

Stronger Together

Sharing Ourselves to
Strengthen Us All

2008 ANNUAL REPORT



Sunflower Foundation
HEALTH CARE FOR KANSANS

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Sunflower Foundation
HEALTH CARE FOR KANSANS



Grant List: FY 2008 Grants and Initiatives Unless otherwise noted, grants are for one year. The foundation's fiscal year (FY) is July 1 through June 30.

ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE

Bridge Grants

• Good Samaritan Health Ministries, Wichita - \$105,860 to expand services by adding a part-time developmental pediatrician and a full-time bilingual RN (three-year grant)

• Guadalupe Clinic, Inc., Wichita - \$45,000 to expand services by increasing the hours of a part-time physician assistant, LPN and support staff (three-year grant)

• Kansas City Free Health Clinic, Kansas City - \$42,932 to expand services by adding a charge nurse and a nurse practitioner (three-year grant)

• Mental Health Association of South Central Kansas, Wichita - \$116,207 to expand services by increasing the hours of a part-time psychiatrist and adding a contract LSCSW, three full-time therapists and two ARNPs (two-year grant)

• Shawnee County Health Agency, Topeka - \$43,384 to expand services by adding an ARNP

• The Guidance Center, Leavenworth - \$100,000 to expand services by adding a full-time child and adolescent psychiatrist (two-year grant)

• Turner House Clinic, Inc., Kansas City - \$92,500 to expand services by adding one full-time bilingual nurse practitioner/clinic manager (two-year grant)

General Access Grants

• Flint Hills Community Health Center, Emporia - \$9,996 to evaluate the organization's competency as a medical home through the use of the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) survey tool

• Good Samaritan Project, Kansas City - \$38,850 to help expand STD/HIV outreach services, in partnership with the Wyandotte County Health Department, by adding a part-time prevention specialist

• Kansas Association for the Medically Underserved, Topeka - \$300,000 to help continue a public/private collaborative project to increase the capacity of the Kansas dental safety net by increasing access to care through a dental hub and spoke model (three-year grant)

• Kansas Health Institute, Topeka - \$86,378 to help support a comprehensive study of underinsurance in Kansas (two-year grant)

• Oral Health Kansas, Topeka - \$83,601 to help continue the Dental Champions Leadership Program (two-year grant)

• University of Kansas Medical Center – Department of Family Medicine, Kansas City - \$120,000 to support Sunflower Foundation Rural Primary Care Scholars, a summer program that places medical students with rural family practitioners for a clinical internship (three-year grant)

• United Methodist Western Kansas Mexican-American Ministries, Inc., Garden City - \$44,700 to contract pharmacist services and implement best practice pharmacy methods

CAPACITY BUILDING

Assessment and Organizational Development Grants

• American Lung Association of the Central States, Wichita office - \$16,273 for computer hardware and software

• American Stroke Foundation, Mission - \$16,026 for computer hardware, software, projector, technology consultation and training

• Association for Community Reform Now (ACORN), Kansas City - \$17,500 for leadership development

• Attica Hospital District #1, Attica - \$16,060 for computer hardware

• Catholic Charities of Salina, Inc., Salina - \$9,714 for telephone system upgrades in two clinic facilities

• Center for Health and Wellness, Inc., Wichita - \$10,000 for grantwriting technical assistance to support a federal grant application

• Center for Practical Bioethics, Kansas City - \$12,500 for an organizational capacity assessment of computers, networks, phone system, Web services, fundraising database and accounting systems

• Central Kansas Mental Health Center, Salina - \$20,000 for computer hardware and software upgrades

• COMCARE of Sedgwick County, Wichita - \$19,800 for laptop computers for Field Case Managers

• Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas, Pittsburg - \$20,000 for integrated practice management and patient record system training

• Community HealthCare System, Inc., Onaga - \$20,000 for transcription technology, including hardware and software

• Douglas County AIDS Project, Lawrence - \$9,954 for computer hardware, software, Web and technology consultation and training

• East Central Kansas Area Agency on Aging, Ottawa - \$3,915 for an assessment of technology capacity

• Elizabeth Layton Center, Inc., Ottawa - \$15,300 for computer hardware and software

• Four County Mental Health Center, Inc., Independence - \$17,112 for technology upgrades at two satellite offices

• Four Tribes Women's Wellness Coalition, Horton - \$12,150 for board development and Web site development

• Gerard House, Inc., Wichita - \$6,882 for computer hardware, networking technology and training

• Good Samaritan Society – Olathe, Olathe - \$8,373 for presentation and training technology, including computers, software, video projectors and monitors

• Hamilton County Hospital, Syracuse - \$20,000 for a new telephone system

• Harper Hospital District #5, Harper - \$20,000 for transcription hardware and software

• Health Ministries Clinic, Newton - \$20,000 for computer hardware, software and network expansion

• HopeNet, Inc., Wichita - \$9,437 for Web site development consultation, computer hardware, software and video projector

