

The _____
**COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**
_____ *of West Texas*

Live. Give. Grow.
2016 ANNUAL REPORT



Dear West Texas,

The Guinness Book of World Records is filled with page after page of people doing something for the first time. I'm happy to report that the Community Foundation of West Texas achieved many new firsts in the year 2016. We surpassed the \$2 million giving mark for a calendar year having given \$2,143,914 in grants and scholarships. We also teamed up with donors like you and started 20 new funds. Today we have 262 funds serving our region forever more.

The 2016 investing highway was littered with potholes. At CFWT, we ended up with a 4.4% gain for each fund. Our giving policy is based on a 12-quarter rolling average which allows for grants of 4% from each fund and slight growth in the corpus for 2016. Our goal is 4% forever which requires us to manage volatility of investments to be strategically low. This policy equates to sound income which pays in good times and bad.

As we embark on our 37th year, our goal is expanding our commitment to West Texas. We are in the people business, the community business, and the future of West Texas business. We will continue to serve you, your endowment and our region with the utmost integrity and honor.



Thank you for investing in tomorrow, for telling a friend,
and for helping your Community Foundation grow.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Stephen Warren". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Stephen Warren
President

“Don’t judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds you plant.”

- Robert Louis Stevenson



Dear CFWT Family,

Clearly 2016 has been another outstanding year at the Community Foundation of West Texas. We have set our sights on continuing to be West Texas's premier institution for philanthropic development, giving, and education for the remarkable individuals that live, give and grow in this region. Some significant achievements for 2016 include the following:

- The naming of a new President in Stephen Warren who is poised to take the Foundation to new heights in 2017 and beyond.
- The creation of 20 new funds bringing the total number of funds to 262 held within the foundation for education, arts, social services, animal welfare and economic development.
- Assets totaling north of \$38,000,000 which has allowed us in 2016 to generously grant over 505 grants and scholarships, totaling \$2.1 million dollars in support to various organizations, agencies, colleges and students.
- Affiliates that continue to grow and thrive in helping the Community Foundation extend its reach to Levelland, Slaton, Post, Plainview and several other West Texas regions.
- Upon the completion of 2016, the CFWT has presented 6,892 grants and scholarships totaling over \$18,300,000 to aid in continuing to make West Texas a fantastic place to live.
- The adoption of ACORN funds which allows individuals to start off with a contribution of \$1,000 and then grow an endowment until it reaches \$5,000, where it can become a fund.

Through all of our growth, the Community Foundation of West Texas still remains the same fundamental foundation that opened its doors in 1981. The belief that every person has the ability to make our community a better place to live, work, play and grow through philanthropic efforts and giving. This is what we believed in 1981 and still believe in 2016.

It has been my honor and pleasure to serve as your 2016 Board Chairman for the Community Foundation of West Texas. The past twelve months has reaffirmed that some of the greatest individuals on earth still live right here in West Texas.



May you all be blessed in the wonderful years to come.

Chad Grant
2016 Chair, Board of Directors



The Power of Endowment

JUST AS ALBERT EINSTEIN ONCE CALLED COMPOUND INTEREST the most powerful force in the universe, endowments carry an inherent power to provide for community needs in perpetuity through continued growth. Over time, the amount granted exceeds the original contributions to the fund, while the original gift remains intact. In fact, thanks to responsible investing, the fund balance continues to increase over time.

There is no better way to serve your community both now and long after your grandchildren's grandchildren are grown.

Types of Funds

UNRESTRICTED FUND > Think broadly.

Allow the Community Foundation of West Texas to identify needs and opportunities in the community and target your dollars where they can be most effective through competitive grants.

FIELD-OF-INTEREST FUND > Address issues.

You decide the general purpose of the fund, such as education, arts, aging, children and youth, animal welfare or health, and the Foundation identifies projects that are effectively accomplishing that goal through competitive grants.

DESIGNATED FUND > Provide ongoing support.

Specify particular charitable projects or organizations to receive the income from your endowed fund.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND > Provide educational support.

Work with the Foundation to create the guidelines for students who can receive assistance from the fund. For example, these may be based on high school or college attended, merit, need, or field of study.

