

## Belleville Public Library Receives Community Grant



At the December 1<sup>st</sup> meeting, Republic County Community Foundation board treasurer Brad Boyer and secretary Sarah Hartung presented the grant to Belleville Public Library Board of Trustees. Pictured at the presentation are Library Trustees Carolyn Westin, Kay Reike, Mike Knedlik, John Eyer, Library Director Leah Krotz and RCCF treasurer Brad Boyer.

The Belleville Public Library is a recipient of a \$375 grant from Republic County Community Foundation (RCCF). Last week, RCCF board members presented the grant from the Republic County Community Action Fund.

The grant will be used for the library's Preschool Storytime Community Outreach Program. It will fund transportation costs of ten preschoolers to the library for the weekly storytime during the 2009-2010 school year.

"Early literacy is strongly linked to a child's ability to learn to read

and to succeed in school," said Leah Krotz, Belleville Public Library Director. "With the grant funding, we will be able to continue this successful project for another year: providing an invaluable service to working parents and their children," she added.

RCCF was organized in September of 2007 and currently has assets totaling more than \$170,000. Approximately half of all current assets are categorized as unrestricted funds. Those unrestricted-fund earnings will be

awarded as grants to community projects each fall.

"Grants from the Republic County Community Action Fund, our unrestricted fund, are a great way to support worthwhile community projects such as the library storytime outreach program," said Brad Boyer, RCCF board of directors treasurer. "The amount for available grants is expected to triple for next year's cycle, allowing us to fund many more great projects," he explained.

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