• Hutchinson Community College – The Volunteer Center, Hutchinson - \$5,364 for marketing consultation

• Independence, Inc., Lawrence - \$20,000 for computer hardware, software and server

• Inter-Faith Ministries, Wichita - \$16,364 for fundraising training for staff and board members

• Kansas Advocates for Better Care, Inc., Lawrence - \$11,228 for strategic planning and leadership development

• Kansas Association for Infant Mental Health, Topeka - \$5,900 for leadership assessment, governance development and planning

• Kansas Association for the Medically Underserved, Topeka - \$9,930 for consultation to evaluate the progress and assess the sustainability of Project RevUp system changes in two safety net clinics

• Kansas Big Brothers Big Sisters, Inc., Wichita - \$20,000 for technical consultation to develop a fundraising management database

• Kansas Children's Service League, Topeka - \$20,000 for technology to add video conferencing capabilities in Emporia, Hays, Manhattan and Pittsburg offices

• Kansas State University – Community Health Institute, Manhattan - \$92,902 to conduct and disseminate findings from a Hispanic Health Needs Assessment in Dodge City, Garden City and Liberal (two-year grant)

• KANZA Mental Health and Guidance Center, Inc., Hiawatha - \$20,000 for computer hardware, software, printer and video projector

• Mankato Endowment Association, Mankato - \$3,927 for a new telephone and paging system for Jewell County Rural Health Clinic

• Marian Clinic, Topeka - \$18,075 for an economic impact study and marketing, fundraising and software consultation

• Mercy and Truth Medical Missions, Kansas City - \$13,583 for telephone system upgrades in two clinic sites

• Montgomery County Community Clinic, Independence - \$11,000 for computer hardware and patient management software

• Morris County Hospital, Council Grove - \$10,165 for computer hardware to enhance training and education

• Ness County Hospital District #2, Ness City - \$15,615 for dictation system technology

• Sedgwick County Department on Aging – Central Plains Area Agency on Aging, Wichita - \$20,000 for centralized data collection and storage software

• Southeast Kansas Area Agency on Aging, Chanute - \$20,000 for computer hardware, software and printers

• Southeast Kansas Respite Services, Inc., Parsons - \$3,179 for computer hardware and software

• Stafford County Hospital, Stafford - \$20,000 for computers and server

• The ALS Association – Keith Worthington Chapter, Mission - \$16,119 for technology upgrades at the Wichita office, including hardware, software, printer and projector

• The Capper Foundation, Topeka - \$5,550 to assess the organization's program capacity and evaluate program options

• Tiyospaye, Inc., Wichita - \$11,174 for high-speed copiers

• TLC for Children and Families, Inc., Olathe - \$8,100 for middle management leadership training

• Topeka AIDS Project, Topeka - \$11,000 for board development and to assess and strengthen fundraising efforts

• Tri-Valley Developmental Services, Inc., Chanute - \$16,110 for computer hardware, software, projector, scanner and printer

• YMCA of Topeka, Topeka - \$20,000 for computer and server upgrades

General Capacity Building Grants

• Kansas Health Institute, Topeka - \$32,500 to support the institute's participation in a project to build the capacity of the National Collaborative of State Health Policy Centers (three-year grant)

• Wichita State University – Self Help Network/Center for Community Support and Research, Wichita - \$10,000 in matching funds to help leverage an Administration for Children and Families (ACF) Compassion Capital grant to continue the Compassion Kansas program to build the capacity of grassroots organizations

Special Events

• Sunflower Foundation Grantee Workshop, October 4, 2007 – Finding Your Voice: Strengthening Nonprofit Advocacy

HEALTHY BEHAVIORS AND PREVENTION

School, Community and Worksite Grants

• Action for Healthy Kids, Inc., Skokie, IL - \$25,000 for a Kansas-based project that will conduct a survey of youth leaders about school wellness, provide mini-grants to high school students to implement student-led school wellness programs and help support a Youth Health Summit (two-year grant)

• Johnson County Community College, Overland Park - \$21,218 to help initiate the Edible School Yard Garden at the Hiersteiner Child Development Center (two-year grant)

• Kansas Families and Schools Together, Inc., Topeka - \$25,000 to fund 32 mini-grants to schools to host Family Fun, Food and Fitness Nights, to collaborate with Kansas State Department of Education Team Nutrition on parent education modules for Family Fun and to evaluate the program (two-year grant)

• Kansas State Department of Education, Topeka - \$24,000 to expand Power Panther Professionals, a 12-week staff wellness program for school and child care personnel, by providing mini-grants to 60 participating school sites (two-year grant)

• Kansas State Department of Education, Topeka - \$46,282 to help support the replication of the Eat, Exercise, Excel (EEE) program in two Kansas schools: Woodland Health and Wellness Magnet Elementary (USD #259/Wichita) and Eugene Ware Elementary (USD #234/Fort Scott) (two-year grant)