DONOR ADVISED FUND > Stay involved.

Recommend organizations or causes you wish to support or our staff can work with you to identify charitable organizations addressing issues of importance to you. You recommend grants to charities you wish to support. The Foundation ensures the charitable status of beneficiaries and provides additional grantmaking and administrative support.

LIMITED TERM DONOR ADVISED FUND > Support annual giving.

Use the Foundation to assist you with your charitable giving. Take a tax deduction in the year of your gift and then take several months or years to decide on grants to organizations that are important to you.

2016 New Funds

Agency Endowments

Remember Our Heroes Fund

Smallest Gifts Endowment

Youth Orchestras of Lubbock Endowment

Designated Funds

Giving Tuesday Fund

This fund receives pass-through contributions from donors who choose to support local nonprofit organizations through the region-wide Giving Tuesday initiative.

Vaughan-Muenchau 3D EDGE Fund

A legacy fund created by Daylia Vaughan to support the McNay Art Museum, the Plainview High School Class of '65 Scholarship and the Mini-Grants for Teachers Fund of the Community Foundation of West Texas.

Donor-Advised Endowments

Kingsbery Family Endowment

Created through the 2016 Hero's Luncheon honoring Mary Louise and Bill Kingsbery. The Kingsbery's are outstanding contributors to the Lubbock community.

Penny Polk Endowment

Penny Polk learned about CFWT through her financial advisor and decided to create this donor-advised fund as a way to support community needs that are important to her.

Scholarship Funds

Winfred and Ellen Tucker Scholarship

Created by the Tucker's daughters to honor their parents' memory, scholarships will go to Meadow High School graduating seniors pursuing an education in agriculture with a preference for viticulture.

American Dream Scholarship

Created to help working adults obtain the education and training they need to ultimately improve their lives.

Don Taylor Endowed Scholarship

Don Taylor, former Roosevelt ISD Superintendent started this fund in honor/memory of his family members who attended school in Roosevelt. Scholarships will go to the top graduating seniors of Roosevelt High School.

Field-of-Interest Funds

CFWT Arts and Culture Fund

CFWT Education and Youth Fund

CFWT Basic Needs and Self Sufficiency Fund

CFWT Civic, Social and Economic Development Fund

CFWT Animal Welfare Fund

Limited Term Donor-Advised Funds

AquaSmart Fund

AquaSmart is a technology company that has created patented processes using super absorbent polymers and other materials to coat a variety of substrates such as silica sand, hydraulic fracturing sand, cement and mortar sand, grass seed, agricultural seed, fertilizers, and certain other agricultural and turf products. AquaSmart has created this fund to support their corporate giving activities.

Regional Affiliate Funds

Plainview Area Endowment

NAIFA Plainview Endowment

When the Plainview Chapter of the National Association of Independent Fee Appraisers disbanded, the membership chose to start a fund to support Plainview Area Endowment grant efforts.

Plainview High School Class of 65 Scholarship

Started as a challenge from one classmate to the rest of her class, this fund will provide scholarships for outstanding Plainview High School graduates. Within only one month, 65% of the challenge goal was met!

Post-Garza County Endowment

Post High School Antelope Scholarship

True community leaders, Judge Lee Norman and his wife Marsha, created this fund as a way for the people of Post, Texas to give for the benefit of Post High School graduates.

Slaton Endowment

Ehler Family Fund

The Ehler Family have been gracious supporters in the Slaton, Texas community and started this fund as a permanent testament to their legacy of giving.

“Happiness held is the seed; Happiness shared is the flower.”

- John Harrigan

Funds Established 1981 - 2016

Unrestricted Funds

Mrs. Fern Cone Fund
 Roy and Lela Furr Endowment
 Hassell Family Unrestricted Charitable Fund
 Horizon Fund
 C.R. and Virginia Hutcheson Charitable Fund
 Kay Bailey Hutchison Endowment
 Gladys Leftwich Charitable Endowment
 Robert M. Lively Endowment

