



Douglas
County
Community
Foundation

Newsletter

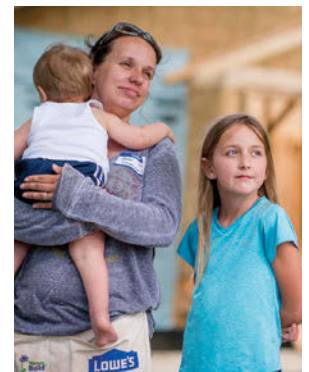
Spring 2019

Douglas County community collaboration, conversation and charitable action

Last fall, we highlighted the crucial work of the nonprofit organizations in our community collaborating to address the issue of homelessness and affordable housing. As a follow-up, we are planning a series of three community conversations around issues that impact the health, future and well-being of all citizens of Douglas County.

As part of our mission to improve the lives of Douglas County citizens through charitable action, DCCF will be convening nonprofit, business and government leaders, university faculty and philanthropists for conversations about how we can be a part of progress on three local concerns: housing, food security and personal health, and behavioral health.

“We hope to be a partner in moving the conversations around these issues forward,” says Chip Blaser, executive director. “Significant work has been done by Lawrence–Douglas County Health Department work groups to create an updated community health



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Join us for community conversations:

Housing

April 24 • 5:30–7:30 p.m.

Lawrence Public Library Auditorium

Food Security and Personal Health

June 27 • 5:30–7:30 p.m.

Flory Building, Douglas County Fairgrounds

Behavioral Health

September 5 • 5:30–7:30 p.m.

Theatre Lawrence

plan, and the affordable housing advisory board and the behavioral health steering committee have produced extraordinary work on plans for making progress. How do we as a charitable community help nonprofits and our city and county government move toward meeting the objectives that have been identified? How can we collaborate, innovate and invest? We believe that together we can make a difference.”

All members of the public are welcome and encouraged to attend these conversations. Special thanks to the Hall Center for the Humanities, the Lawrence Public Library, Generous Change, and our media sponsor, the Lawrence-Journal World.



The inaugural class of Leadership Douglas County. © BRIAN GOODMAN PHOTOGRAPHY

Leadership Douglas County begins

DCCF, the Baldwin City Chamber of Commerce, the Entrepreneur Community Group of Douglas County and Leadership Lawrence together are launching the first Leadership Douglas County class. With 22 active community members from Baldwin City, Eudora and Lecompton, the class of 2019 will spend four sessions sharpening leadership skills using principles developed by the Kansas Leadership Center, while networking and engaging with peers from surrounding communities.

“I’m looking forward to meeting new people and seeing how they put their strengths to work. It’s exciting to connect with area businesses and organizations and build new relationships that might not otherwise be fostered,” says Wendy Conover, coordinator for the Lumberyard Arts Center in Baldwin City and a member of the inaugural class.

Classes will be held at the Dwayne Peaslee Technical Training Center in Lawrence, and facilitated by Leadership Lawrence faculty Bryan Culver, Sue Hack and Patrick Kelly. For more information about the program and opportunities to apply next year, please visit dccfoundation.org.

News and notes

- Spring Community Grants were awarded to 19 nonprofit organizations for a total of \$133,364 in support of projects benefiting Douglas County residents. To learn more about the grants, please visit www.dccfoundation.org/community-grants/.
- DCCF welcomed six new organization funds and a record 23 new family funds in 2018. If you would like information about the benefits of donor-advised funds at DCCF, please contact Chip Blaser.

Nonprofit leadership changes

More than 65 community organizations have funds with DCCF. These organization funds provide income for general operating expenses or other critical needs. We are excited to welcome new leadership to the following organizations.



The Arc of Douglas County
Angie Reinking, Executive Director

Angie brings more than 20 years of experience providing advocacy and program management related to the empowerment of individuals with disabilities. Since 1956, The Arc of Douglas County has strived to make Lawrence, Douglas County and the state of Kansas a welcoming, supportive place for people with developmental disabilities and their families.



Senior Resource Center for Douglas County, Inc.
Megan Poindexter, Executive Director

Megan's love of community and desire to help others achieve their best possible quality of life has led her to become the Senior Resource Center for Douglas County's new executive director. Megan is excited to provide seniors in the county with needed services and fun engagement. The SRC is moving back downtown to 745 Vermont this coming fall.



Trinity In-Home Care, Inc.
Ginger Kurtz, Executive Director

"I'm so excited to start this journey with a great organization that provides great services to the Lawrence community!" says Ginger Kurtz. Trinity In-Home Care provides non-medical home and community support services to people throughout Douglas County who are elderly and/or have disabilities, helping them live their best quality of life.



Van Go, Inc.
Carol Kobza, Executive Director

Carol is looking forward to continuing the transformative work of Van Go, Inc. as the second executive director in its 20-year history. She believes when young people served by Van Go succeed, our entire community is better for it. She is committed to helping young people build a brighter future through developing job skills, wellness habits and practicing the healing power of art.



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Evan Williams

Chip Blaser
Executive Director
chipblaser@dccfoundation.org

Connecting the diverse citizens and communities of Douglas County through charitable action.

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If your organization would like to explore the benefits of establishing a fund with DCCF, please contact Chip Blaser at 785-843-8727 or chipblaser@dccfoundation.org.

Visit or donate online at dccfoundation.org



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