



Anniversaries provide great opportunities for reflection and celebration.

We've served as our community's foundation for 35 years. As we've grown to almost \$75 million in assets, we've also granted more than \$70 million to important programs and projects. Among other accomplishments, we've led critical community conversations and awarded scholarships to thousands of students.

As we look at where we've been, we pause to thank each board member, committee volunteer and donor who played a part in shaping who we are today. It is with much appreciation that we then look ahead and dream of our future -- building on past success for future significance.

Our founders will tell you that the Foundation was created to be an organization which takes action on needs in our community and who brings together others to do the same.

When thinking about the future, you can feel confident that as our community evolves, so too, will the Foundation. What's at the heart of this great organization is also what makes a strong community. Leadership. Generosity. Education. Opportunity.

We are proud to be the foundation of our community.

Marsha

'IMPACT TOPEKA'

FOCUSES ON SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH

The Topeka Community Foundation recently awarded its first grant to impact the social determinants of health in Shawnee County.

\$149,758.00 was awarded to SENT (Strengthening and Empowering Neighborhoods Together) to support their work in providing educational, counseling and career training programs in Hi Crest.



This grant marks the first of many commitments the Foundation will make to leverage their grantmaking and leadership around improving the health of targeted neighborhoods in Shawnee County.

"Our 'Impact Topeka' initiative is a direct result of learning about the relationship between health and education and economic productivity," said Foundation President Marsha Pope. "Good health allows people to get a better education and be more productive. Education and income allow people to be make healthier choices."

These larger, more transformational, grants are possible because of increased resources the Foundation gained in 2017 as a result of the \$8.5 million St. Francis Foundation transfer and an estate gift.

"We have been entrusted to invest these dollars in the health of our community in the very best way possible," Pope said. "It is our commitment to focus our time, leadership and resources on our community's health ... a complex challenge with no easy solutions."

To that end, the Foundation announced it is retiring Topeka Gives. The one-day of giving event was created in 2013 to celebrate the Foundation's 30th anniversary. It continued five additional years, raising more than \$2.6 million in total for 234 different organizations.

"It's been an honor to serve as the host of Topeka Gives for six years," Pope said. "But the time is right for the Foundation to focus its efforts on the significant work of improving the health of our neighbors ... especially those who need help the most."

FUND FOCUS: Donor Advised Funds

Donor Advised Funds allow donors flexibility in achieving their charitable dreams. An affordable alternative to a private foundation, donors are actively involved in recommending how the funds are granted.

Advantages of a donor advised fund include:

- ❖ Gifts can be made when it is most convenient to the donor
- ❖ Donors may advise on the use of the gift
- ❖ Grant recommendations can be made at any time to public charities
- ❖ A variety of assets are accepted
- ❖ Donors receive maximum tax advantages under federal law
- ❖ Donors may recommend the investment advisor to the fund

For more information about establishing a donor advised fund, contact Foundation President Marsha Pope at 785-272-4804 or via email at pope@topekacommunityfoundation.org.

MISSION: Connecting donors with their interests and community needs, increasing charitable giving in our community, providing leadership on key community issues and ensuring stewardship and accountability for effective community investment of donor dollars.

We're Celebrating !
35 YEARS
 OF **Charitable**
GIVING
 1983 – 2018

November 2018 marks the 35th anniversary of the Topeka Community Foundation. Created in 1983 with a \$10,000 grant from the Junior League, the Foundation now has almost \$75 million in assets ... all while granting more than \$70 million back into the community over the years.

Highlights of the last 35 years include:

- 1985** Karen Welch hired as President
- 1987** First grant: \$6,000 for flag poles at Kansas Expocentre
- 1992** Six scholarships awarded
- 1996** \$3.6 million in assets
- 1997** Kansas Blood Services Fund: \$4.8 million for community health
- 2000** Partnership with Topeka Capital Journal: Year of the Young Child
- 2001** \$16.68 million in assets
- 2004** First ARTSConnect event hosted for Foundation donors
- 2005** First community Symposium: ARTS
- 2006** \$35.8 million in assets
- 2007** First grants awarded from The Women's Fund: \$20,000
- 2009** National Standards met
- 2010** GROW II grant received from Kansas Health Foundation: \$800,000
- 2012** First grantee reception
- 2013** First Topeka Gives
- 2014** \$50.1 million in assets
- 2016** 100+ scholarships are awarded
- 2017** St. Francis Foundation Fund: \$8.5 million
- 2018** Impact Topeka initiative

TCF SNAPSHOT



Foundation donors learned about exciting progress in downtown Topeka at a Donor Connect event in October. Special guest speakers included Stephanie Gasson, Director of Sales at the Cyrus Hotel; Kurt Young, Executive Director of the Topeka Lodging Association; and Vince Frye (pictured) President & CEO of Downtown Topeka, Inc.

Third Quarter Performance

- › Established three new funds
- › Third quarter investment performance: 2.20%
- › Issued scholarship checks to 234 students

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