

Republic County Community Foundation Forms

Residents of Republic County will benefit from the formation of a new community foundation, the Republic County Community Foundation, which will provide the area with important tools to build endowments, increase philanthropy, and provide ongoing support to essential area nonprofits, programs, and events.

"The creation of the Republic County Community Foundation provides a tool for donors to enhance the quality of life in the Republic County area. The foundation has the flexibility to serve many purposes by providing qualified grants to local community interests and organizations," said Tim Gottschalk, Chairman of the Republic County Community Foundation. "We are excited about the foundation's future possibilities. Its greatest attribute is that it will provide benefits forever."

A community foundation is a permanent, steady, and secure source of grant making that addresses present and future community needs. The foundation is a vehicle for permanent charitable giving through current donations as well as bequests that will benefit the entire community.

The Foundation will offer a variety of giving options for donors including advised funds, nonprofit organization endowments, and scholarships. Rural

communities, such as those in the Republic County Community Foundation service area, will be strengthened by their ability to preserve wealth and serve today's citizens and future generations.

Community Foundations are the fastest growing form of philanthropy in the nation. The formation of the foundation has taken place over a period of more than two years. Local citizens researched the need and benefits of a foundation, as well as options for establishing it.

The Republic County Community Foundation is an affiliate of the Greater Salina Community Foundation, which provides administrative support, accounting services, board development, and consultation. The Greater Salina Community Foundation also has affiliate foundations in Russell County, Ellsworth County, Cloud County, Ellis County, and Smoky Valley School District.

The Greater Salina Community Foundation is recognized by the Council on Foundations as having met rigorous national standards, one of only two community foundations out of the 65 in the state to receive that designation. As an affiliate, the Republic County Community Foundation can immediately offer the services

of an established, larger, regional community foundation without the added expenses and administration of standing alone.

A local governing board made up of citizens from Republic County will be responsible for governance, community education, and grant making decisions. Those serving on the Board of Directors include Tim Gottschalk, Bill Navis, Clare Kuhn, Brad Boyer, Jackie Moravek, Susan Boyer, John Rhine, Ed Spical, and Lorna Lauritzen.

"We are very happy to be working with this energetic local board to bring the benefits of a community foundation to the citizens in this area," said Betsy Wearing, President and Executive Director of the Greater Salina Community Foundation. "The Republic County Foundation will provide philanthropic services here forever. It is a very exciting time for these communities."

For more information, persons may call Tim Gottschalk, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Republic County Community Foundation at 785-527-5631, or Michelle Griffin, Affiliate/Scholarship Coordinator of the Greater Salina Community Foundation at 785-823-1800.

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