Janice Manhart
Cooksey Appliance	Gina Hargitt	
Copper Printing Co.	Golden Plains Credit Union	
Craig and Hannah Zerr	Gove County Historical Association, Inc.	
D & J Insurance Services, Inc		

GOVE COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

2025 MATCH MONTH DONORS

Jarrett & Nichelle Marker	Macy Graham	Rob-See-Co, Ostmeyer Farms
Jason Zerr	Mapes & Miller LLP	Roger D. Beesley
Jeff and Diana Bauman	Marvin Beesley	Roger Schuster
Jeff Bell	Marvin Haldeman	Roger's Trash Service
John Cashatt	Matt Merwald	Ronald S. Powers
John E. Pilkington Insurance	Matt Stephens	Ruf Seeds LLC
Jorgen Lundgren	Michael R. Pyle	Ryan Cooksey
Joss & Megan Briggs	Michael Wilds	Scott L. Rempel
K Gunter	Midwest Waterline LLC	Scott Manhart
Kale Shields	Matt & Misty Mildenberger	Shaw Motor Company Inc.
Karen Moorhous	Mitchell Gillespie	Sheridan Moser
Kathleen J. Mahan	Mittens, Inc.	Stan Copeland
Kay Haffner	Nex-Generation Round Up for	Stephanie Manhart
Kelley and Sons Trucking	Youth, Inc.	Sue & Michael Machen
LLC	Nickolas & Dusty Zerr	Teichmer Pumping Services
Kendra Salyers Barnes	Pete Henry Foundation	The Bank
Kenneth W. Williams	Pioneer Feedyard	Victor Nemechek M.D.
Kit Krehbiel	QMC, Inc	Wade and Taylor Niermeier
Lacey Heddlesten	Quinter Truck & Auto	Watkins Reality & Ins. Agency, LLC
Larry Lundgren	Ralph Ostmeyer	WCC, Inc
Lazy WD, Inc.	Ralph Zerr	Western Kansas Farm Credit, FLCA
Lela Cooksey	Rays Pharmacy/Q-Value	Western Plains Energy, LLC
Lois Troutman	Reagan Coulter	Western Prairie Equine Service
M Bar M LLC	Reid Werth	

YOUTH FOUNDATION



The Gove County Youth Foundation made a powerful impact in 2025 through the leadership and initiative of its dedicated student board members. The 2025 Youth Board included representatives from Wheatland High School—Abigail Chaney, Brielle Hanna, Jackson Foster, Branton Goetz, and Axtyn Teeter—and Qinter High School—Mia Briggs, Amelia Briggs, Caedmon Bridges, and Shaylee Baalman. Together, these students met monthly to identify needs, plan projects, and invest in opportunities that benefited youth across Gove County.

Throughout the year, their efforts came to life in meaningful and memorable ways. They hosted a Food Truck Day at both schools, bringing in Karina's Mexican Food Truck out of Oakley, where board members helped prepare and serve meals to all students and staff—turning an ordinary day into a shared community experience. They also sponsored popcorn at the Gove County Rivalry Basketball game, adding a fun touch to a spirited event, and awarded a grant to Wheatland High School for the replacement of three water fountains, improving daily life for students and staff. Through their service and leadership, the Youth Foundation empowered young people to give back, take initiative, and create a lasting impact in their communities.

Grinnell STRONG

When a devastating tornado struck Grinnell in May, our community was met with a moment that called for immediate action and unwavering support. In response, the foundation quickly established the Neighbors Helping Neighbors – Grinnell Strong fund, creating a way for people near and far to step in and help those directly impacted. Through generous online donations, an incredible total of \$134,406.34 was raised—each contribution a powerful reminder of what can happen when a community comes together in a time of need.

As a foundation, we knew it was important to do more than just facilitate giving—we needed to stand alongside our community. In addition to helping distribute funds to those affected, we also made a direct contribution to the relief efforts. We were honored to further support the healing process by sponsoring Logan Mize at the After the Storm Revival event in August, bringing people together for a night of connection, resilience, and hope. In one of the most challenging times for Grinnell, this effort embodied what it truly means to be neighbors helping neighbors.



HANSEN NEW FUND MATCHING INITIATIVE

Turn \$2,000 into \$10,000 with our matching program!

Here's the breakdown:

\$2,000 from YOU

\$2,000 from Hansen Foundation

\$2,000 from GCCF

\$4,000 more from YOU over 1-4 years

TOTAL: \$10,000 Endowment Fund!

ESTATE PLANNING

Through our partnership with the Greater Northwest Kansas Community Foundation and the Dane G. Hansen Foundation, we are able to connect interested parties with John Griffin of Stewardship Counseling, LLC to provide estate planning design services free of charge, on a first-come, first-served basis.

The draft plan can be given to your attorney to formalize. This gives you comprehensive guidance in designing an estate plan that minimizes income, gift, estate, and inheritance taxes, and facilitates smooth business, farm, and asset transition.

Estate planning appointments fill quickly. Contact us to learn more and set up an appointment!



Go
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SADDLE UP FOR GOVE:

RIDE FOR THE

GOULD

A MATCH MONTH EVENT

NOVEMBER 7TH, 2026

SAVE THE DATE



DRESS IN
YOUR BEST
NFR ATTIRE!





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102 SUNSET AVE.
QUINTER, KS 67752
785.673.3112

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GOVE COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION IS AN AFFILIATE OF GNWKCF

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Community Foundation