MISSION
The mission of Midlands Community Foundation is to benefit the diverse needs of the Sarpy and Cass county communities by providing financial support, involvement and service.

FOCUS
The focus of Midlands Community Foundation is to assist with community development by improving and enhancing the quality of life for the residents of Sarpy and Cass counties.

SERVICE AREA

ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT
$9.8 MILLION
89 cents of every dollar donated directly supports programming

Project Lifesaver started in Sarpy County in 2008 to help people who are at risk to wander away and return them back to their loved ones or caregivers. We were able to start the program with a very generous gift from the Midlands Community Foundation which provided us our initial funding to get equipment and bring in a national trainer.

Capt. Kevin Griger, Sarpy County Sheriff’s Department
Dear Friends,

We are pleased to share with you our 2019 Annual Report. We continue to be inspired by the generosity of the donors and partners with whom we work and from whom we learn. Together, we are supporting nonprofits, projects and programs that make our community more prepared and better equipped to ensure important changes occur to guarantee longevity and sustainability.

Over the last year, Midlands Community Foundation was awarded Non-Profit of the Year by the Bellevue and Sarpy County Chambers of Commerce.

We also are proud to report that 89% of every dollar donated to Midlands Community Foundation (MCF) is used directly to support programming.

We pride ourselves on being a trusted, compassionate and permanent community resource for those who have received grants from MCF or who have created charitable funds. Our growth is attributed to thousands of individuals who have supported MCF along the way – whether by making a donation to one of our many charitable funds, serving on our board of directors or on a volunteer committee, attending or sponsoring our Annual Golf Tournament and Reflection Ball, contributing to being a Sustainer to MCF, or one of the other countless ways that our community has helped to foster and support the Foundation’s continued work. MCF is growing every day as community needs evolve and more donors look to us to elevate their charitable giving.

We are the community’s fundraiser, and our ability to inspire the generosity of our neighbors in support of our neighbors is essential to what we do. Since our conversion from a private foundation to a public charity nine years ago, MCF has brought together people and resources to tackle critical community issues. We have a powerful platform to work broadly for the common good – as a funder, organizer, partner and advocate. We will continue to leverage this platform to build on the successes of our charitable funds and nonprofits.

To meet our goals, we must provide our donors and partners with high-quality service and engagement. We remain committed to transparency and accountability and operate with the highest standards of integrity and stewardship to ensure donor funds are effectively reinvested in improving the economic and social well-being of our community.

This work would not be possible without the support of our donors. Thank you for “Investing in the Power of Community.”
We invite you to become an MCF SUSTAINER

We know it is important to you to have connectivity between your personal values and your means to make an impact in the lives of those who need it most in our community. By partnering with various nonprofit organizations, we are able to meet the diverse needs of our neighbors in Sarpy and Cass counties.

We want to ensure that MCF is sustainable for the future. To support our efforts in continuing to build a strong foundation, we need your help. We invite you to join us in “Investing in the Power of Community” by becoming an MCF Sustainer.

Your gift will support the ongoing needs and worthwhile causes of organizations committed to making our community better. Donations can be in the form of cash, stocks, bonds, real estate or other assets.

We recognize and embrace our responsibility to serve as a leader. As our community grows and changes, it is important to work together to make our visions a reality. NOW is the time to give and collaborate to help make a difference.

“HETRA offers therapeutic riding to people with a variety of disabilities, including our Little Giant Emily. MCF supports both HETRA and the Little Giants Foundation Fund. It is beyond horse therapy and helping out the limbs, there really is a heart, body, mind connection. I see it as a time where Emily can escape and just be Emily. When she is up there on her horse, nothing can stop her.”

Erin Koesters, Little Giants Foundation Fund/ HETRA
ABOUT US

What began as a private foundation transitioned into a public charity in 2009, giving Midlands Community Foundation (MCF) the ability to create a stronger community. This public charity status was imperative to build partnerships with donors and organizations that aspire to make a positive impact through their charitable giving.

