



# LAWRENCE SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

2020-2021 YEAR IN REVIEW

'cause these  
are the schools  
in your neighborhood



# dear friends,



What happens before the school day starts and after it ends can be just as important and impactful in the lives of your students as what happens during the school day. This is why community engagement and involvement in schools is such

an important facet of the educational process. When families, schools, and community institutions (e.g., local businesses, community colleges, and health agencies) collectively agree upon their goals and decide how to reach them, everyone benefits.

Education must evolve as our world is rebuilt, re-imagined, and reengaged. We believe that all students deserve the opportunity to achieve academic growth regardless of their abilities, learning style, cultural background, or economic circumstances.

It takes more than what state funding provides right now for education. It takes a community to ensure that our students thrive. By working together, schools, families, and communities can prepare for a more promising future. Moreover, because of you, we know that everybody benefits from great public schools.

Dena Johnston, Executive Director

## STAFF

Dena Johnston  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jamie Sinclair  
COORDINATOR, LSF/LEAP

Michelle Jennings  
BOOKKEEPER



I am very proud of my association with the Lawrence Schools Foundation and the donors, community partners, staff, and fellow board members who enable its mission to inspire learning and enhance teaching in Lawrence Public Schools.

I am especially heartened by the generosity of long-time and new donors in these challenging times. The foundation staff and board are thoughtful and faithful stewards of all resources entrusted to us, whether from district employees, community donors and partners, participants in fundraising events, or amazingly generous friends such as the Durham Family Foundation and the late William Dann. This generosity makes possible all the grateful smiles we see when school families get help with everyday needs, students are recognized for their accomplishments, and teachers are awarded for their inspiration and innovation.

I want to personally thank our professional staff – Dena, Jamie, and Michelle. The depth and diversity of the foundation’s efforts simply would not be possible without their professional and warm-hearted dedication.

Please enjoy this report — and join us in our mission!

Chris Anderson, President, Board of Directors

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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# 'cause these are our students and teachers

Our mission is simple — to **inspire learning**, **enrich teaching**, and **enhance opportunities** for all students, educators, and staff in the Lawrence Public Schools.

Despite the obvious challenges of the 2020-2021 school year, we administered more than \$60,000 in scholarships to graduating seniors. Investing in those who teach is vital, too: More than \$25,000 was granted for innovative projects and other specific needs related to promoting and sustaining student achievement, and \$20,000 more was gifted to teachers and staff in recognition of their excellent work. We applaud students, teachers, staff, administrators, and families for their resilience every single year — especially this one.

Every gift, no matter the size, is put to use to support student achievement and success.



## WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM OUR FRIENDS



Some children in our community are without running water or a mattress on which to sleep. Others are without shoes, socks, underwear, or maybe even toothpaste. Our goal is to make sure our school social workers, counselors, nurses, and psychologists have funds available to meet immediate and emergency needs such as these so students can come to school clean, confident and ready to learn. ■ Since 2018 Lawrence Schools Foundation has provided more than \$400,000 in I.C.A.N. funding to help meet these needs, which became heightened during the pandemic. Thanks to you, the funding has helped with bus passes and bike tire repair so kids can get to school, hotel accommodations, grocery gift cards, mattresses, household and hygiene items, prescriptions, clothing, laundry, sports equipment/shoes for participation, tutoring/pod classrooms while students were remote, masks and other PPE supplies, and the community meal program.

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**15,137** free breakfasts  
and lunches  
served up in April 2020

**19,149** free breakfasts  
and lunches  
served up in May 2020

### Scholarships

74 scholarships totaling more than \$60,000 were awarded to graduating seniors

### Innovative Teaching Grants (\$7,000 total)

New York Elementary:  
Girls Who Code Club  
Kennedy Elementary: K-5 Café Cart  
C-Tran: Gardening for Work and Leisure  
Hillcrest Elementary:  
K-5 Social Emotional Learning  
Kennedy Elementary:  
3rd-5th Grade Brain Games  
Prairie Park Elementary/Woodlawn Elementary: K-5 ROARING Hearts  
Hillcrest Elementary:  
K-5 Sensory Path  
Woodlawn Elementary:  
Kindergarten Tiny Polka Dot Home/  
School Bridge project