• Kansas State University – Community Health Institute, Manhattan - \$77,501 to develop, deliver and assess an interactive Girl Scout curriculum designed to increase the quantity and quality of family meals at home to improve obesity-prevention behaviors in ten Manhattan-area troops, followed by dissemination to troops across the Kaw Valley Council's 22 Kansas counties (two-year grant)

• Kansas State University – Counseling Services, Manhattan - \$22,862 to support a partnership with

Manhattan High School (USD #383) to implement a school-based peer mentoring program for healthy behaviors related to physical activity, diet and stress management (21-month grant)

• USD #349/Stafford, Stafford - \$12,932 to support an after-school program involving students, staff, families and community members to promote good nutrition

• USD #399/Paradise, Natoma and Waldo, Natoma - \$14,497 to support family health nights to educate students, families and community members on strategies to address childhood obesity

Tobacco Control and Prevention Grants

• University of Kansas Medical Center Research Institute, Inc., Kansas City - \$106,528 to conduct an attitudinal survey of elected municipal officials in 57 Kansas communities regarding non-smoking ordinance for workplaces and public places; analyze the status of existing smoking ordinances in these communities; conduct an educational summit for state and local policymakers to disseminate the survey findings; develop a "Clean Air Kansas" Web site as an information clearinghouse; and develop a technical support team to work with Kansas community coalitions interested in clean indoor air ordinances

Walking Trails Grants

• City of Colwich, Colwich - \$14,190 to build a 1,390' long, 6' wide concrete walking path connecting the main part of the city with a new KDOT trail

• City of Grinnell, Grinnell - \$11,914 to build two 5' wide concrete walking trails – one 2,535' long trail around the city park and one 1,425' long trail through the city park

• City of Hesston, Hesston - \$14,900 to build a 1,600' long, 6' wide concrete walking trail along Hickory Street, connecting with the Hesston College trail

• City of Hoisington, Hoisington - \$20,000 to build a 2,300' long, 5' wide concrete walking path from Main and 9th Streets to the Hoisington Activity Center (includes path lighting)

• City of Kingman, Kingman - \$15,405 to build a 6,035' long, 5' wide concrete walking path around the west end of the island park (includes trail signage)

• City of Newton, Newton - \$15,000 to build a 1,580' long, 10' wide concrete walking trail along South Kansas Avenue, connecting 24th Street to the Quail Creek Addition

• City of Parsons, Parsons - \$15,000 to build a 7/16 mile long, 10' wide natural walking trail linking Tolen Creek Park to 10th Street

• Elk County Community and Education Foundation, Howard - \$3,000 to build a ¼ mile long, 4' wide concrete walking trail loop around Jackson Park

• Hope Unlimited, Inc., Iola - \$8,724 to build a 2,575' long, 6' wide concrete walking path from Cofachique Park to Riverside Park, connecting with the Prairie Spirit Trail

• Melvern PRIDE, Melvern - \$9,250 to build a 4,400' long, 6' wide rock walking trail along the Marais des Cygnes River

• Twin City Lions Club, Cottonwood Falls - \$11,700 to build a ¼ mile long, 10' wide compacted limestone walking trail around Swope Park

• University of Kansas Field Station and Ecological Reserve, Lawrence - \$17,558 to build a 2,689' long, 6'

wide concrete walking/nature trail connecting two natural trails and providing access to featured locations at the site (includes trail signage)

• USD #233/Olathe, Olathe - \$3,750 to build a 650' long, 6' wide asphalt walking trail on the Meadow Lane Elementary School playground

• USD #305/Salina Public Schools, Salina - \$15,000 to build a 1,477' long, 5' wide concrete walking trail on the Stewart Elementary School campus

• USD #358/Oxford, Oxford - \$15,000 to build a one-mile long, 8' wide cedar mulch walking trail near the Old Oxford Mill

• USD #441/Sabetha, Sabetha - \$6,190 to build a one-mile long, 5½' wide limestone walking trail to connect all three Sabetha schools

• Valley Falls Recreation Commission, Valley Falls - \$5,983 to build a 4,900' long, 10' wide crushed limestone walking trail on an abandoned rail bed at the east edge of Valley Falls

• Wilson County Hospital, Neodesha - \$15,000 to build a .43 mile long, 8' wide asphalt walking trail round the hospital campus

General Healthy Behaviors and Prevention Grants

• University of Kansas, Lawrence - \$4,500 to support the appearance of four presenters at the University of Kansas 9th Annual Conference on the Prevention and Treatment of Overweight and Obese Individuals

• Wichita State University – Elliott School of Communication, Wichita - \$20,000 to help support a project to analyze Kansas teen driver crash data, survey Kansas parents and teens regarding teen driving and opinions on a graduated driver licensing (GDL) system for Kansas drivers and disseminate findings to inform discussions regarding teen driver licensing

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Responsive Grants

• Kansas Hospital Education and Research Foundation, Topeka - \$290,000 to help support an initiative of the Kansas Health Care Collaborative, co-founded by the Kansas Hospital Association and the Kansas Medical Society, to improve quality, enhance patient safety and facilitate public reporting (two-year grant)

• Kansas University Endowment Association, Lawrence - \$300,000 to help support a pilot project between the KU School of Law and Southwest Boulevard Family Health Care Clinic, Kansas City, that integrates legal and medical services in a safety net setting (three-year grant)

Stronger Together

STRONGER TOGETHER.

