

## **PRESS RELEASE – WRIGHT COUNTY CHARITABLE FOUNDATION**

### **Gifts near \$227,000 total**

County Foundation grants \$47,900 to 16 worthy county projects

From its seven granting cycles in three and a half years, the Wright County Charitable Foundation (WCCF) has awarded a total \$226,990 to 84 non-profit groups across the county.

In recent ceremonies held at the ISU Extension Office in Clarion, 16 groups received \$47,900 which were added to make the overall total. The grant making committee, as well as the Youth Leadership committee, composed of six high school juniors and seniors from across Wright County, reviewed the grant applications; \$42,900 was awarded by the grant committee with the youth adding \$5,000 from their review. All grants were approved by the full WCCF board of directors.

The WCCF receives a portion of the gaming funds which come to the state coffers from gambling annually, as do another 84 counties. Each of those counties does not have gaming in their counties. Each county foundation is required to give 75% of the monies they receive; the 25% balance is retained as a permanent county endowment.

Grant recipients include: Wright County Library Association, \$1,500 to purchase Wii machines for five libraries; Goldfield Commercial Club, WCCF and Youth grants totaling \$3,500 for air conditioning of the School/Community Center; Clarion Ruritan, WCCF and Youth grants totaling \$4,650 for a stainless steel towable grill; Kids Korner Day Care Ctr., Inc., \$500 Youth grant to update the food service area; Eagle's Wings Pre-School and Day Care, WCCF and Youth grants totaling \$4,000 to replace playground equipment and improve safety; Clarion Lions, WCCF and Youth grants totaling \$3,000 for the renovation of Hanson Ball Park; Connections After School Program, Eagle Grove, \$2,000 for field trips; Clarion VFW George Foster Post #2612, \$2,000 to winterize their building for year-around use; Eagle Grove Emergency Medical Service, WCCF and Youth grants totaling \$6,650 to purchase two defibrillators; Dows Rural Fire Association, \$3,000 for bunker gear for firemen; Crossroads Ministries, \$2,000 for interior/exterior improvements; Clarion Partnership for Growth, WCCF and Youth grants totaling \$3,000 to replace the flooring in the Clarion Fitness Center; Wright County Genealogical Searchers, \$2,500 for a storage cabinet, computer, scanner and printer; Belmont Chapter, Wright County Historical Society, \$500 for display lighting; Rowan Children's Playground Committee, WCCF and Youth grants totaling \$4,500 for a new playground; Boy Scout Troop 16, Belmont, WCCF and Youth grants totaling \$4,600 to install lights and scoreboard at the ball park.

According to Wright County Economic Development Director Dennis Bowman, there were 22 applications in this grant cycle. "Requests continue to come from across the county," he said. "We are pleased with the quality of the projects and the difference the foundation money can make to projects from a wide variety of needs and areas." Each grant applicant is required to match a portion of the funds necessary to complete the project; volunteer labor hours can also be added to the funds/hours needed to complete each project.

The 2009 fall grant cycle will begin on September 15 (no applications will be received prior to this date) with the final date to receive completed grants on October 16. Grant applications can be obtained at the Wright County Economic Development Offices, lower level of the courthouse or on line at the county's web site: HYPERLINK "<http://www.wrightcounty.org>" [www.wrightcounty.org](http://www.wrightcounty.org) .



From left, Jan Grandgeorge, Joyce Eriksen, Carol Bailey and Nola Waddingham, representatives of **Wright County's public libraries**, received a Wright County Charitable Foundation grant check for \$1,500 from WCCF President Duane Asbe. The money will be used to purchase Wii machines for the five libraries.



Steve Simonin, left, and Todd H. Foss, on behalf of the **Clarion Partnership For Growth** received a Wright County Charitable Foundation grant in the amount of \$3,000 from WCCF President Duane Asbe. The money will be used to replace the flooring at the Clarion Health & Fitness Center.



Dr. Douglas Helgevold, left, Jim Schipull and Lois Southard, representing the Goldfield Commercial Club, accepted Wright County Charitable Foundation grant checks for \$3,500 from WCCF President Duane Asbe. Schipull is also a member of the WCCF committee. The money will be used for air conditioning at the School/Community Center.



Cory Abels, representing **Clarion Ruritans**, received Wright County Charitable Foundation grant checks for \$4,650 from WCCF President Duane Asbe. The money will be used to buy a stainless steel towable gas grill.



From left, Dave Hasemann, Nicole Ritenour and LuAnne Pedersen, of the **Eagle's Wings Pre-School and Day Care**, received Wright County Charitable Foundation grant checks for \$4,000 from WCCF President Duane Asbe. The money will be used to replace playground equipment and improve safety.



Jeff Hansen, left, and Neal Odden, **Clarion Lions**, received Wright County Charitable Foundation grant checks for \$3,000 from WCCF President Duane Asbe. The money will be used for the renovation of Hanson Ball Park.



From left, Ray Southard, Merle Poulson and Eldon Funte, representing **VFW Post #2612** George Foster, Clarion, received a Wright County Charitable Foundation grant check for \$2000 from WCCF President Duane Asbe. The money will be used to winterize the VFW building for year- around use.



Matt Hill and Fawn Roberts, representing the **Eagle Grove Emergency Medical Service**, received Wright County Charitable Foundation grant checks for \$6,650 from WCCF President Duane Asbe. The money will be used to purchase two defibrillators.



**Dows Rural Fire Association** members Todd Peterson, left, and Dusty Meek received a Wright County Charitable Foundation grant check for \$3,000 from WCCF President Duane Asbe. The money will be used to help buy bunker gear (protective suits) for firemen.



Craig Carlson and Sandy Schipull, representing **Crossroads Ministries**, received a Wright County Charitable Foundation grant check for \$2,000 from WCCF President Duane Asbe. The money will be used for interior and exterior improvements to their building.



From left, Rosella Gramstad, Judy Poolman and Will Johnson, of the **Wright County Genealogical Searchers** received a check for \$2,500 from WCCF President Duane Asbe. The money will be used to purchase a storage cabinet, computer, scanner and printer.



Dr. Al Kollasch, left, and Jim Pals, of the Belmond Chapter of the **Wright County Historical Society**, received a Wright County Charitable Foundation grant check for \$500 from WCCF President Duane Asbe. The money will be used to add lighting to their displays.



From left, Betty Hadley, Rhonda Benton and Denise Halfpop, of the **Rowan Children's Playground Committee**, accepted Wright County Charitable Foundation grant checks for \$4,500 from WCCF President Duane Asbe. The money will be used to turn an empty lot into a playground.