

How Well Do You Know the Boone County Foundation Fund?

Local giving supports local initiatives to benefit our county for generations to come.

The BCFF is a charitable organization working to improve quality of life and create opportunities for growth in area communities. We accomplish this through our mission, which is to inspire investment in Boone County. This investment allows our organization to help identify and fund projects and initiatives that preserve and enhance our communities. This ability to put dollars to work at a local level is made possible by the generosity of many residents and friends of the area.

The BCFF was founded in 1993 by Jim & Elaine Wolf. Since that time, our permanently endowed fund has grown to \$1.6M. Just five years ago, it was \$500k. Because of this significant growth, the BCFF can now expend approximately \$70K each year. To uphold our commitment and mission, the BCFF has prioritized several initiatives to help assure the highest community benefit:

- **Annual Grant Program:** Funding through our annual grant programming is used by local organizations to purchase much-needed materials, technology, leadership training, programming, and more.
- **Boone County Big Give:** This annual giving week creates an opportunity for local charitable organizations to tell their story and reach more people.
- **Cardinal Kids Club:** Provided active leadership and initial funding to initiate an afterschool program at Boone Central, which extended to full time care this summer.
- **Childcare Shortage:** The BCFF is working with area businesses and other organizations to help resolve our county-wide childcare shortage.
- **Boone County Trails System:** Members of our advisory committee served on the trails committee, in addition to the fund granting \$5,000 toward the project.
- **County-Wide Visioning Sessions:** The BCFF hosts county-wide visioning meetings to foster collaboration, identify and address core needs for our communities.
- **Sub-Accounts for Local Projects:** The Albion Family Aquatic Center, Boone Central Fine Arts project, and other local initiatives have achieved their fundraising goals by utilizing a sub account through the BCFF.
- **Local Donor Hub:** Often times people are interested in giving back but aren't certain of where their gift can do the most good. By giving to the BCFF, you know that your dollars will be put to work for projects with the highest need in Boone County.
- **Estate Planning Workshops:** We regularly host retirement/estate planning workshops to help our community members learn more about their options and opportunities.



2018 BCFF Advisory Committee

Contact any of the following
volunteers to learn more about how
you can give back to Boone County:

- Kurt Kruse - Chair, Albion
- Tom Briese, St. Edward
- Lisa Carder, Albion
- Dr. Kate Kusek-Johnson, Albion
- Doug Koch, Petersburg
- Rex Mahoney, Albion
- Mollie Morrow, Albion
- Bev Schuele, Cedar Rapids
- Roberta Seda, Albion
- Tina Stokes, Petersburg
- Virginia Whidden, St. Edward
- Jay Wolf, Albion
- Dr. Jeremy Young, Albion

When You Give to the BCFF, You Give Back to Boone County

Gifts to our unrestricted endowment allow us to support needs across Boone County for years to come. Consider a gift using any of the following methods:

- Gifts of cash or property
- Gifts of grain or livestock
- Bequests in your will
- Retirement plans.
- Gifts of life insurance
- Memorial/Honor gifts
- Gift annuities provide lifelong income for you & your loved ones

Give online: <https://www.nebcommfound.org/give/boone-county-foundation-fund/>

Boone County Foundation Fund
PO Box 66
Albion, NE 68620
www.boonecountyfoundation.com



Summer 2018

Committed to looking forward, giving back.

Quality Childcare Key to Quality Workforce

An article featuring Boone County, published by the Nebraska Community Foundation

High quality childcare is a prerequisite for attracting young families to our communities. Boone County Foundation Fund (BCFF) has been addressing this challenge successfully over the past several years. Last fall, thanks in large part to the active leadership and initial funding BCFF provided, an after-school program was launched at Boone Central Schools with a STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) focus.

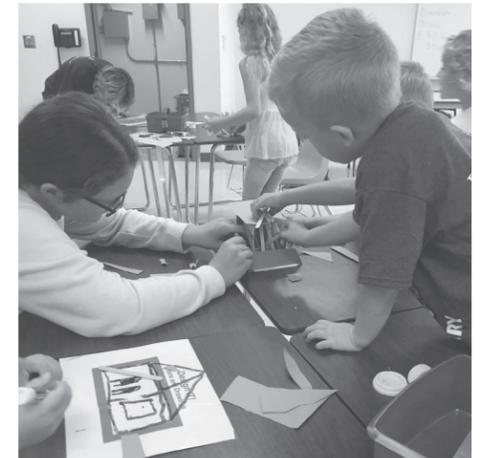
This spring BCFF developed a program to assist private licensed childcare providers throughout the county. Funds from BCFF are being matched by an anonymous Nebraska Community Foundation (NCF) donor-advised fund to create high quality curriculum and materials. The project is being developed by Lindsey Jarecki and Mollie Morrow, two former teachers with early childhood degrees, and several students in

Boone Central's Career Academy who are interested in education. The "curriculum tubs," feature a year's worth of instruction, are located at the Albion Public Library, and are available for check out by licensed providers.

Programs initiated and supported over the long-term, like the Boone Central Cardinal Kids Club and the curriculum tubs are making a positive difference for both families and providers, and most importantly are helping children prepare for upcoming school years.

BCFF continues to seek input from the community regarding next steps for early childhood development. The Fund sponsored a visioning meeting earlier in the year, facilitated by NCF President and CEO, Jeff Yost and Affiliated Fund Development Coordinator, Anders Olson.