Designated Funds and Agency Endowments

AAUW Endowment
 All Saints Episcopal School Endowments
 ARCS Endowments
 American Wind Power Endowments
 BBB Consumer Education Fund
 Big Brothers Big Sisters Share Your Heart Fund
 Bill Bigham Endowment
 Breedlove Board and Staff Endowment
 Breedlove Foods Endowment
 Laney and Travis Bridwell Endowment
 Brownfield Meals on Wheels Endowment
 Crossroads Counseling Center Endowment
 East Lubbock Gateway Endowment
 The Grady Evans and Doris Evans Endowment Foundation
 W. Grady and Doris Evans Endowment
 Flache Seminary/Church Fund



Floyd County Friends Endowment
 Mary Gerlach Endowment
 Chester and Ada Ruth Green Family Endowment
 Chester and Ada Ruth Green Testamentary Endowment
 Nancy and Rufus Grisham Endowment
 Tim and Tommie Hatch Endowment
 June Heck Charitable Endowment
 Hospice of Lubbock Endowments
 Humane Society of West Texas Endowment
 Joe Love Nelson Endowment for Women's Protective Services
 Jr League Fund for Children's Advocacy Center
 Jr League Fund for Ronald McDonald House
 Lubbock Animal Services Endowments
 Lubbock County CPS Board Fund for Children's Advocacy Center
 Lubbock Hispanic Association of Women Endowment
 Lubbock Regional MHMR Endowments
 Lubbock Youth Symphony Orchestra Endowment
 Lynn County Hospital District Endowments
 Bob and Debbie Macy Endowment for Women's Protective Services
 Louise Fagg Maedgen Endowment
 James Minton Internship
 My Father's House Endowments
 Mini-Grants for Teachers Fund
 Odyssey Fund
 Phi Beta Kappa Alumni Endowment
 Phi Beta Kappa Association Endowment for Literary Lubbock
 Phi Beta Kappa Association Endowment for GO Theater Outreach
 Phi Beta Kappa Association Endowment for LSO Youth Outreach
 Phi Beta Kappa High School Academic Excellence Award
 Phillips Hale Fund
 Remember Our Heroes Fund
 Science Spectrum Endowments
 Sheffield Young City Park Fund
 SPC and TTU Honors College Endowment for the Institute for the Study of Western Civilization
 South Plains Food Bank Endowments
 Dr. E. Paul Stewart Endowment Fund

Margaret and J.T. Talkington Endowment for Underwood Center for the Arts
 Texas Tech University Fund for Excellence in the School of Music
 Louise H. Underwood Endowment for the Arts
 University Therapeutic Riding Center Endowment
 UMC Medical Missions Fund
 United Way Agency Challenge Funds
 United Way of Lubbock Endowment
 United Way Donors Fund
 Visiting Teachers Clothing Fund
 Youth Orchestras of Lubbock Endowment
 YWCA Endowment

Donor-Advised Funds

Blue Star Endowment
 Cartwright Family Endowment
 J.C. Chambers Endowment
 Larry Combest Endowment
 Evelyn Davies Fund for Children
 Dean Family Fund
 Robert Duncan Endowment
 Sharon and Spike Dykes Family Endowment
 Charles E. and Dolores M. Fisher Memorial Endowment
 Larry and Mary Franklin Endowment
 Glenna Goodacre Endowment
 Chester & Ada Ruth Green Endowment
 Gary and Laurie Gregory Family Fund
 Travis and Barrett Hattaway Endowment
 Sandy and Alan Henry Endowment
 Ernst and Nita Kiesling Family Fund
 Kingsbery Family Endowment
 Klotzman Family Fund
 Karin McCay and Abner Euresti Endowment
 Kvasnicka Atcheson Charitable Endowment
 Carolyn Lanier Endowment
 Gary Lawrence Endowment
 Delbert and Carolyn McDougal Endowment
 Marciano and Martha Morales Endowment
 Alex K. and Patti Munson Charitable Fund
 G and W Norman Fund
 Parkhill, Smith and Cooper Building Community Fund
 Penny Polk Endowment
 Sammie C. Prather Endowment
 W.B. and Mozelle Rushing Family Fund

Southwest Digest Fund
 Tim and Mary Jane Sampson Charitable Endowment
 Sanford Family Endowment
 Marcus and Catherine Stocco Memorial Fund
 Talkington Charitable Foundation Fund
 H. D. Snell Endowment
 Minnie and Arch Underwood Family Endowment
 Vaughan-Muenchau 3D Edge Fund
 West Texas Home Builders Endowment
 Alice Virginia White Endowment for Dogs and Cats