We are all connected, our stories overlapping. Whether we come from a small town or a large city in Kansas, we share common struggles and challenges. A new idea that affects change in one place can inspire and provide guidance to a city far away. At the Sunflower Foundation, we believe each of us can make a positive difference in our communities and world. We also believe that by working together we can create substantial improvements in the health of our state.

Sharing ourselves to strengthen us all.

This annual report is a celebration of people and organizations throughout Kansas whose kindness, support and innovation help others become stronger and healthier. We invite you to read about the ideas and efforts of people who share your commitment.

Our mission at the Sunflower Foundation is to serve as a catalyst for improving the health of Kansans. We do so by providing grants to organizations and communities that are clearly focused on that same goal. We do so by sharing ourselves through ideas, providing the funding that spurs action, and humbly watching the amazing process of lives being changed.

We are proud to acknowledge the grants we awarded during our Fiscal Year 2008 (July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008). Each year we grow stronger, together.

Marty Beezley

Marty Beezley
Board Chair

Billie G. Hall

Billie G. Hall
President & CEO

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CAPACITY BUILDING 10 Rosa Molina is leading the way for underserved populations in Wichita to receive prescription medications and more through the Medical Service Bureau.



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THE SUNFLOWER FOUNDATION

Welcome! We at the Sunflower Foundation are committed to working together for a stronger, healthier Kansas. We are passionate about promoting the wonderful works and ideas of health organizations throughout the state. We know that by joining our efforts we can help people of all ages experience a healthier, more productive and enjoyable life. So we invite you to work with us, share your ideas, let us know what is working in your community and what ways we can help support your efforts.

We invite your inquiries, questions and suggestions at any time. We promise to respond and to answer your questions as best we can.

Thank you for your interest in the Sunflower Foundation. We look forward to working together soon.

Meet the Staff

Standing, left to right: Yvette Desrosiers-Alphonse, Program Officer; Billie Hall, President/C.E.O.; Larry Tobias, V.P. for Programs; Cheryl Bean, Finance/Grants Manager; Seated, left to right: Alisa Browning, Executive/Program Assistant; and Jackie Yingling, Finance/Grants Assistant.





The Tierrablanca family (left to right) Sandra, Margarita, Jose and Lisbeth, are thankful for the loving care provided by Dr. Mawdsley and the staff at Flint Hills Clinic after Margarita was born at only 11 ounces.



Stronger Together ...through lifelong care.

Flint Hills Community Health Center, Emporia

On a tree-lined street in Emporia, in a red, two-story home lives Margarita, a beautiful two-year-old child with dark hair and dark eyes. She has a special smile for her friend Dr. Mike Mawdsley visiting from the Flint Hills Community Health Center. Born at just 11 ounces, Margarita is a walking, talking testament to the work of the clinic. She is the smallest surviving infant in Kansas. After her birth and four months of care at a regional hospital, Margarita and her family needed to find a local health partner for crucial continuing care. Dr. Mawdsley and the Flint Hills center stepped into the gap to help the family.

Stronger Together ...through lifelong care.

Coordinating Lifelong Care

Margarita's story is one of thousands that illustrate the way the health clinic is focusing on lifelong coordination of care. Executive Director Lougene Marsh explains that the clinic's goal is to deliver integrated medical services, not just a quick fix. "We want to follow patients throughout life, if possible, by creating an integrated care plan," Marsh says. "We are working with other community health partners to create better care through less fragmentation and less duplication of services."

The clinic provides all-important preventative care including prenatal care, works with other hospitals for obstetrics, and welcomes mother and child back to the clinic for pediatric care. An internal medicine physician is key to helping the elderly population. Flint Hills views itself as a community partner, inviting other organizations

to look to them as a resource. "It's important we collaborate to deliver general health care, mental health services, and social services," says Marsh.

Generations of Help

Founded in 1923 as the Lyon County Health Department, the majority of the clinic's growth occurred in the late 1990s as the facility became a Federally Qualified Health Center, expanding services to include individuals with insurance, Medicare, Medicaid and HealthWave, as well as the uninsured.

Over the last nine years, Marsh has successfully worked to expand services. In 2005, Marsh applied for and received a Bridge Grant from the Sunflower Foundation in order to hire one full-time family practitioner, providing care to about 3,525 additional patients in Lyon County. To help provide more specialized care

for children, Marsh again applied for and received a 2006 Sunflower Foundation Bridge Grant. Using these funds, Marsh was able to hire Dr. Mawdsley, a full time pediatrician.