### Excellence In Teaching/ Bobs Award (\$10,000)

Kaitlin Shulman, 2nd Grade Teacher,  
Quail Run Elementary

### School Assistance Grants (\$7,633 total)

Kennedy Elementary: Washer/Dryer proposal  
Liberty Memorial Central Middle School: Recording Studio proposal  
Quail Run Elementary:  
Scholastic News proposal  
Schwegler Elementary:  
Reset, Recover and Return proposal

### Dedication to Education Award/ Sons of Bobs Award (\$5,000)

Baileigh Faler, 4th Grade Educator,  
Broken Arrow Elementary

### Barbara Hodgson

### Dream to Achieve Award (\$100)

Samantha Saltz, 1st Grade Teacher,  
New York Elementary

### MusicWorks Grants (\$11,074.12 total)

Woodlawn Elementary:  
Woodlawn-Ready, Set, Drum! proposal  
District-Wide:  
USD 497 Music Bags proposal  
District-wide: K-5/Covid-19 Instrument proposal

### Fall 2020–Spring 2021 A.C.E Awards (\$500 each)

Melissa Wise, Secretary,  
Southwest Middle School  
Xiaoyan Liu, Interrelated Resource Para Educator,  
Schwegler Elementary  
Chrystal Hunter, Para Educator,  
Cordley Elementary  
Shane Billig, Assistant Debate and Forensics Coach,  
Lawrence High School

## FOR THE YOUNGEST AMONG US



Established in 1993, the Early Childhood program began with a classroom of 20 4-year-olds at East Heights Elementary School in 1993. The new Early Childhood Center, at the former Kennedy Elementary building, houses the Readiness program, Peer Modeling program, tinyK Early Intervention program, and Parents as Teachers, along with other resources such as Adult Education and Special Education. Esther Kottwitz, EC coordinator, and the certified teaching staff provide developmentally appropriate activities for individual preschoolers and groups of all sizes. ■ The new inclusive playground at Kennedy was made possible with community donations and a generous gift from a long-time friend to the Lawrence Schools Foundation, William Dann (1937-2020). The special dream that all preschoolers can play at the playground with their friends, no matter their ability, came true because of friends like William Dann. That is why it is proudly named the William Dann Playtown.

**300+** children are served each year through the Early Childhood program

**1993** was the year of William Dann's lead gift that helped establish the program

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# 'cause this is our community

A strong school system is the foundation of a vibrant and prosperous community. And community engagement with our schools makes them stronger. It's a win-win.

We work to build community partnerships through civic involvement and good old-fashioned honest conversation. We also do this through inspiring events such as the Community Education Breakfast, Ovation!, and more. The pandemic squashed our public events in 2020, but also gave us time to think about reframing them in a new way to align with our mission and vision. Community collaboration sparks interest in our schools and generates momentum for the cause — inspiring learning, enriching teaching, and enhancing opportunities for all.

And everybody benefits.



## A LEAP FORWARD



Wal-Mart is one of our district-wide LEAP partners and we work closely with Ryan Fountaine, the claims supervisor at the Iowa Street location. Ryan shared with us how they work with their local communities. ■ “At the store level, Wal-Mart partners with local organizations to support the community,” he says. “With these partnerships, we are able to reach those most in need. If donations do not meet the needs of the nonprofit organization, they can submit an application for a community grant.” ■ Wal-Mart associates have many opportunities to give back to the community. This past year, the company donated more than 1,400 bottles of hand sanitizer to Lawrence Schools Foundation during our PPE drive. With help from the Lawrence Public Schools facilities and operations crew, every school received a shipment of supplies.

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**1,400** bottles of hand sanitizer  
were donated by Wal-Mart  
last year to Lawrence Public Schools

**115** local businesses  
partner each year  
with Lawrence Public Schools



The Lawrence Public Schools and the Lawrence Chamber of Commerce collaborated to form the Lawrence Business/Education Partnership in 1993. The Lawrence Education Achievement Partners (LEAP) program matches schools with businesses and community organizations — and magic happens. Currently, approximately 115 local businesses partner with the Lawrence Public Schools. Many focus on scholastic enrichment, such as reading to kids in class, mentoring, tutoring or training, or donating classroom supplies. Others volunteer to help at school events or make monetary or in-kind donations to support them. Many sponsor Lawrence Schools Foundation signature events. ■ Our LEAP partners enjoy being involved with the schools and learning from the students and teachers. They are the lifeline to the Foundation and to our community.

