

CROSSROADS MISSION AVE. ENDOWMENT

Just one of the more than 140 funds held by the Hastings Community Foundation

The Hastings Community Foundation celebrated 10 years of Give Day with a BIG bonus prize – a \$10,000 endowment. Give Day organizations who met eligibility requirements were automatically entered into a random drawing. Crossroads Mission Avenue was selected as the recipient of the fund.



“This endowment prize was one of excitement and gratitude,” said Daniel Buller, executive director of Crossroads Mission Avenue. “Often times at the Mission, we see the answer to our prayers at just the right time! This prize is one of those moments.”

A portion of investment earnings from the fund will be distributed to Crossroads annually. The principal balance is never spent allowing the fund to provide revenue in perpetuity. Additional funds can be contributed to the fund at anytime.

While this prize is new to Give Day, the relationship between the Hastings Community Foundation and Crossroads is longstanding.

“HCF has been an incredible partner in making sure that the mission of Crossroads continues to be fulfilled year after year,” said Buller. “HCF has been a part of important projects at the Hastings mission such as upgrading heating and cooling systems, upgrading and repairing security systems, repair of our refrigeration units, upgrade of our beds and mattresses, and other projects that help create an environment where individuals can thrive as they make a commitment to rebuild their lives.”

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Filling Up Brooks's Bookshelf

Brooks’s Bookshelf was created in celebration of Brooks. The books are a way to share the joy of reading and spread awareness of Down Syndrome and other uniqueness. Handcrafted bookshelves are installed throughout the Hastings area, and surrounding communities. (Out of the 16 locations in Nebraska, 13 are in Hastings.) Each bookshelf includes books of all interests with specific books focused on kindness, inclusion, diversity, and understanding individuals with unique differences.



Funding from the Hastings Community Foundation’s grant program paid for the addition of a bookshelf in What The Dickens? bakery in downtown Hastings, and will keep the books supplied for the year.

“This donation helped us to provide another bookshelf for our community that is full of appealing, inclusive and educational books for the children of our town,” explained Kimberly Borrell, founder of Brooks’s Bookshelf. “Our bookshelves are well loved by families of all ages, and we are often asked for more location options.”

Books in Brooks’s Bookshelf range from picture/baby, up to early readers. The giving library is designed to foster an understanding of each child’s uniqueness. Children are welcome to take a book home in celebration of those differences and may keep the book or share it with a friend!

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The Fountain

The Hastings Community Foundation Newsletter
Summer 2023

Community Foundation Awards \$113,000 in Grants

The Hastings Community Foundation has announced recipients of our 2023 Community Grants. In total, \$113,975 was awarded between 25 local nonprofits.

“Our Community Grants program really tries to identify opportunities where our dollars can help a nonprofit become more efficient or promote innovative solutions to community issues,” said Dan Peters, executive director of the Hastings Community Foundation. “We really view this grant program as a way for us to invest in our community for long-term results.”

The Community Grants program is funded by an endowment at the Hastings Community Foundation. The program began in 1994 with two nonprofits being awarded \$1,000 each. With the 2023 allocations, the Community Grants program has now awarded more than \$1.2 million since its conception.

“Our Community Grants program is an example of the positive impact we have in the Hastings area,” said Peters. “As the Hastings Community Foundation continues to grow, so do the opportunities for us to bring donors and nonprofits together. We’re excited about our growth and our commitment to creating a better, stronger community.”

Contributions to the Community Grants endowment are a favorite option among those making estate plans. For more information on how you can contribute to the fund, please contact the Hastings Community Foundation.

2023 Community Grant recipients can be found at www.hastingscommunityfoundation.org/grants-1. Selected grant recipients include:



The Lark
\$20,000 to assist with the renovation of the second story of their building.



Hastings Symphony Orchestra
\$2,000 for board planning.



Hastings Public Schools Foundation
\$10,000 to provide funding for the Senior High Auditorium Improvement Project to provide essential lighting and sound infrastructure.



CASA
\$2,500 for personal alarm devices.



Open Table
\$2,375 for equipment to make food storage, preparation and distribution more efficient.



Community Impact Network
\$8,500 to provide Prosperity Coaches to aid individuals in getting out of poverty.



In addition to these grants, the Hastings Community Foundation has grant dollars available year-round for nonprofits facing urgent and unanticipated needs. Our Community Grants program is made possible through an endowed fund. Additional contributions can be made anytime through charitable giving or estate planning. Contact the HCF to learn more.

