



**Alzheimer’s Association-Central & Western Kansas chapter, “Alz CARES,” \$5,000:** Funding will help provide direct services, such as support groups, care consultations and community education, to over 1,220 individuals in Reno County.

**Arlington Community PRIDE Association, \$3,600:** The purpose of the organization is to support local leadership, develop local resources, and encourage economic development to create a better environment for citizens of the small, rural community of Arlington. The group will sponsor a community flu vaccine clinic to be administered by KG Medical in Arlington. Grant funds will provide 30 free flu shots to Arlington community members who struggle to pay for them on their own. This project will also help promote the local availability of flu shots for those whose mobility and transportation may be a concern.

**Arlington Community PRIDE Association, “The Ball is in Our Court,” \$3,725:** The Arlington Community PRIDE Association works to make Arlington a place that residents are proud to call home and a town that Reno County is proud to hold. They want shared community spaces to be welcoming and safe for residents and visitors. Grant funding will support repairing the community court at the highway park, so it is useful for the whole community to enjoy tennis, pickleball and basketball.

**Arlington United Methodist Church, “ADA Entry and Elevator Project,” \$15,000:** Arlington United Methodist Church is a hub of community activity, including worship, children’s activities, community meals, annual events and community outreach. The building includes three floors, and the design of the current stairway limits access for those with mobility issues and those moving supplies and equipment between floors for events. Grant funding, combined with contributions from the church’s building fund and a regional grant, will allow for construction of an ADA-compliant entry and installation of an elevator, making this community gathering place accessible to all.

**Bluestem PACE-Hutchinson, “Leg Press Increased Accessibility,” \$10,258:** Bluestem PACE-Hutchinson, which works to help seniors maintain independence and enhance their quality of life, will use funding to purchase an Air-300 Leg Press and small compressor so Reno County participants have access to onsite weight training equipment for strengthening leg and pelvic floor muscles.

**Boys & Girls Clubs of Hutchinson Inc., “Growing Capacity at the Club,” \$2,100:** In the past 18 months, four of seven senior staff positions have seen turnover. Maintaining high-quality programming and operations at the club is essential for the organization and the youth who benefit from those programs. Grant funding will support the club’s upcoming steps to build capacity and clearly define roles for new leaders and senior staff members through position-specific trainings, leadership development courses,

and coaching opportunities, helping ensure the club's continued success and positive impact on local youth and families.

**Emanuel Lutheran Church, "Bicycle Repair & Share," \$750:** Grant will support the continued work of Emanuel's growing mission to provide rebuilt bicycles to those who have no other form of transportation.

**Fairfield Schools-USD 310, "Rachel's Challenge at Fairfield Schools: Hope and Connections Fostering a Culture of Acceptance," \$7,300:** Results from the most recent Kansas Communities That Care survey indicated Fairfield schools' areas of concern are bullying, social/emotional health, depression, suicide, and student engagement and connectivity. Grant funding will be used to engage Rachel's Challenge, an evidence-based program that addresses prevention of school violence, bullying and suicide among students. In addition to the time students and parents can engage in activity with the Rachel's Challenge staff, follow-up curriculum will be accessed designed to help students and staff develop plans that promote a culture of respect and kindness.

**Faris Elementary School, "Building Better Learners through Bal-A-Vis-X," \$1,063:** Funding will support the purchase of equipment for Bal-A-Vis-X exercises, which are designed to build concentration, stamina, cooperation, focus and self-regulation skills.

**Grace Dental Day Inc., "Grace Dental Day," \$20,000 (\$10,000 per year for two years):** A high number of people in Reno County are unable to afford dental care. Grant funding will support Grant Dental Day, an annual event where community members can receive free dental services, education on the importance of proper oral hygiene and the impact it can have on overall health, and oral care products for personal use. This event represents the collaboration of many local dental professionals, support team members and volunteers, all working together to provide free dental care to those who need it.

**Hutchinson Theatre Guild (Stage 9), "Façade Facelift," \$5,000:** The brickwork behind the sign at Stage 9, the home for Hutchinson Theatre Guild productions, is deteriorating, allowing rainwater to penetrate the building's façade and leading to water damage inside the building. Grant funds will be used for repairs, which will include removing the sign, masonry contract work and replacement of the sign. This necessary upkeep will allow the Stage 9 venue to remain a safe and appealing spot for the group's productions and other community concerts and events.