A survey conducted by BCFF indicates that 69 percent of



responding families said they have a difficult time finding licensed daycare locally. Nearly half of employers said childcare availability has affected their ability to hire and retain employees.

If you're interested in helping resolve the childcare shortage in Boone County, please contact any member of the BCFF Advisory Committee (listed on back).

Projects To Look Forward To:

Boone County Trails System
The Fairgrounds & Fuller Park Loop (1.8 miles) is under construction with an expected completion date of October 2018! Follow the Friends of the Trail on Facebook!

Boone County Big Give
The 2018 Boone County Big Give is November 26-30th! As we enter our fifth year, we'll be taking a closer look at past projects and all that's been accomplished! Look for an updated www.BCBigGive.org soon!

Recent BCFF Grant Recipients

More than \$14,000 given in grant dollars to support Boone County organizations.

For the 13th year, the Boone County Foundation Fund (BCFF) provided grant funding to area charitable organizations. The intention of the program is to support local initiatives that have a positive impact on quality of life in Boone County. Each year, the Foundation sets aside a portion of available funds for its grant program. Often these funds are needed to support annual needs and programming, however for others, the grants support new projects to help an organization grow or make improvements. The recipients must meet certain criteria and complete an application. A committee of volunteers consisting of members of the BCFF and area leaders review the applications and provide a recommendation to the Advisory Board for funding. Applications are made available in January of each year.



This year's BCFF grant recipients include:

- Albion Area Arts Council
- Albion Public Library
- American Legion Post #334 (Petersburg)
- Boone County Historical Society
- Good Samaritan Society-Albion
- Village of Primrose
- Petersburg Volunteer Fire Department
- Boone County Emerging Leaders

How being an affiliated fund of NCF benefits Boone County:

The Nebraska Community Foundation (NCF) is the umbrella organization for more than 270 community foundations and funds in Nebraska. Headquartered in Lincoln, NCF provides a number of benefits to member funds including:

- Oversight to ensure all expenditures meet 501(c)(3) requirements,
- Staff to assist with training, programming, planning, and much more
- Donor counseling and gift planning
- Management and investment services for donated funds
- Legal, accounting, and audit services

The BCFF's relationship with NCF provides a great deal of value to our donors. The professional staff at NCF can be a resource and give confidence that BCFF utilizes proper policies and procedures. Learn more about NCF and its work at: www.nebcommfound.org/

FREE Estate Planning Workshop Held in February

Local experts offer tips and tools for planning your legacy.



Last February, the BCFF hosted an Estate Planning workshop at the Albion Country Club. The event gave area residents valuable insight on how to effectively plan for their future. It featured a session on the basics of estate planning, led by attorneys, Tom Maul and Jeff Jarecki of Jarecki Yosten Maul Attorneys at Law. Then Jim Gustafson, Director of Advancement and Gift Planning for NCF offered insight on charitable giving to demonstrate the many benefits of gifting to charitable organizations as part of an estate plan.

The BCFF will be hosting a similar session in the coming months. Each is offered free to the public and includes lunch.

5th Annual Boone County Big Give

More than \$669,000 given to Boone County charitable organizations in the last four years.



2018 will mark the fifth Boone County Big Give! This concentrated awareness campaign was established to bring local charitable organizations together to pool resources and work together to raise awareness about what they do to support Boone County residents and guests. Each year Boone County charitable organizations are asked to choose a core project to focus on during the event. By taking this approach, more than 55 projects have been started and completed since 2014. Every dollar given stays in Boone County, and generous sponsors make it possible for area organizations to raise even more through incentive dollars that are prorated based on the number of donors who give to each organization.

The chart below is a snapshot of the Boone County Big Give since inception. By working together we can continue to enhance every community in Boone County. Moving into our fifth year, we will be showcasing the projects and progress made possible by those who have given during the Boone County Big Give. See www.BCBigGive.org for the latest updates. Mark your calendar for the week of November 26 to participate in this year's event!

Year	Number of Organizations/ Projects	Number of Donors	Dollars Raised
2014	13	653	\$169,855.21
2015	16	807	\$142,112.03
2016	23	1,069	\$186,349.06
2017	25	1,235	\$171,554.09
4 Years	77 projects (55+ completed)	Average annual increase in new donors: 194	Dollars re-invested in Boone County in 4 years: \$669,870.39

BCFF Earns \$100,000 in Matching Funds

Generosity of friends and residents help achieve Rural Development Philanthropy Grant campaign.



Earlier this year, the BCFF met its goal as part of the Sherwood Foundation Rural Development Philanthropy Challenge Grant campaign. Since July 2016, the BCFF has raised more than \$200,000, receiving an additional \$100,000 in funds from the Sherwood Foundation, based in Omaha. The immediate impact of an additional \$300,000 in unrestricted endowment funds will significantly increase the annual amount of available funds the BCFF has to distribute for local initiatives that benefit Boone County.

The organization's Unrestricted Endowment includes funds where the principal stays intact and the income works similar to a checking account that can be used to fund local charitable activities. Because the principal stays intact, the endowment is set up to benefit Boone County forever. All gifts to the BCFF Unrestricted Endowment are used to support local needs, allowing the Fund to give to projects and organizations that support quality of life for Boone County residents and visitors.