HCF Names Scholarship Recipients

The Hastings Community Foundation awards thousands of dollars in college scholarships annually to local students. Donors create the criteria and fund the scholarship through the Hastings Community Foundation, often to honor or memorialize loved ones. School officials select the recipients and the HCF manages the administration and distribution. We are pleased to award 2023 scholarships to this exceptional group of local students.



1st Lt. Kevin Gaspers Scholarships

Jacie Boelhower
Adams Central High School
Attending: University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Evan Rust
Hastings High School
Attending: Hastings College



Caden Krikac
St. Cecilia High School
Attending: Central Community College - Hastings

Janet Trausch Memorial Scholarship

Luke Swanson
Silver Lake High School
Attending: University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Tom Osborne Scholarship

Cameron Brumbaugh
Hastings High School
Attending: University of Nebraska - Lincoln



TeamMates Scholarship

Josie Palmer
Adams Central
Attending: University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Watley DECA Scholarships

Anna Brandt
Hastings High School
Attending: Northwestern College



Isabella Merrill
Hastings High School
Attending: University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Jimmy Troung
Hastings High School
Attending: University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Carin Holm Scholarship

Eleanor Oliver
Hastings High School
Attending: University of Nebraska - Omaha



Sachtleben Graduate School Scholarship

Tyler Rath
Hastings College
Attending: South Dakota School of Mines & Technology

For more information about scholarships offered through the Hastings Community Foundation, visit www.hastingscommunityfoundation.org/scholarships.

Key Society Members Celebrate Ribbon Cutting at Crosier Park

The Hastings Community Foundation's Key Society and the City of Hastings Parks & Recreation Department hosted a ribbon cutting for the Crosier Park playground on May 16.



The playground officially opened in October 2021, but the shelter, restrooms, and parking took more time to complete.

The playground provides a sensory-rich environment that enables children of all abilities to



engage physically and socially in a supportive environment. It includes slides, swings, climbing features, interactive spinners and roller tables, accessible ramps and interactive music features. The playground is ideal for children ages 0-12.

\$100,000 from the Hastings Community Foundation's Key Society helped to fund the project. In addition, Key Society announced at the ribbon cutting that they are providing an additional \$3,000 for a communications board.



At the request of local speech pathologists, the 70-inch by 19-inch communications board will be a low-tech method of communication for children who are minimally or non-speaking. Vocabulary on the board will be customized by RiteCare Speech-Language Pathologists with appropriate symbols and vocabulary to meet children's communication needs on a playground.

To learn more or join Key Society, visit hastingscommunityfoundation.org/keysociety.

Record Give Day Includes Community Art Project

The Hastings Community Foundation hosted the 10th annual Give Hastings Day on May 4 and saw record breaking success at every level. A record number of 108 Adams County nonprofit organizations and projects participated in raising a record \$953,008. The previous record of \$867,629 was set last year.

The top five earners of Give Hastings Day were Start Over Rover (\$50,134), Hastings Catholic Schools Foundation (\$49,205), Youth for Christ (\$32,169), Hastings College (\$32,065), and Hastings Area Habitat for Humanity (\$28,990).

Give Day Headquarters at the Lark again served as the destination to learn more about the



participating nonprofits, celebrate progress, and make a gift. 370 donors brought their gifts to Give Day Headquarters!

In addition to the philanthropic effort, local artist Mary Vaughan led a community art project at Give Day Headquarters. Drawings were created by individuals of all ages, culminating in the collaborative image of flowers blooming around the Hastings Community Foundation logo.

Since 2014, Give Hastings Day has raised a cumulative \$5.5 million for area nonprofits. The 2024 Give Hastings Day will be held on Thursday, May 2.



HCF Workshop Series for Local Nonprofits

Having long served as a resource and advocate for area nonprofit organizations, the Hastings Community Foundation hosted a workshop on donor development in June.

Representatives from nearly 40 local organizations attended the event.

Nonprofit professionals from across Nebraska volunteered to share their insights and answer questions related to working and growing donor relationships.

Panelists included Charity Adams (Vision Fusion Facilitation and Consulting), Matt Darling (Fontenelle Forest), Aaron Rouse (University of Nebraska Foundation), and Char DeWitt (American Red Cross).



Upcoming HCF-sponsored workshops for local nonprofits include:
Board Masters on Thursday, August 24
Strategic Planning on Tuesday, October 3
More information can be found at www.hastingscommunityfoundation.org/learn.

The Power of the GIVE DAY GONG!

The gong has become a Give Day Headquarters tradition! For every \$25,000 raised, a new volunteer is recruited to hit the gong. Here are some of our favorite gong moments!

