

Helping Hand

Foundation accepting grant applications

BY THE I-R STAFF

Over the years, the Smoky Hills Charitable Foundation has awarded grants to Ellsworth County communities for the purchase of playground equipment, the repair of buildings used by veterans and other citizens and dozens of other projects that contribute to the quality of life in Ellsworth County.

This year will be no different.

Foundation directors have issued a call for grant applications. The deadline is March 12.

About \$6,5000 in grants will be awarded the following month.

They will go to non-profit organizations, individuals or groups with an idea for a project that will benefit the communities of Ellsworth County. No particular issue or target audience has been identified for the grants. For-profit organizations are not eligible.

Applications are available online at www.smokyhillscf.org. Click "apply for a grant."

The two page application must be filled out as directed or it will not be considered. Applications also are available at Citizens State Bank and Trust, Ellsworth, the Bank of Holyrood and Wilson State Bank. Board members also have applications. They are: Judy Toman, chairwoman; Ashley Bohl, Patrick Hoffman, Alice Malir, Alice Peterka, Vern Schepmann, Melvin Splitter, the Rev. Lloyd Sprick and Kimberly Svaty.

Since 2000, the Smoky Hills Charitable Foundation has distributed about \$94,000 in grants and scholarships.

Every community in Ellsworth County has benefitted — from American Legion buildings at Holyrood, Wilson, Kanopolis and Ellsworth to the county's two school districts to projects undertaken by churches, the Ellsworth County Historical Society and numerous other organizations.

The foundation was organized in 2000 as an affiliate of the Greater Salina Community Foundation. The partnership allows the Ellsworth County organization to have access to staff and other resources without the cost.

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