Field of Interest Funds

Community Endowment Challenge Fund
 CFWT Fund for Animal Welfare
 CFWT Fund for Arts and Culture
 CFWT Fund for Basic Needs
 CFWT Fund for Civic, Social and Economic Development
 CFWT Fund for Education and Youth
 Community Response Impact Fund
 PlainsCapital East Lubbock Economic Development Fund
 Fallen Heroes Fund
 Fern Cone Children's Fund
 Giving Tuesday Fund
 Sybil Harrington Endowment for the Arts
 E. Jay Matsler Endowment
 Jimmie Nelson Endowment
 South Plains Disaster Recovery Fund
 George and Vivian Wilson Endowment
 Ruth Wright Endowment for Animals
 Young Leaders Endowment

Scholarship Funds

American Dream Fund
 Association of Texas Leaders of Education Endowment
 Autumn Day Scholarship
 Advantage Medical Staffing Nursing Scholarship
 Maude A. Brown Scholarship
 Noyce Bureson Memorial Scholarship
 Johnny Clanton Memorial Scholarship
 Diekemper Endowment for the Institute of Transpersonal Psychology
 Frenship High School Academic Award
 Weldon and Ruth Gibbs Family Scholarship
 Charles A. & Grace Guy Tuition Scholarship
 Don and Sybil Harrington Scholarship
 Madeline Hegi Scholarship Fund

Phillip Johnson Tuition Scholarship
 Polly Kiker Memorial Scholarship
 LHS Class of 1955 Westerner Spirit Scholarship
 Lion Heart Scholarship Endowment
 Lubbock Art Association Scholarship
 Lubbock High School Alumni Scholarships
 Lubbock Manufacturers Scholarship
 Lubbock Women's Study Club
 Christine DeVitt Scholarship
 Judge E.H. and Hortense Boedeker Scholarship
 Minnie Lee Garrett Scholarship
 Christine DeVitt Medical Scholarship
 Helen DeVitt Jones Scholarship
 College of Engineering Scholarship
 Lubbock Optimist Club Phoenix Endowment
 Lubbock Optimist Club Phoenix Award
 J. B. Mason Memorial Scholarship
 Owen W. McWhorter Sr. Tuition Scholarship
 Joan Bailey Merritt Scholarship
 MHS Class of '59 Scholarship
 John Montford Scholarship
 Mr. and Miss All Saints Scholarship
 Mr. and Miss Coronado High School Scholarship
 Mr. and Miss Cooper High School Scholarship
 Mr. and Miss Monterey High School Scholarship
 New Directions Scholarship Fund
 Theodore R. Phea, Sr. Scholarship Fund
 Heather Robinson Memorial Scholarship
 George Scott, Jr. Scholarship
 L. Edwin Smith Scholarship
 Don Taylor Endowed Scholarship
 Texas Boys Ranch Scholarship
 Cheryl Scott Thompson Tuition Scholarship
 Tomorrow Youth Endowment Scholarship
 Winfred and Ellen Tucker Scholarship
 Dunco "Peck" Williams Tuition Scholarship
 Woman to Woman Fund
 West Texas Paralegal Scholarship

REGIONAL AFFILIATES

Hockley County Endowment

First United Methodist Church Endowments
 Hockley County Museum Endowment
 Hockley County Senior Citizens Endowment
 James and Sycily Lattimore Fund for South Plains Food Bank
 Levelland Academic Beginning Center Endowments
 Levelland Area Endowment Fund
 Levelland Meals on Wheels Endowment

Levelland Cactus Elementary Endowment
 Levelland Children's Hope Endowment
 Levelland Carver Learning Center Endowment
 Levelland Christian School Endowment
 Levelland High School Endowment
 Levelland Intermediate School Endowment
 Levelland Middle School Endowment
 Levelland Schools Central Office Endowment
 Levelland South Elementary Endowment
 SPC Commercial Music Endowment
 Sundown ISD Donor Fund
 Smyer Elementary School Donor Fund
 Whitharral ISD Fund