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

### Broken Arrow Elementary

Central National Bank  
Pet World  
Premier Martial Arts  
Raising Cane's

### Cordley Elementary

Capital City Bank/  
Capitol Federal  
Cottin's Hardware & Rental  
Dairy Queen—Mass. Street  
Dillons Stores—Mass. Street  
Lawrence Noon Rotary Club

### Deerfield Elementary

Hy-Vee

### Hillcrest Elementary

Commerce Bank—Iowa Street  
Freddy's Frozen Custard  
& Steakhouses  
Premier Martial Arts  
The Merc Co-op

### Kennedy Elementary

Independence, Inc.  
Jayhawk Breakfast Rotary Club  
United Way of Douglas County

### Langston Hughes Elementary

Dillons Stores—6th & Wakarusa  
Hy-Vee  
J&S Coffee  
Truity Credit Union  
University National Bank

### New York Elementary

Altrusa  
Connect Church  
Cottin's Hardware & Rental  
Emprise Bank  
Kiwanis Club  
Lawrence Breakfast Optimist Club  
Stevens & Brand, L.L.P.  
Western Star #1 Masonic Lodge

### Pinkney Elementary

Applebee's  
Gould Evans Associates  
LMH Health

### Prairie Park Elementary

Bank Midwest  
Capitol Federal Savings  
Hy-Vee  
Mar Lan Construction  
Truity Credit Union

### Quail Run Elementary

Berry Plastics  
Darin Domnanish Agency—  
Farmers Insurance  
Jefferson's—West  
Hy-Vee  
Legends Dental Center  
Pioneer Ridge  
Premier Martial Arts  
Rock Hill Church  
Story Hill Church

### Schwegler Elementary

Dairy Queen—Iowa Street  
Premier Martial Arts  
Raising Cane's  
Runza  
Schlumberger

### Sunflower Elementary

Central National Bank  
Freddy's Frozen Custard  
& Steakhouses  
Hy-Vee  
Premier Martial Arts

### Sunset Hill Elementary

Meritrust Credit Union  
Stephens Real Estate  
The Merc Co-op

### Woodlawn Elementary

Bowersock Mills &  
Power Company  
First State Bank & Trust  
ICL Performance Products  
Juniper Hill Farms

## MIDDLE SCHOOLS

### Billy Mills Middle School

Hy-Vee  
McDonald's of Lawrence  
Printing Solutions  
Raising Cane's

### Liberty Memorial

**Central Middle School**  
Cottin's Hardware & Rental  
First State Bank & Trust  
KU Natural History Museum  
Lawrence Arts Center  
Rodrock Chiropractic  
& Acupuncture  
The Summit

### Southwest Middle School

Bartlett & West Engineers, Inc.  
Hy-Vee  
Jefferson's—West  
McDonald's of Lawrence  
t.Loft

### West Middle School

Commerce Bank—Iowa Street  
Sonic—6th Street  
t.Loft  
The Merc Co-op

## LAWRENCE COLLEGE AND CAREER CENTER

Amarr Entrematic

## HIGH SCHOOLS

### Lawrence Free State High School

Capital City Bank/Capitol Federal  
Central Bank of the Midwest  
Commerce Bank—Wakarusa Street  
Eileen's Colossal Cookies  
Hy-Vee

Juniper Hill Farms  
McDonald's of Lawrence  
Raising Cane's  
t.Loft  
Theatre Lawrence  
Therapy Works  
Truity Credit Union

### Lawrence High School

Amarr Entrematic  
Commerce Bank—23rd Street  
Gould Evans Associates  
Hallmark Cards  
Hy-Vee  
Printing Solutions  
Raising Cane's  
Truity Credit Union