**Hand Up, Inc., \$6,000:** The organization's vision is to aid and guide members of the community who seek resources and opportunities to improve their lives and the lives of those around them. Hand Up, Inc. does this by providing a Community Healthcare Worker and peer mentors, who go beyond offering lists of agencies to contact to instead walk alongside individuals and families as they are connected to community resources. The newly established nonprofit organization has been operating on staff and volunteers' personal equipment and services and will use the grant to establish an organization mailing address, purchase phone and internet service, and develop a website.

**Hutchinson Municipal Band, "Helping Hutchinson Municipal Band Play On: Improving Performance Space," \$11,450:** While the performance/placemaking space built in Carey Park during the pandemic through the support of a Changemakers at Work grant has proved to be popular, audience members have cited safety and accessibility concerns. Grant funds represent partial funding in support of

suggested improvements to the performance space, which may include more sidewalks, permanent landscaping elements that double as seating, and/or park benches.

**Hutchinson School of Tae Kwon Do, \$2,700:** The school's vision is to create a place where kids can learn discipline, work ethic and grow their physical and mental health while studying martial arts. It values teaching kids responsibility, hard work and resilience, while also creating friendships with their classmates. Replacing competition mats will benefit local youth as they train and allow the school to provide high-quality equipment when they host the state and national competitions annually in Hutchinson.

**Kansas Big Brothers Big Sisters Serving Reno County, "One-to-One Mentoring Program," \$6,430:** Big Brothers Big Sisters aims to provide quarterly organized activities for their Bigs and Littles. The grant will purchase supplies and pay entry fees and other expenses associated with those activities and will also support the development of Big Brothers Big Sisters' office community space, allowing it to be a free and appropriate spot for Bigs and Littles to spend time together.

**Kansas Children's Service League (KCSL), \$5,000:** KCSL works to prevent childhood abuse and neglect, offer family support, improve school readiness, and provide parent and community education in communities throughout Kansas. Their Healthy Families program in Reno County does this work through both home visitations and engagement opportunities, such as Parent Support Groups and Family Nights (play groups). These programs have proven hugely successful, and this grant funding, in combination with the 1-to-1 Medicaid match the grant leverages, will help update supplies and equipment for these events, which increase parent connections and reduce isolation.

**Kansas Legal Services (KLS), \$3,600:** The computers in the Hutchinson KLS office are outdated. Funding will allow KLS to purchase new laptops for the two attorneys and one staff member working in the office serving Reno County. The new technology will allow staff to do their jobs more effectively, ensuring that people who are marginalized and cannot afford to hire their own attorneys are able to secure legal representation and continue to benefit from the advocacy KLS provides.

**Kitchen Hero Academy (KHA), \$10,000 per year for two years:** KHA, in year three of a collaboration with Spark United Church of the Nazarene, is a 10-week summer cooking program for low-income middle-schoolers in USD 308. The program supports the health and well-being of families through teaching them how to identify and prepare cost-effective foods with higher nutritional value. Multi-year funding will help ensure the program has the resources needed to continue providing this experience at no cost to participating low-income families, while allowing staff to allocate more time to programming and relationship building than fundraising. A high school version of KHA is being developed next summer.

**Partridge Community Church, "Gathering to Grow," \$6,500:** With the loss of a public school and a local café, the Partridge community is without two critical places where people once gathered. Grant funds will be used to create a gathering place in a vacant lot using trees, native plants and educational features. Community organizers and volunteers are creating a place where people can share experiences and learn from one another. They see the potential for a community garden, building

appreciation for native plants and animals and a beautiful setting for musical events, shared meals and quiet contemplation in this community space.

**Pretty Prairie United Methodist Church, "Childcare Entry," \$15,000:** In preparation for starting a child care center in the building, Pretty Prairie United Methodist Church will use this grant, along with support from the congregation's building fund and money from the Great Plains UMC, to construct a new ground-level, ADA-compliant entrance. This grant is made from the Helen Adams Hamilton Children and Education Fund of Hutchinson Community Foundation.