Plainview Area Endowment

Roy H. and Barbara E. Kiser Endowment
 NAIFA Plainview Endowment
 Plainview High School Class of '65 Endowment
 Larry and Carissa Rossi Endowment
 John and Vyrella Tye Endowment
 Clay Warren Memorial Scholarship

Post-Garza County Endowment

Caprock Cultural Center Endowments
 Bob Collier Memorial Endowments
 Danny Gunn Memorial Scholarship
 Bob and Debbie Macy Fund for Post-Garza County
 Post Animal Refuge Center Endowments
 Presbyterian Church of Post Endowments
 Post High School Antelope Scholarship
 Post United Methodist Church Endowments
 Post Volunteer Fire Department Endowments
 Donald and Billie Windham Endowment

Slaton Area Endowment

Ehler Family Fund
 Gifts of Vision for Excellence Endowment
 Harvey House Endowment
 Darris and Jeanette Linder Endowment for Mercy Manna
 Robert Melcher Fund
 Wayne and Mary Schilling Endowment
 St. Joseph Catholic Church Endowment
 St. Joseph Catholic School Endowment
 Slaton Senior Citizens Center Endowment

noun : the love of humankind



Faces of Philanthropy

Every day, people from all walks of life are volunteering their time, lending their expertise, sharing an idea and giving their resources for the betterment of someone else. This is philanthropy. It has many faces, many forms, many voices. Every person who gives to the Community Foundation has a unique story, unique personal interests and a shared desire to give right here at home. Below, you'll meet just a few people who are creating change by helping to bring people, organizations, funding and energy together for the common good.



Freada and Mark Warren

Mark and Freada Warren began awarding scholarships to Plainview High School students after the devastating loss of their only son, Clay, in 2002. To assure that scholarships would continue to be awarded long after they are gone, Mark and Freada made the decision to establish the *Clay R. Warren Memorial Scholarship* through the Plainview Area Endowment, an Affiliate of the Community Foundation of West Texas. As a result, Plainview High School students who participate in Choral Music Department performance groups will know of Clay's legacy and will benefit from Mark and Freada's generosity from now on.

In addition to helping deserving students to pursue their education, Mark and Freada are also committed to making others aware of the potential risks college students face. Their goal is to assure that students are making better choices and are taking care of one another. Most importantly, they want to do all they can to assure that other parents don't have to endure the pain that they have experienced. The Warren family and the Center for Campus Life at Texas Tech University have created the nationally recognized Clay R. Warren Risk Management Retreat in an effort to educate campus organizations and students about the results of poor decision making and risk management practices. Since its creation, thousands of students from fraternities, sororities, sports clubs and other student organizations have gathered to cultivate campus-wide risk awareness and management practices.



Clay R. Warren

Mark and Freada have also been instrumental in building the *Plainview Area Endowment*, an affiliate of the Community Foundation of West Texas. The *Plainview Area Endowment* is a community endowment that gives the people of Plainview and Hale County a way to build permanent resources exclusively for the benefit of their community.

Parkhill, Smith and Cooper

Parkhill, Smith & Cooper's mission statement of Building Community reaches far beyond the vast amount of architecture and engineering projects in West Texas. Their more than 300 employees use the company's ventures and inspired contributions to transform the communities they work in and serve each and every day.

At Parkhill, Smith and Cooper (PSC), community investment is grounded in a commitment to return 1% of its revenue to the communities it serves. But it's not just about the money donated or pro-bono services. PSC employees volunteer at soup kitchens, canned food drives and fundraisers to directly build community with the people in the organizations they help.

In 2015, Parkhill, Smith and Cooper created the *Building Community Fund*, a donor-advised fund at the Community Foundation of West Texas, through which they award grants and match employee donations. To date, over half a million dollars has been awarded to fund 47 projects for community organizations. PSC and its inspiring team of employees truly know what it means to build community!



Dr. Ruth Wright

Dr. Ruth Cowart Wright was born January 26, 1929, in Lubbock. She graduated from Lubbock High School and went on to complete her education at Texas Tech University and American University. She began her career in academics as a teacher in the public schools of Slaton and Lubbock before going on to join the political science department faculty at Texas Tech in 1957, where she taught until her retirement.

