Peabody Community Foundation
An Affiliate of Central Kansas Community Foundation

Foundation Focus

Volume 1, Issue 1 November 2024

LEAVE YOUR LEGACY

INVEST IN PEABODY'S TOMORROW, TODAY

(**Above**) The donated home sits on Maple Street during the house move process

House on the Move

We're thrilled to announce the progress of our first initiative in partnership with the Peabody Land Bank: the relocation of a charming three-bedroom ranch-style house to the corner of 5th and Maple!

This project is a significant step towards enhancing housing availability and revitalizing our community. Since January 2022, our Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) team has been working hard to turn our vision for improved housing into reality. By cleaning up properties and increasing options, we aim to strengthen our school district, boost local businesses, and enhance our tax base.

*(SEE **MOVE** PAGE 3)*

It's Match Season

You've likely heard of the Peabody Community Foundation (PCF)—whether through our mailers or events like the Pie Auction and Pancake Day. Yet, for all the visibility, few truly understand the depth and significance of the work the foundation has been doing since 2000. PCF has granted over $582,700 back into the community just in the last decade .

Much of what we communicate focuses on goals and donation requests which can sometimes feel overwhelming. But beneath the surface, our work has already made a meaningful impact across many areas, and it holds infinite potential to continue making a difference for generations to come.

In 2023, we were successful in meeting the $70,000 match from Patterson Family Foundation (PFF). Again this year, PFF is offering Peabody another match opportunity! Your gift, received between Nov. 26 and Dec. 26, will be eligible to be matched dollar for dollar.

PFF has graciously provided this opportunity with the intent to leverage local giving to propel rural community foundations like PCF.

*(SEE **MATCH** PAGE 3)*

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TUESDAY DEC. 3

5:30-8PM @ PBHS

Soup Supper By Donation

Winterfest to include a student Art Show, Choir and Cheer performances, a free throw contest, and alumni scrimmage.

New Associate Director Known for Strong Community Ties

Paige Barnes

The Peabody Community Foundation board is excited to announce Peabody native Paige Barnes stepped into the grant funded position of Associate Director in July. Barnes graduated from Peabody-Burns High School in 2010 and received an Associates of Arts degree in Mass Communications from Butler Community College in 2012.

She most recently served as the Social Services Director at Peabody Health and Rehab where she had many responsibilities including admissions and discharges, behavior management, facilitating resident council meetings and more. A highlight of her week is delivering Meals on Wheels from the Peabody Senior Center.

Barnes also serves on the USD #398 School Board to which she was appointed in the Spring of 2023 and elected in November later that year. Barnes comes into the position with an abundance of Peabody pride and longstanding community roots as a seventh generation.

*(SEE **ASSOC. DIRECTOR** PAGE 3)*

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Move...

Peabody City Council established the Land Bank with PCF support in March of 2023. A home was donated to the Land Bank and PCF acquired a vacant lot and sought funds to move it. This house is currently available for purchase as-is, and all proceeds will support further housing initiatives through the Peabody Land Bank. There are applications at the City Building and for any questions contact Brian Simmonds at 316-215-2068.

Becky Nickel, Director of PCF said, "The house move is the first tangible result of work that's been going on for over two years. We appreciate community support for our housing initiatives."

Match...

At its core, PCF unites us through what we all share: our zip code, our community, and our home.

Whether it's the grain trucks rumbling through town during harvest, the regulars sipping coffee at Pop's Diner, or the joyful laughter of children enjoying the playground equipment that volunteers worked tirelessly to bring to life, we're all part of the same fabric.

Through the donations we raise, PCF is committed to preserving that special sense of place, with a vision of legacy in mind.

We do this not only because we care about the future of our community but because we honor those who came before us–the generations who invested in the future we now enjoy. It's a legacy of respect, responsibility, and love for the place we call home.

The PCF board is grateful for support to any of our 30 component funds, however, priorities are in four areas: funds that benefit Community Improvement/ Housing, our endowments that allow us to make grants, and funds that benefit the City Pool. For example, during this match window your $100 gift to the Peabody Impact Endowment becomes $175 and $25 will be allocated to the Operating Fund.

The board has also decided to focus on our local charity funds with matching dollars, which means gifts to Scholarship Funds will not be eligible for the match.

If you're curious about what non-profits are in town, our Giving Tuesday event is the perfect opportunity to see the many groups that all support a cause in Peabody.

PCF Mission Statement: Improve the quality of life in Peabody for the present and future.

SCAN here for a list of all 30 funds
bit.ly/donate-peabodycf

The next time you see our newsletter, "Foundation Focus," receive a mailer, or spot us out in the community, remember the mission behind it all. Your involvement is part of a larger story–a story of lasting impact, shared purpose, and a community that stands strong because we choose to invest in one another.

If you're interested in contributing and joining us not only in our love of Peabody, but our sheer determination to continuing the legacy, please contact Paige Barnes, Associate Director, by phone at 316-243-6799 or email paige@centralkansascf.org.

Assoc. Director...

She is enthusiastic for the new opportunity funded by a Patterson Family Foundation staff capacity grant.

"This community has impacted me in more ways than I can count throughout my life and because of the opportunities it has provided, I've really been able to focus on building my skill set and talents. I'm eager to use these abilities along with my inherent drive to serve to make a difference in Peabody."

Barnes enjoys spending time with family, especially her two young nieces, and in her spare time you can find her immersing herself in all things outdoors.

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Angel “ACE” Torres

Help us in celebrating the impact of generosity. The Angel “Ace” Torres Legacy Fund, established in August of 2021 by an anonymous donor and supported by several others who knew and loved him, awarded grants for the first time this fall. Grants benefited Santa Fe Park and the annual Angel Tree Project by the Association of Churches.

Torres was a Peabody High School alumnus, Navy Veteran, lifelong Peabody resident, and his daughter Patsy (Torres) is appreciative for the opportunity to keep his memory alive.

“My dad and our family have been known for kindness and willingness to help others. Through the Angel “Ace” Torres fund we can carry on that tradition,” she said.

Legacy Funds are a great way to keep the spirit of someone alive while making an impact in our community. Together, we can make a difference!

PCF Board:

Ron Traxson - Chair
Rachel Winter- Vice-chair
Richard Baker
Shawn Entz
Mark Levering
Randy Preheim
Gene Schmill
Tom Spencer

PCF Staff:

Becky Nickel- Director
Paige Barnes - Associate Director

(**Above**) These 2023 pancake race participants are patiently waiting for their time to shine.

EVENTS

Peabody Community Foundation
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Nov. 26 -Dec. 26
Patterson Family Foundation Match Campaign

Nov. 26 6:30PM
Pie Auction @ The Senior Center

Dec. 3 5:30-8PM
Giving Tuesday/Winterfest @ Peabody-Burns Jr./Sr. High School

Feb. 1 Time TBD
Pancake Day @ Peabody Burns Jr./Sr. High School