

WFACF UPDATES

Volume 26/ 2nd Quarter 2023

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Wichita Falls Area Community Foundation is to enhance the quality of life in the Wichita Falls area through the promotion and support of charitable giving.

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A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I want to start by saying what an honor it is to work with you, our fundholders! Every day we have the privilege of a front row seat to the tremendous impact your generous giving has on our communities and the people who call this area home.



As you'll see below, it was a very busy spring with an incredible response to the scholarship opportunities provided through WFACF. And it's already shaping up to be an exciting fall. I hope you'll keep reading for more information on Texoma Gives and other opportunities. Thank you for the opportunity to partner with you in your philanthropic journey!

Leslie Schaffner



NEW FUND HOLDERS

At WFACF we like to put the focus on **COMMUNITY!** Every fund holder and charitable investment makes our **COMMUNITY** stronger! We are excited to welcome the following fund holders to the WFACF family.

Scholarships

Patsy Barton Memorial Scholarship
Brenda Beebe Scholarship

Donor Advised Funds

Michael and Francie Stanford
Katie and Doc Parkey

TEXOMA GIVES: SUPPORTING THE CAUSES YOU CARE ABOUT

Thursday, September 7th is a BIG DAY in our area! It's the 8th annual Texoma Gives! This online giving event has grown to hold immense significance for our region as a day dedicated to coming together as a community to support the causes we deeply care about. It's a day when we can make a powerful difference in the lives of those who need it most.

Collective giving days like these provide a unique opportunity to magnify the impact of our individual contributions. When we all come together, even small donations can add up to create a significant positive change.

Last year alone, over \$2 million was raised for almost 200 nonprofits in the area, including community funds at WFACF!

Whether it's supporting education, health, environment, animals, or social services, your contributions matter. Visit the Texoma Gives website at www.texomagives.org to make your donation. Early giving begins on August 24th with the big event occurring September 7th from 6 a.m. until 10 p.m.

Also on September 7th, we encourage you to join us at After Hours Artwalk from 5:30-9 p.m.. Participating nonprofits will be near the intersection of 8th and Ohio Streets with food, music and more! It will be a great opportunity to learn more about the local organizations that do so much for our communities and opportunities for you to help! We hope to see you there!

Together, let's create a lasting impact and build a brighter future for Texoma, one donation at a time!

PLEASE SUPPORT THE WICHITA FALLS AREA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION DURING TEXOMA GIVES!

As a non-profit, WFACF participates in Texoma Gives too! We're asking for your help on September 7th to support volunteer fire department needs, student scholarships and to help us carry out our critical mission of serving our nonprofits and you 365 days a year. Please search for these funds at www.texomagives.org to make your donation.

- WFACF Volunteer Fire Department Fund
- WFACF Scholarship Fund
- Wichita Falls Area Community Foundation

TG PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES!

Come join us! If you or your business would like to sponsor a Texoma Gives prize, we want to visit with you. Prize amounts vary. All eyes are on the prize board, and we would love to feature your name there too!



Vicky McCoy and Gary Oatman
with a McCoy Scholarship
recipient, Roselyn Hurtado.

SCHOLARSHIPS: CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR AREA STUDENTS

We are excited to share the results of the WFACF 2023 scholarship program. This year's exceptional pool of applicants showcased many outstanding students from across the region.

Some 259 scholarships were awarded for the 2023-2024 academic year. These new scholarships, combined with existing multi-year awards resulted in almost \$575,000 in scholarships for the upcoming year!

Congratulations to all the recipients and THANK YOU to the scholarship fund holders who make this robust program possible.

LUNCH AND LEARN: DISCOVER THE POWER OF GIVING BACK AT WFACF

Have you wanted to learn more about how giving through the community foundation can benefit you? Here's your invitation! Please join us for one of our monthly Lunch & Learn events aimed at enlightening and informing current and potential fund holders about the remarkable benefits of the foundation.

Lunch & Learns are the second Wednesday of the month from 12:00 PM-1:00 PM at the Wichita Falls Area Community Foundation office, and lunch is on us!

There are so many ways a community foundation can help you reach your charitable goals! These small group meetings provide a relaxed opportunity to ask questions and engage with like-minded community members who share a passion for making positive change.

Check your calendar, pick your date, and have lunch with us.

- September 13
- October 11
- November 8

Don't miss this opportunity to be part of this informative event! Bring your spouse or bring a friend but remember, seating is limited so contact us early by calling 940-766-0829 or emailing wfacf@wfacf.org.

LEAVING A LEGACY OF HOPE: THE POWER OF PLANNED GIVING TO SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY



Throughout our area, stories of giving back and neighbors helping neighbors permeate our history. While some stand out more than others, they all have something in common—hope and support for communities we hold dear. But, what about the needs we are destined to have in the future?

Meet Margaret. She is a compassionate woman with an unwavering love for Wichita Falls and the people who call it home. Having spent most of her life volunteering and supporting various local nonprofits, several years ago she began to envision a way to continue her philanthropic journey, beyond her lifetime. Margaret decided to include a charitable gift to the Wichita Falls Area Community Foundation in her will, ensuring that her spirit of giving would endure for generations to come.

Through a planned gift, individuals like Margaret can continue to make a profound difference in the community, beyond their lifetimes. Do you have a plan? By designating a charitable gift in your will, you can create a legacy that supports nonprofits addressing pressing needs in our area. Such gifts are a beacon of hope for organizations, providing the resources they need to thrive and continue their essential work.

Including a charitable gift in your will is a thoughtful process. Here are some steps to guide you:

1. Consult Your Attorney or Financial Advisor: Your professional advisor can help you identify the best approach for your individual circumstances.
2. Choose Your Gift: Decide the type of gift you want to leave—whether it's a specific amount, a percentage of your estate, or assets such as stocks, real estate, or life insurance policies.
3. Select Beneficiaries: Contact the Wichita Falls Area Community Foundation to explore options available to ensure your gift continues to support the causes you care about and name the foundation as a beneficiary in your will.
4. Discuss Your Wishes: Talk to your family and loved ones about your decision to include a charitable gift to the foundation in your will. Sharing your intentions can foster understanding and appreciation for your commitment to the community.
5. Leave a Lasting Legacy: Relax knowing your planned gift will create a lasting legacy of positive change, impacting your favorite causes for years to come.

By choosing planned giving, you'll become part of a network of visionary individuals whose generosity ensures the well-being of the community they love. Your charitable gift to the Wichita Falls Area Community Foundation will continue to shine as a beacon of hope and create a better tomorrow for many.

If you are interested in learning more about planned giving or have questions about how to include the Wichita Falls Area Community Foundation in your will, please contact us. We would be honored to meet with you.

GET INVOLVED IN EMPOWERING FUTURES: SERVE ON A WFACF COMMITTEE!



Are you passionate about shaping bright futures for students in our area? If so, we're looking for you! Contact us to learn more about serving on the WFACF Scholarship Committee. We'll provide all the training you need to evaluate and score applications. Your involvement can help empower dreams and create lasting impact. Contact us today to learn more at wfacf@wfacf.org or 940-766-0829.