## DISTRICT-WIDE

Best Western Lawrence  
Big Brothers Big Sisters  
Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence  
Chili's  
Crave Nutrition  
Douglas County Fire & Medical  
Edmonds Duncan Registered  
Investment Advisors  
Eileen's Colossal Cookies  
Envista Credit Union  
First Student  
Goodcents  
J Magnuson Agency—  
Farmers Insurance  
Jason's Deli  
Jefferson's  
Hot Box Cookies  
Kansas Athletics, Inc.  
Kona Ice Lawrence Topeka, LLC  
Kurt Goesser—State Farm  
Lawrence Habitat for Humanity  
Lawrence Police Department  
Lawrence Public Library  
McAlister's Deli  
Merchant's Pub & Plate  
Minuteman Press  
Papa Keno's Pizzeria  
Petalthe District,  
Heart of America Council,  
Boy Scouts of America

Pet World  
Printing Solutions  
Quinton's  
RCB Bank  
Royal Crest Lanes  
Salvation Army of  
Douglas County  
Silver Lake Bank  
Solomon and Associates—Amer-  
iprise Financial Services, Inc  
Sonic  
Texas Roadhouse  
The Basil Leaf Café  
T-Mobile  
Toppers Pizza  
Truity Credit Union  
23rd Street Brewery  
Wal-Mart  
Watkins Museum of History  
YARDI

### District-wide—Community Connections/ C-Tran

Applebee's  
Lawrence Family Video

### District-wide—Early Childhood

Jayhawk Breakfast Rotary  
Dr. Sharon Michel Green, O.D.  
Dr. James Otten, D.D.S.

### District-wide—Fine Arts

KU Theater  
Lawrence Arts Center  
Lied Center of Kansas  
Theatre Lawrence  
US Bank

### District-wide—Project Search

Joblink,  
a Division of Cottonwood  
KU Dept. of Human Resources  
LMH Health  
United Way of Douglas County



# thank you, donors

amounts listed are reflective of the 2020 year

## MASTERS (\$10,000+)

Bulgren, Janis  
Dann, William  
Davidson III, John and  
Shirley Schaeffer  
Davis, Paul  
DCCF  
Durham (Debby)  
Family Foundation  
Elmore, John and Rosy  
Kansas Health  
Foundation  
Lubert, Paula and John  
Moore, Martin and  
Durand Reiber  
Srinivasan, Srinija  
tingky Early  
Intervention, Inc.  
Truity Education  
Foundation, Inc.  
Winter, Mary and Wint  
Yellow Chair Foundation

## SCHOLARS (\$5,000-\$9,999)

Hite, Kenneth and April  
Laird Noller Automotive  
Moore, E. Allen  
and L. Paige

## HONOR SOCIETY (\$1,000-\$4,999)

Alderdice Family Fund  
Anderson, Christopher  
and Shari  
Ash Grove Charitable  
Foundation  
Billings, Beverly Smith  
Blogref, Sarah  
Carmody, Tom, Kay,  
Tyler and Jeff  
CEK Insurance  
Central Bank  
of the Midwest  
Chestnut, Spencer  
Commerce Bank  
Dannevik, Robert  
Davis, Robert and Linda  
Deiser, Jay  
Denning, Dale  
DeRoin, Deeann and  
Stephen Ellsworth  
Dobski, Tom and Marilyn  
Dole, Robert J.  
Drahozal, Christopher  
and Kaye  
Edmonds Duncan  
Advisors  
Emprise Bank  
First Student  
Flory, Bobbie  
Gauntt, Sandra  
Gish, Stephen  
and Bobbie  
Glass, Stephen E.  
Gould Evans Associates