"Since we hired Dr. Mawdsley, ill children are usually worked into the schedule within a day or two, and it's possible to schedule a physical within three to five days," says Marsh. The clinic expects to increase the number of pediatric visits 2,057 this year.

For Marsh and other staff members, it's not just about medical care being available; it's also about the manner in which it is delivered. Cultural barriers compound economic barriers. "Imagine having an illness and being unable to express or describe the pain you are experiencing. We provide a culturally-sensitive interpreter who works alongside our physician and dentists."

The Language of Care

Margarita's one-year portrait is pinned to Dr. Mawdsley's office bulletin board. He has visited her many times and has become quite close to the family. During his most recent visit, the beaming faces of Margarita's parents tell a story of its own. "We really appreciate Dr. Mike," says Margarita's mother Sandra.

For the Tierrablanca family, as with so many others, Flint Hills is a vital part of a healthy life. More than simply a place for immediate care, Flint Hills Community Health Center is a portal to services throughout the community. The family is connected to additional resources including developmental screenings, dental care and childcare. It is care that is stronger as caregivers and community partners work together.

Sunflower Foundation Area of Interest

HEALTH CARE ACCESS

A focus on projects to improve access to health care for growing numbers of uninsured and underinsured, with an emphasis on community based health services, and projects that address health disparities.

Examples of projects funded in this area include:

- Strengthening the health care safety net – The Sunflower Foundation offers Bridge Grants that help expand primary care services (medical, dental and behavioral) for uninsured and underserved populations. These grants are designed for primary care safety net providers working in community-based settings. A primary care provider serves as a medical home and coordinates a range of health services and supports.
- Eliminating health disparities – It is an unfortunate fact that gaps in health care exist among Kansas populations defined by age, gender, economics, demographics, race, ethnicity, disability status and geography. These disparities result in unequal access, treatment and outcomes. The Sunflower Foundation targets programs that help identify and eliminate disparities.
- Promoting access to health coverage – The foundation supports state and national efforts to improve access to health insurance for all Kansans. We also support informed decision-making around health coverage and encourage broad participation by all groups affected by health reform.





Happy faces and happy feet. Children at Fairview Elementary School in Olathe begin each day laughing, walking, skipping and running around a path circling the playground.



Stronger Together ...through shared paths.

Fairview Elementary School, Olathe

It's 8 a.m. and students are lined up in the gymnasium to go outside. Each morning, these students are invited to start the day with a little walk around a path that circles the school's playground. The children are thrilled to be outside, skipping together with friends and chatting excitedly. It may seem a small thing, but for these students, the habit of starting the day with a little outdoor exercise just may become a lifelong activity.

Stronger Together ...through shared paths.

Troubling Trend

Several years ago, physical education teacher Barb Siegfried noticed a troubling trend among her students at Fairview Elementary School in Olathe: They were often using their recess time for sedentary activities.

“Kids were swinging, or talking or just sitting around,” Siegfried said, who has taught generations of families over her 31-year career at Fairview. “One particular student caught my eye and then I began to notice just how many of her classmates were also inactive during recess.”

Siegfried and Arvella Speese, Wellness Director for the Olathe School District, talked about the troubling trend and possible remedies. Their idea? Construct a walking trail at the school to encourage physical activity. They envisioned a trail where walkers could enjoy some scenic variety, but would always be visible to school staff.

A Path to Progress

With seed money already promised by Olathe Medical Center, Siegfried and Speese approached the Sunflower Foundation with a grant request to fund the construction of a 1/5-mile trail. The Sunflower Foundation granted that request and funded five other walking trail requests across the state in 2005. The Fairview Elementary School walking trail was dedicated on October 27 of that year. (To date, Sunflower Foundation has funded 38 walking trails across Kansas.)

The impact on the students was immediate.

“In addition to using the trail for P.E. classes, students began walking during recess and even before school,” said Siegfried. “Students were also coming to school early, just to walk on the trail.”

Seeking to encourage this habit, Siegfried decided to join the students at 8 a.m. every school day, awarding wrist bands based on the number of laps

completed. Students in kindergarten through second grade earn prizes once they reach 30 miles, while those in grades four through six do so after 40 miles.

The social aspect is also beneficial, Siegfried says. “Doing something fun together is the key. Kids like to be with their friends and run and play while benefitting from the added activity at the beginning of the day.”

Siegfried and the school nurse, who serves as a wellness coordinator, work together to make health programs fun for kids and parents. Fairview holds a basketball camp in the winter, a hockey night and a “walk to school” day. All the activities are intended to be both fun and a way to encourage an active lifestyle now and for years to come.

Walking Forward

The Fairview Elementary School sits in the middle of a neighborhood with the playground and walking trail visible and accessible to the area. Rather than a simple oval, the trail forms a boot shaped perimeter around the playground, which makes for a more interesting walk than a simple lap around a traditional track. On weekends, the neighbors are using the walking trail, as well. Siegfried said she knows of several families that routinely walk the paths. Fairview’s Parent Teacher Organization also sponsors an annual walk-a-thon, putting the trail to even greater use.

