



Our Mission

The mission of the Elk County Community Foundation is to enhance the quality of education, cultural, civic, and economic life in the greater Elk County area, both today and in the future by:

- Enabling donors to fulfill their charitable interests,
- Building a permanent endowment,
- Facilitating prudent management and care of funds,
- Meeting community needs through grants, awards, and scholarships.



Advisory Board

Cathy Mitchell
Shirley Black
Dana Denton
Susan Galvan
Liz Hendricks
Kate Perkins
Marcia Taylor-Trump, Chair

Funds

Elk County CF Operating Fund
Elk County CF Scholarship Fund
Elk County Community Impact Fund
Elk County Youth Fund
Elk County Response Fund
Ernest Frank Horn, Jr. Endowed Scholarship Fund
Howard City Pool Fund
Historic Bank Building Fund
Jim & Steve Cunningham Nursing Scholarship Fund
Wayne and Irene Keast Family Charitable Fund
Longton Community Impact Fund

Contact Us

Visit the Elk County Community Foundation under the Affiliates tab at centralkansas.org.

ECCF is an affiliate of Central Kansas Community Foundation (CKCF).

Contact Person: Marcia Taylor-Trump
Address: P.O. Box 956, Howard KS 67349
Phone: (620) 330-7721
Email: marcia.impressive@gmail.com



We Are *Family*
We are *Community*
We are *Elk County*

Spotlight Project

In 2020 it became apparent to the citizens of Howard that the **Howard City Pool** would possibly be closed for the future. This group of concerned citizens decided to approach the Howard City Council and find out what could be done to keep the pool open. The Howard City Council agreed to use memorial and other funds to renovate the pool if the community would raise an additional \$20,000 to show their support of the pool project. The ECCF came alongside this group of citizens and began a campaign to raise the necessary funds. With the support of community members all over Elk County and former citizens, the necessary funds were raised! The ECCF presented a check to the Howard City Council for \$14,350 which along with funds that were collected in the Howard City Office met the \$20,000 goal. The ECCF continues to hold and collect additional funds for the future needs of the pool. The pool opened for its first full summer season in May 2022. Citizens of Elk County were invited to sponsor a free swim event during the pool season and ECCF sponsored two swims during the summer of 2022.



2022

A Year to Remember

ELK Co Youth Fund

- \$1250 to Youth Baseball Programs in Longton, Grenola, Severy & Howard to be used for uniforms, field maintenance and equipment.
- \$200 to sponsor two free swim events at the Howard City Pool

Longton Community Impact Fund

- \$450 to Longton Historical Society for Genealogy Lab Project
- \$450 to Longton Ball Association for ball field improvements

Elk Co Community Foundation Operating Fund

- \$1136.45 to Elk County Food Pantry
- \$487.05 to Harvest House Food Pantry
- \$1723.50 Collected from West Elk Elementary School for Food Pantries

Elk Co Community Response Fund

- In collaboration with CKCF and the Funders Network of Coral Gables, Florida awarded \$1000 to Elk Co Emergency Management. \$300 was granted to Longton Volunteer Fire Department for a Heiman Viper 2 ½" Select Gallonage Nozzle and \$700 to Elk Co Emergency Management for the design and distribution of magnets that will help citizens prepare for, donate, and distribute funds for disaster response.

Dear Friend of Elk County,

Thank you for taking a moment to read the Elk County Community Foundation brochure and considering a donation. As of December 2022, ECCF has granted \$32,756 to area charities and in scholarships. Gifts like yours ensure a bright future for Elk County, Kansas.

- ECCF Advisory Board

My Friend, Margery Cunningham

I met Margery when I first moved to Howard twenty years ago. She and I were talking at the Elk River Festival about our love of walking. Since that time, I have come to know and love so much more about Margery and our common interests. One day several years ago, she knocked on my front door holding an envelope containing money. She asked if I would help start a scholarship fund honoring her two sons, Jimmie, and Steve, who had passed away. Margery was a nurse and wanted to help others become nurses. She told me a heartwarming story about when she was a single mother of five and in nursing school. During this challenging time, someone noticed she needed new tires on her car and generously offered money to replace them. She never forgot that much needed gift and wanted to pay it forward while also honoring her two sons.



A few years ago, I had another wonderful conversation with Margery. She told me she received a phone call from someone who owed her son, Jimmie, money after borrowing it 30 years ago. Prior to Jimmie's passing, this friend did not have the chance to repay him. Jimmie had told him to give the money to Margery if he ever wanted to pay it back. Apparently, he had come into some money, remembered the debt and Jimmie's instructions. He called Margery and she was amazed that he was repaying a 30-year-old debt that only he knew about. She asked me to reach out to Jimmie's friend and see if he would donate the money to the nursing school scholarship fund established in her sons' memory. We have since added this generous financial donation to the fund, so that it can be endowed and continue to help Elk County nursing students for years to come.

It's important to note that Margery Cunningham is 97 years old and currently lives with her son in Oklahoma. She lives very frugally on social security. And yet she generously developed a substantial scholarship fund to help others. Think of what the rest of us could do if we tried to pay it forward and manage our gratefulness as lovingly as Margery!