Hack, Al and Sue  
Hallmark Corporate  
Foundation  
Imber, Jane and Michael  
Intrust Bank  
Jacobs, Sheryl and Robert  
Jefferson's Foundation  
Johnson, Bob  
and Pauline  
Johnson, Robert, Jr  
and Jana  
Kindred CPA  
Lambertson, Stacie  
and David  
Lang, Brian  
Lheureux, Marie Alice  
Lied Center KU  
Mainstreet Credit Union  
Marsh and McLennan  
Agency  
Midco  
Padgett, Gary and Sue  
Prairie Band  
Potawatomi Nation  
Pur-O-Zone, Inc.  
RD Johnson Excavating  
Rexroad, Gary  
Roth, Stan and Janet  
Schriner, Sally Hare  
Security Benefit  
Self, Bill and Cindy  
Senecal, Robert  
and Evelyn  
Shanmugam, Kannon K.  
and Victoria K.  
Smith, Marsha  
Spikes, Andrew  
Srinivasan, Saroja  
Stephens, Robert  
Stubblefield, Anna  
Thompson, David  
and Maria  
Todd, Nancy and Terry  
Truity Credit Union  
US Bank  
Vick, Gail and Kevan  
Wertzberger, Ken  
and Annette  
Yost, Nancy  
Young, Carolyn  
Ziegler, David  
and Kathleen

## LEADERS

### (\$500-\$999)

All Points Surveying, LLP  
Altrusa Foundation  
Berquist, Craig  
and Jennifer  
BG Consultants, Inc.  
Browning, Linda  
Central Mechanical  
Construction  
Dehart, Wilma  
and Frank  
Epp, Charles and  
Lora Jost  
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Webster  
Golf Course  
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Hy-Vee, Inc.  
Johnson, Ronald  
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Lavalette, Shane  
Lewis, Anthony  
Lopes, Steve and Lois  
McDonald's of Lawrence  
McGrew Real Estate Inc  
Perbeck, Deborah  
Slater, Lindsey  
Spade, Gina  
Stephens Real Estate  
Story Hill Church of  
Lawrence  
The Write Design  
True Value Foundation  
Ward, Scott and Robin  
Warren, Steven F.  
Warren-McElwaine  
Weiland, Katherine  
Wulf-Walter, Debra and  
Brian Walter

## BENEFACTORS (\$100-\$399)

23rd Street Brewery  
715 LLC  
Adams, Marie  
Aldrich, Collin  
Alpha Roofing, LLC  
Ambler, David  
and Mary Kate  
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Anderson, Cris L  
Anderson, Dr. Curtis R  
Anderson, Jill  
Anderson, Jody and  
James McGovern  
Antoine, Leona Rose  
Bachnick, Janet  
Bakerink, Larry  
Barah, Kelly  
Barker, Thomas  
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Barron, Antonio  
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Baska, Llara  
Bayer, Margaret  
Beltsch, James  
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Blevins, Melissa  
Blocher, Erin  
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Bost, Paul and Megan  
Bowen, Mary  
Boyle, Judi  
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Buchholz, Patty  
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Community  
Foundation  
Green, Laura  
Grob, Mary  
Grzenda, Joseph  
and Patricia  
Harkin, Jeffrey  
Harrell, Kevin  
Harrison, Jonathan