“A walking trail may seem like a simple thing, but the impact is significant,” said Siegfried. “Students are more active and healthy today and they are developing health habits to carry into adulthood.”



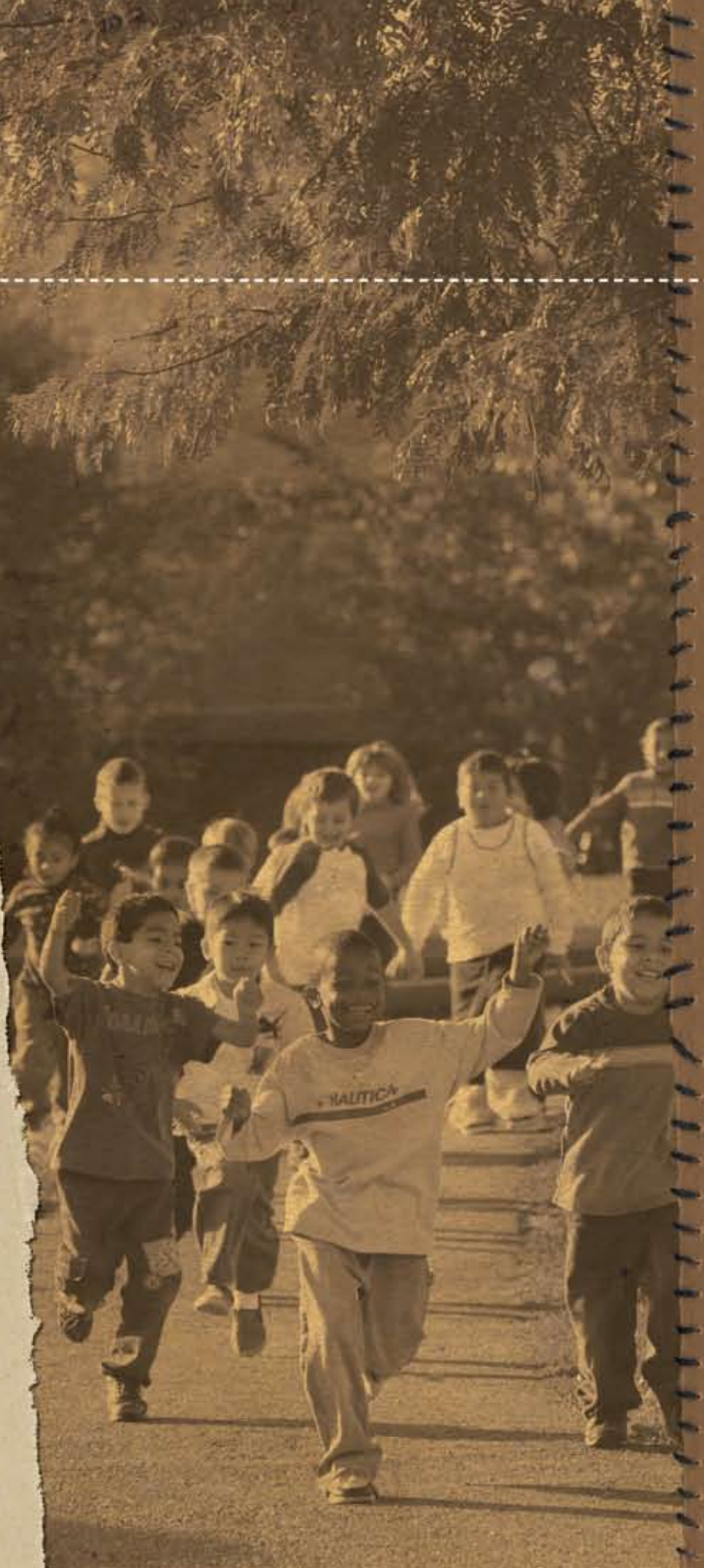
Sunflower Foundation Area of Interest

HEALTHY BEHAVIORS AND PREVENTION

A focus on helping people live healthier lives through education, lifestyle choices and environmental factors (physical, cultural and social) that support healthy living.

Examples of the types of projects funded in this area include:

- Promoting physical activity and proper nutrition as a means to preventing obesity, especially in children and youth. Much of the foundation’s work has focused on schools, communities and work sites.
- Supporting environmental changes that encourage increased physical activity. Specifically, the foundation’s priorities are school and community-based walking trails.
- Supporting education and advocacy around tobacco use and clean indoor air.





Rosa Molina often forms friendships with those she and the bureau serve as she advises them on the assistance available for prescription medications and eyeglasses.