Ruth was known by her friends for her keen observations on life, her wit, good humor, and most especially, for her love of animals. Her four legged friends, McGregor of Cabbage Patch (Mac) and Margaret Thatcher, P.M. (Maggie), brought enormous joy and constant companionship to Ruth's life. Most would agree that the unconditional love and affection of our pets improves the quality of our lives. No one felt more strongly about this than Ruth.

As a result of her love of animals, Ruth included a provision in her will to establish an endowment at the Community Foundation of West Texas that provides grants for the care of lost, abandoned and injured animals. Since the *Ruth W. Wright Endowment for Animals* was created in 2002, over \$370,000 has been awarded to local organizations that care for and find new homes for animals in need. Because Ruth chose to establish an endowment at the Community Foundation to achieve her philanthropic goals, the animals she cared about so passionately will be cared for in her name . . . forever.

"No one has ever become poor by giving"

- Anne Frank





Give Where You Live

A vibrant region is built one community at a time. Regional Affiliates are community endowments that give the people of the South Plains a way to build permanent resources exclusively for the benefit of their own town or county. Affiliates unite the best thinking of local leadership with efficient, centralized resources to mobilize philanthropy for the enduring benefit of rural communities.

The Community Foundation's powerful rural partnership has been growing since 2006 when its first Regional Affiliate, *Hockley County Endowment*, was created. Charitable assets held specifically for the benefit of rural communities now exceed \$2 million and our Regional Affiliate network has grown to include the *Plainview Area Endowment*, *Post-Garza County Endowment* and the *Slaton Endowment*.

Hockley County Endowment

Created in 2006, the *Hockley County Endowment* has begun its 11th year as an Affiliate of the Community Foundation. As of the end of 2016, 26 funds have been created and over \$107,000 has been granted to nonprofit organizations that are addressing important needs in Levelland and Hockley County.



Plainview Area Endowment

The *Plainview Area Endowment* was created in 2009 and has grown steadily to become the largest Affiliate in the Community Foundation network. As of the end of 2016, its assets have reached over \$769,000 and grants totalling over \$76,000 have been awarded to address needs in Plainview and Hale County.



Post-Garza County Endowment

Since its creation in 2010, the *Post-Garza County Endowment* has become known throughout the community for the great work being done to support local needs. As of the end of 2016, over \$57,000 has been granted for needs in Post and Garza County. In 2016, Judge Lee Norman and his wife Marsha started a new scholarship fund with the hope that the community would join together in growing it for the benefit of Post High School graduates. A number of donors have already stepped up!



Slaton Area Endowment

Over just a few short years, the *Slaton Area Endowment* has become a true community effort. Plans are underway for a substantial community fundraising campaign to begin in 2017. As of the end of 2016, over \$24,000 has been granted to address needs in Slaton.



Investment Management

The prudent investment of assets is central to the Community Foundation's responsibilities. Our reputation and capacity for serving the community is directly tied to our ability to conserve capital and secure the best possible return. Endowment funds exist to provide perpetual resources for charitable purposes. As a result, investment decisions are made more conservatively than those for personal investments. To meet our investment objectives, the Community Foundation of West Texas follows a strategy focusing on long-term total return. Investments are diversified to avoid any single security or class of securities having a disproportionate impact on the total portfolio.

2016 summary financial statements

Assets

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$714,841
Investments	\$37,399,482
Property and Equipment	\$722,289
TOTAL ASSETS	\$38,836,612

Net Assets and Liabilities

Endowment Funds	\$36,785,162
Operating Income for 2016	\$119,220
Accounts Payable	\$1,153
Agency Endowments	\$1,931,077
TOTAL NET ASSETS AND LIABILITIES	\$38,836,612

ASSETS BEGINNING OF PERIOD	\$37,301,022
ASSETS END OF PERIOD	\$38,836,612

CHANGE IN ASSETS	\$1,604,264
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Revenues

Contributions	\$2,406,565
Investments	\$2,156,221
Other Income	\$362,438
TOTAL REVENUES	\$4,925,224