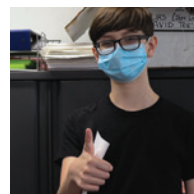
Hatesohl, Kent  
and Brenda  
Heasty, Gretchen  
Heeb, Jon and Barbara  
Heffernan, Steve  
Heintzen, Anna  
Heintzen, Karen  
Hellebust, Rosanna  
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Hill, Karen  
Hilliard, Catherine  
Hoey, Aline  
Holland, Meredith  
Hopkins III, Charles  
Hout, Rebecca and Jesse  
KOWELL, Mark and Lori  
Hudnall, John and Sally  
Huneke, Samuel  
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and Marcel Harmon  
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Johnson, Sandy Thomas  
Johnson, Thomas H.  
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Jones, Jennifer  
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Kelley, John and Cynthia  
Kelley, Melissa  
Kelly, Elizabeth  
Kelly, Patrick and Amy  
Kemme, Scott and Lori  
Kinney, Lauren  
Koons, Deborah  
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Kottwitz, Esther  
Kratz, Kelly  
Krebs, Holly  
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KU Endowment  
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Kurt Goesser Insurance  
Agency, Inc.  
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Lawrence Family  
Vision Clinic  
Lawrence Free State  
High School  
Lawrence InterFaith  
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Lawrence Podiatry  
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Lawrence, Tamera  
LeBlanc, Amber  
Levings, April  
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Lotton Borker, Danielle  
Lundstrom, Nathan  
Lungstrum, John  
and Linda  
Malison, Thane  
Marsh, Jennie  
Martin, Jeremy  
Martin, Julie  
McAdoo, Ryan  
McCary, Samantha  
McGregor, Linda  
McKnight, Jennifer  
McNeer, Amanda  
McPherson Jr, Thomas  
Meikel, Shiloh-Rose  
Melton, Lisa  
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Metsker, Erin  
Meyer, Kate  
Miles, Shelly and Kirk  
Miller, Irene  
Miller, James  
Miller, Paula  
and Cameron  
Miller, Peggy  
Moulton, Christian  
Neises, Kimberly  
Neuenschwander, J  
Nitz, Barbara  
Norwood, Lori  
Oberding, Jody  
Otten, James and Vickie  
Park, Sun  
Phalen, Chris and Amy  
Planet Aid Inc.  
Poull, Lauren M.  
Powell, Lisa  
Preut, Mark  
Professional Engineering  
Consultants  
R U Hungry Inc  
Ramos, April  
Randall, Jeff and Kelly  
Randall, Mike  
Ranjbar Orthodontics  
Ranjbar, N. Daniel,  
D.D.S.  
Rastok, Ryan  
and Jennifer  
RCB Bank  
Reschke Jr., Ralph  
Rich, Daniel and Cynthia  
Riffel, Rick and Kimberly  
Riggins, William  
and Stacy  
Robertson, Amy

Robinson, Linda  
and Scott  
Rodriguez, Mary  
and Fred  
Rose, Micah and Jordan  
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Scheibler, Amy  
Scheibler, Barbara  
Scheibler, Ty  
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Schnose, Dr Gregory  
and Linda  
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Schrag, Valerie A  
Schreiner, Brenda  
Scotten, Joshua  
Sestak, Joshua  
Shaw, Pam  
Sheldon, Jan and  
Jim Sherman  
Shepherd, Jean F.  
Simon and Codi Bates  
Foundation Fund  
Simon, Alecia  
Smith, Rebecca  
Sneegas, Randall  
and Ruth Anne  
Spangler, Kendal  
Spurgeon, John  
and Karla  
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and Gregg Ventello  
Stahmer, Melinda  
Stancliffe, Jaime  
Starkey, David and Karla  
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Streckler, Stuart and Lori  
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Taylor, Rodger  
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Thomas, Lynisha  
Torres, A.M.  
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Trendel, Kristin  
Warner, Chuck  
and Karen  
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Wellman, Sabrina  
Wilcken, Wendie  
Williams, Barbara  
Wollesen, Jessica  
Wycoff, Karen  
Yi, Richard  
Young, Brandon  
and Brenna  
Young, C. Bryan  
and Roura

## FRIENDS (up to \$99)

Adams, Eddie E  
Aguirre, Rosina  
Ahlers, Staci Noel  
Aikins, Linda  
Akkerman, Susan Ann  
Albertson Sears, Jolynn  
Aldridge, Cara





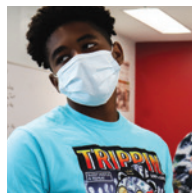


Allen, Milton Jr.  
and Linda  
Allison, Georgeanne  
Allison, Laurie  
Andersen, Michelle  
Anderson, Kendra  
Anderson, Suzanne  
Andrade, Diane  
Andrew, Regina  
Appelman Joni  
Armstrong, Rebecca  
Austin Janousek, Keri  
Baggett, Jaime  
Baker, Jamie  
Barker, Kelly  
Bassett, Hannah  
Bates, Janet  
Battaglia, Gina  
Battaglia, Julie  
Baxter, Diana and Blaine  
Becker, Tammy  
Bell, Koree  
Berkley, Jill  
Beyer, Rita  
Bland, Megan  
Blocker, Kate  
Boatright, Deborah  
Bolic, Zak and Jo Marie  
Bolster Wesley,  
Christine  
Bolton, Catherine  
Bonner, Nancy  
Bonner, Sara  
Bonnewell, Tiffany  
Booker, Breanna  
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