Stronger ...through good medicine. Together

Medical Services Bureau, **Wichita**

For the seven people sharing the space in the small waiting room at Medical Services Bureau, the wait is worth it. As with most days, the people who have come to the bureau are seeking assistance to purchase prescription medications. As the weather turns from warm to cold, the bureau receives more requests for antibiotics. But MSB is busy all year assisting residents throughout Sedgwick County receive low-cost or free medications to treat heart conditions, diabetes, high blood pressure, respiratory problems, mental health and other chronic illnesses among the underserved and uninsured. MSB also has a program to connect clients to eyeglasses and eye care.

Stronger Together ...through good medicine.

'A Better Way'

When Executive Director Rosa Molina joined MSB almost 14 years ago, she was greeted with a shoestring operation, but one with deep roots in the medical community. In 1937, a group of physicians founded the bureau as a way to help patients receive health care by paying only what they could afford. Later, Medical Service Bureau changed its mission to link low income, uninsured and underinsured Kansans to access to prescription medications and vision care. Rosa is only the third director in agency history. She was familiar with its importance in the community, but faced many challenges to bring the services up to date.

"I joined a staff of two in an office where all paperwork was done by hand," Molina recalls. "We would interview up to four people an hour, take notes, write out the prescription

voucher and start calling various pharmacies for the lowest prices."

The amount of work for each patient was overwhelming. "I thought, 'There just has to be a better way to serve people,'" Molina says.

Through the years, Molina has worked tirelessly to find new ways to bring prescription medications to those in need and improve office operations. Prior to Medicare Part D, she established a nonprofit pharmacy at MSB with the help of the agency's first grant from Sunflower Foundation. She and her staff work with clients to match them to the best programs for obtaining their prescription medications.

Strengthening the Foundation

Sunflower Foundation has also helped MSB purchase upgraded computer equipment and software for the creation of a reliable patient database.

The ability to record and track patient and prescription information not only strengthens the quality of services, it also helps MSB manage growth.

In 2007, MSB received a Capacity Building grant for financial management software and training on its use.

"Thanks to this new software, we were able to identify that the number of clients this year was 30 percent higher than one year ago. That's the kind of information that helps us plan more effectively for the future and to be able to better serve the growing needs of our community," Molina says.

A Model for Services

MSB focuses on creating connections that provide effective and affordable care for clients. "Prescription medications can result in a tremendous financial burden on the uninsured and underinsured," Molina says. "Medical Services Bureau is trying hard to educate everyone about that, including physicians."

Molina hopes that other communities can learn from MSB's experience and sees the value in trying to replicate the bureau's model of care on a broader level. "Of course we're stronger together! We'd be most willing to assist anyone who is interested in providing similar services in other communities."



Sunflower Foundation Area of Interest

CAPACITY BUILDING

A focus on projects that strengthen the organizational capacity of community-based health and human services organizations, with a focus on organizations that provide primary health care and prevention services.

Grants are provided to assess or develop core organizational functions, such as governance, leadership, management and information systems, in order to build organizational effectiveness and impact and to increase organizational sustainability.



Stronger Together ...through advocacy.

We are proud that the Sunflower Foundation shares the name of the Kansas state flower. The sunflower's seeds provide nourishment for many, spreading beauty and sustenance wherever they take root.

Likewise, the Sunflower Foundation is trying to spread the message throughout Kansas that advocacy contributes to the mission of nonprofits – nourishing, if you will, the fruits of their labor. In 2007, the Sunflower Foundation board adopted advocacy as an official focus area.

“We believe the outcome of public policy decisions are enriched when nonprofits are at the table. But we know this doesn’t always happen,” says Billie Hall, President and CEO of the Sunflower Foundation. “That’s why we began looking at ways to help nonprofits get more involved in advocacy and, ultimately, strengthen their voices in policy discussions.”

To help guide the development of Sunflower’s work in advocacy, the foundation partnered with David Arons, a national expert in nonprofit advocacy. David led the foundation’s 2007 Grantee Workshop, Finding Your Voice: Strengthening Nonprofit Advocacy, which sparked great interest among participants.

On behalf of the Sunflower Foundation, David surveyed a cross-section of Kansas health related nonprofits about the extent and nature of their public policy participation. The survey provided a better understanding of how nonprofits across the state perceive advocacy, their motivations for being involved, and the various levels of engagement.

Results of the survey showed that only 40 percent of Kansas health nonprofits believe their mission calls for participation in public policy. And, of these, only one-third spend more than a few hours a week as advocates to the state legislature during its session.



As a consultant to the Sunflower Foundation, David Arons is helping the foundation develop a capacity building program for Kansas nonprofits. David is former co-director of the Washington-based Center for Lobbying in the Public Interest, former faculty member at Johns Hopkins and Georgetown universities, editor of A Voice for Nonprofits and co-author of Seen but not Heard: Strengthening Nonprofit Advocacy.

The survey also revealed that the greatest challenges to participation are time and resources. And, while many nonprofits engage in some form of limited advocacy during the legislative session, most do not see public policy work as necessary throughout the year.

“There are positive results from the survey, as well,” says David. “We learned that Kansas nonprofits want to be involved in public policy – they understand that they have an important voice, they want to be heard and they welcome opportunities to build capacity and strengthen their effectiveness.”