Grants and Expenses

Program Services:Grants	\$2,173,172
Program Expenses	\$335,209
Administration and General	\$56,815
Fundraising	\$176,127
Management Fees and Investment Expenses	\$579,638
TOTAL GRANTS AND EXPENSES	\$3,320,961

This information is summarized from the financial statements prepared by the management of the Community Foundation of West Texas. The Community Foundation maintains a system of internal accounting controls designed to provide responsible assurance that transactions are properly executed and recorded in all material respects, assets are safeguarded and established policies and procedures are carefully followed. The public accounting firm of Bolinger, Segars, Gilbert & Moss, L.L.P. will audit the Foundation's financial statements and additional related information. Upon completion, the 2016 audited financial statements will be made available by request and will also be available for viewing online at www.cfwtx.org

2016 board of directors



top Rodney Cates, Abel Castro, James Conwright, Linda Gaither, Christy Hartin, Jeff Klotzman
middle Jerry Kolander, Robert Kollman, Mark Meurer, Tania Moody, Carlos Morales, Mary Myers, Jim Phillips, Norval Pollard
bottom Tim Pridmore, Tony Privett, Don Rushing, Ted Rushing, Mark Warren, Cindy Whitehead, Diann Windham, Karen Worley
not shown Greg Freeman, Eric McDonald

Grants: Investing in Community



At the Community Foundation of West Texas we believe that every grant is an investment in the communities we serve. We are committed to making a meaningful difference with a focus on the following priorities:

- Promoting pleasant, livable communities with thriving and sustainable economies;
- Preparing the next generation for adulthood and providing lifelong learning opportunities for all generations;
- Encouraging self-sufficiency for vulnerable individuals and families;
- Assuring means are available to provide for the basic needs of individuals and families in times of trouble; and
- Enriching lives through a diverse array of opportunities for the enjoyment, and growth of appreciation for, the arts.

2016 was a landmark year - for the first time since the creation of the Community Foundation in 1981, over \$2 million in grants and scholarships was awarded in a single year. As endowments at the Foundation grow, so does our ability to create long-term impact in communities throughout the South Plains region.

Below, you will learn more about just a few of the grants awarded in 2016 by the Community Foundation of West Texas and its Affiliates.

Encouraging Self Sufficiency

The Community Foundation is proud to support the Catholic Charities Parent Empowerment Program (PEP). PEP makes it possible for low-income parents to get the education and career training they need to make a better life for themselves and their families. In addition to providing support for tuition and books, help is there when needed for basic needs, childcare, testing fees and transportation.

In many cases, a small amount of support can make an incredible difference. For instance . . .

- Terry was recently widowed and has two small children. After the loss of her husband, she was unable to come up with the small balance of tuition due to finish her classes at a local university and she had no money for books. Because PEP was there to provide \$189, Terry finished her last semester of school and now has a great job.
- Steven is a disabled veteran. He is married, has two children and is a full-time college student. His wife Maria works, but they couldn't afford transportation to get Steven to school. PEP provided \$52 for bus passes that made it possible for Steven to attend classes for an entire semester.
- Julie is a single mom with four children. She is going to school to be a nurse and her training requires her to wear scrubs. PEP saved the day with \$100 to buy the scrubs she needs to continue in the nursing program.
- Bethany is a single mom with three children. She works full time and is also going to school full time. Her oldest child is also a college student. When her car broke down, she was unable to get to school and was at risk of losing her home if she couldn't get to work. Because PEP was able to pay for the \$112 car repair, she was able to pay the rent and get to school. Bethany will be graduating in May!

Thanks to the Parent Empowerment Program, lives are changing and families are leaving poverty behind in pursuit of a better life.



Promoting Vibrant Communities

In many rural communities, downtown areas are slowly “drying up.” Buildings have fallen into disrepair and there simply isn’t enough trade to support main street businesses. The Community Foundation of West Texas and its Affiliates believe in the importance of revitalizing downtown areas and are excited about the possibilities that bringing commerce back to main streets creates for current and future generations.