“The survey results are informing our planning and work around advocacy,” says Billie. “It is our intent to respond by developing programs that strengthen nonprofit organizations and leaders. The Sunflower Foundation believes that nonprofits need to be involved because their perspective is important to finding solutions to today’s complex health problems.”

ADVOCACY

The best policy is made when the most voices are heard – stories from the field, from divergent experience and from experts on the ground serving the people of Kansas. That’s why the Sunflower Foundation is developing new programs that help nonprofits leaders and their organizations become stronger and more effective in advocacy and public policy processes.

There are three aspects to the foundation’s work:

- Advocacy Fellowship Project – a comprehensive training program for nonprofit leaders
- Advocacy in Health Speaker Series – a public education program to promote awareness and understanding of nonprofit advocacy
- Capacity Building – a technical assistance program to help nonprofits become more engaged and effective in advocacy

For more information about our work in advocacy, visit www.sunflowerfoundation.org.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

| Assets | JUNE 30, 2008 |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| Cash and investments | \$105,832,998 |
| Fixed assets and other assets | \$99,203 |
| Total Assets | \$105,932,201 |
| Liabilities and Net Assets | |
| Accounts payable and accrued expenses | \$140,079 |
| Grants payable | \$3,988,952 |
| Total Liabilities | \$4,129,031 |
| Unrestricted Net assets | \$101,803,170 |
| Total Net Assets | \$101,803,170 |
| Total Liabilities and Net Assets | \$105,932,201 |

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGE IN ASSETS

| Support and Revenue | June 30, 2008 |
|--|---------------|
| Investment income, net of expenses | (\$6,206,485) |
| Contribution income | \$2,655 |
| Total Income | (\$6,203,830) |
| Grants and Expenses | |
| Grant awards | \$3,292,411 |
| Grant awards (refunds/adjustments) | (\$162,535) |
| Program, general and administrative expenses | \$999,405 |
| Total grants and expenses | \$4,129,281 |
| Change in net assets | -\$10,333,111 |
| Net assets, beginning of year | \$112,136,281 |
| Net assets, end of year | \$101,803,170 |

The amounts above are from the foundation’s Fiscal Year 2008 audited financial statements.

A copy of the foundation’s audited financial statements is available upon request.

Let's grow stronger ...together.

As we reflect on the past year, we have a tremendous appreciation for the work being done across Kansas to increase access to health care and to promote health. We learn a great deal from the organizations with which we partner – and we know that finding effective ways to work together is the best way to find effective solutions to the health challenges facing Kansans. We look forward to continuing current and developing new partnerships – growing stronger together.

The Mission of the Sunflower Foundation

To serve as a catalyst for improving the health of Kansans.

Our Vision for Health

To direct our resources toward helping people and communities achieve and maintain optimal health by improving access to health care and information, eliminating barriers, emphasizing prevention and promoting healthy environments that enable and support personal responsibility for health.

How to Contact Us

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SUNFLOWER FOUNDATION STAFF

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Yvette Desrosiers-Alphonse
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Finance/Grants Manager

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Executive/Program Assistant

Jackie C. Yingling
Finance/Grants Assistant



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Sunflower Foundation is governed by nine trustees who represent diverse backgrounds and regions of the state. Eight trustees are appointed through a process overseen by the Kansas Attorney General. One trustee is appointed by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas. Current Sunflower Foundation trustees include:

Marty Beezley, Chair
Pittsburg, Kansas

Harry W. Craig, Jr.
Topeka, Kansas

Thomas L. Miller, BCBSKS appointment
Topeka, Kansas

Christopher J. Ruder, M.S.N., R.N., Secretary
Lawrence, Kansas

Karen S. Hauser, Ed.D.
Salina, Kansas

Greg Unruh
Onaga, Kansas

Kraig L. Gross, Treasurer
Hays, Kansas

Mia S. Korbelik
Dodge City, Kansas

Caroline A. Williams
Wichita, Kansas

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The nine-member Sunflower Foundation Community Advisory Committee (CAC) nominates candidates for the foundation's Board of Trustees. The CAC also acts in an advisory role to the foundation and reviews the annual reports. The Kansas Attorney General appoints eight of the committee members; the ninth member is the chair of the foundation board, serving ex-officio with vote. Current members of the Community Advisory Committee include:

Reverend Bobby Love, CAC Chair
Olathe, Kansas

James Mireles
Garden City, Kansas

Robert K. Thomen, M.D.
Chanute, Kansas

Karen A. Seals, Ph.D., CAC Secretary
Lawrence, Kansas

Janet Schalansky
Topeka, Kansas

Alan G. Wynne, M.D.
Topeka, Kansas

Phyllis Gilmore
Olathe, Kansas

Mark Douglas Sheern, M.D.
Abilene, Kansas

Marty Beezley
Chair, Sunflower Foundation Board
Pittsburg, Kansas