The Community Foundation of West Texas and the *Plainview Area Endowment* are supporting the efforts of Plainview Downtown Restoration to restore the historic Skaggs building in downtown Plainview. The Skaggs Building is a four-story office building that was constructed in 1927. The owner donated the building last November with the intent that it be restored and used to foster the development of beginning entrepreneurs, artisans, musicians, and small businesses by providing an affordable environment from which to build their futures. Restoration of the entire building is in the planning stages and work on the first floor has begun. The building will eventually house office and retail spaces, a venue for meetings, art displays, catered events and other functions.

Levelland is also benefiting from downtown revitalization efforts. The Community Foundation and the *Hockley County Endowment* are supporting efforts to restore and renovate the Wallace Theater as a cinema, live music venue, art gallery and community meeting place. The original Wallace Theater was built in Levelland in 1928. When George Keeling purchased the Wallace Theater in 2002, it was full of pigeons and had fallen into disrepair. But George had a vision, one that his wife Iris and daughter Alycyn continue to believe in wholeheartedly. Since then, the Wallace Theater has obtained its nonprofit status and Alycyn has taken over her father’s efforts to renovate and operate the theater. Although we were all saddened by the loss of George Keeling in 2016 we know he would be immensely proud of the continuing efforts of his family and the Levelland community to bring the Wallace Theater back to life.

Creating Opportunities to Learn

Education is the cornerstone to achieving success in almost all areas of life. Whether learning to read as a child or pursuing personal and professional knowledge as an adult, we believe that all learning opportunities are valuable.

As children, we look forward to the lazy fun-filled days of summer. Unfortunately, summers away from school are one of the biggest, but least acknowledged, causes of underachievement for students - especially those from low income families. Studies show that kids from low-income families without access to enriching summer activities and books lose two months or more of reading and language skills per year. Kids from higher income families lose one month of reading and language skills per year. For all children, this learning loss is cumulative, summer after summer and it has a tremendous impact on students’ success.

In Post they are doing something about summer learning loss. The *Post-Garza County Endowment* is supporting a partnership between Caprock Cultural Association and the Post Public Library to provide a program called Ready, Set . . . Read. Each Ready, Set . . . Read participant sets a goal to read for 20 minutes each day. A parent or guardian also signs a commitment to provide an opportunity for the child to fulfill their reading pledge and to support them in the program. Children who fulfill their weekly commitment receive a new book that is theirs to keep. Those who read quickly and return to the library before the end of a week earn additional small prizes. The library also participates in the Texas Bluebonnet Award program. Every child who reads at least five books from the Bluebonnet list receives a free book and is eligible to vote on his or her favorite. At the end of the summer, each child will own a small library of books that will help them form a lifetime love of reading. Ready, Set . . . Read also includes story time with children’s authors, Brain Quest games for older children and performances by members of the Texas Commission on the Arts Touring Roster who will present live children’s theater, storytelling and performances that encourage children to read.

When summer is over, teachers have been pleased to find they aren’t spending as much time re-teaching material from the previous school year. Because of the generous support of the people of Post through the *Post-Garza County Endowment* and the tremendous efforts of staff and volunteers at Caprock Cultural Association and the Post Public Library, children in Post are going back to school at the end of summer ready to learn!

2016 Grant Recipients >

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A Giving Community

Many people in this region share the same basic desires, emotions and concerns for their community. Common hopes and dreams give rise to community caring and lead to good works. A place that nurtures the best intentions into full-fledged impact, the Community Foundation of West Texas is where caring people come together to build their community.

Gifts to the Community Foundation reflect a variety of human experiences. Motivations for giving may range from a generous nature, to tax advantages, a concern for charitable organizations and causes dear to the donor, or the ability to address a number of needs through a single gift. Many hundreds of donors have created, in whole or in part, endowments which will provide much needed support for needs in the South Plains area well beyond their lifetimes. We encourage you to consider how we can help you to connect with your philanthropic goals.

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"We make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give"

- Winston Churchill

There's so much more to know about how the Community Foundation of West Texas is helping the people of the South Plains to protect, improve, and preserve our way of life.

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Address: 6102 82nd Street, #8b
Lubbock, TX 79424
Web: www.cfwtx.org
Telephone: 806/762-8061
Email: stephen@cfwtx.org

Staff: Stephen Warren, President
Tami Swoboda, Vice-President of Programs
Michelle Tosi-Stephens, Vice-President of Development
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