With an emphasis on prevention and education, MCF accomplishes our mission by awarding grants and discretionary gifts to nonprofit organizations within our service area without regard to economic status or race and has a strong commitment toward programs benefiting health, art, culture, community, economic development, education and human services. It is vital that MCF supports those organizations so they may develop and nurture the community as a whole.

By collaborating with individuals, families and businesses to meet their charitable interests, we provide donors the ability to establish Charitable Funds, such as Designated, Donor Advised, Field of Interest and Scholarship Funds. MCF serves as the nonprofit umbrella organization for our charitable funds which enables these funds to receive tax deductible contributions. By MCF handling the financial and administrative details, this allows the funds to grow over time.

MCF raises dollars through two major sources each year – the Annual Golf Tournament and the Annual Reflection Ball. All net proceeds of these events are distributed to the community through MCF’s grants program.

Together, we can “Invest in the Power of Community.”

"College Possible really opened my eyes to let me know that there are a lot of opportunities to actually get into college even when you don’t have money to pay for it. College Possible gave me the insight and huge relief that I am going to be able to do this. I am going to be able to help my family and myself succeed in life.

Claudette Sanchez, College Possible"
LOUISVILLE BALL PARENTS ASSOCIATION

GRANTS
Awarded twice annually with February 1 and August 1 deadlines.

TOTAL GRANTS AWARDED $215,745

DISCRETIONARY GIFTS AWARDED $28,750

IMPACT
76 organizations benefitted from MCF’s grants and gifts.

We are so grateful to the City of Louisville for the new ballfields and to the community members who donated. Midlands Community Foundation was so helpful in organizing all the donations and having the fund available for people to donate. These fields are not only a great source of pride for our community, but also an economic development tool.

John Winkler, Louisville Ball Parents Association Fund
**GRANT PROGRAM**

Midlands Community Foundation provided funding support to 47 local nonprofit organizations including:

**Fall 2018 Grants - $89,175**

- American Heroes Park Fund
  - War on Terror Memorial in American Heroes Park
- Assistance League of Omaha, Inc.
  - Operation School Bell
- Banister’s Leadership Academy
  - Materials for Leadership in Action program
- Bess Streeter Aldrich Foundation
  - Replace furnace and air conditioner in Bess Streeter Aldrich House in Elmwood NE
- College Possible
  - Core high school programming
- Girl Scouts Spirit of Nebraska
  - Replace tile flooring in Nature Center at Camp Maha
- Habitat for Humanity of Sarpy County
  - Rough-in costs for 45th home build
- Happy Paws
  - Medical treatment
- Kids Can Community Center
  - StemSmart Academy at Gilder Elementary
- Latino Center of the Midlands
  - Pathways to Success Program at Bellevue schools
- Lofte Community Theatre
  - Help cover costs of repainting the Lofte Theatre
- Mosaic
  - Help purchase multi-passenger commercial van with wheelchair lift
- Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministries
  - Help furnish pavilions
- Nebraska Masonic Home Foundation
  - Equipment for new sensory room
- Omaha Performing Arts
  - Nebraska High School Theatre Awards Program
- OneWorld Community Health Centers, Inc.
  - Mobile dental clinic
- Patriotic Productions
  - Female veterans flight to Washington D.C.
- Plattsmouth Education Foundation
  - Help with cost of replacing show choir risers
- Plattsmouth Public Library Foundation
  - Laser cutter for library
- Radio Talking Book Service
  - Implement RTBN services in care facilities and senior centers
- St. Bernadette School
  - Blended learning software
- Sarpy Community YMCA
  - Scholarships for all-day Summer Day Camp
- Strategic Air & Space Museum
  - Military and first responder admission for Patriot Day and Veterans Day program/lunch
- Titan Band Booster’s Association Inc.
  - Instruments to loan P-L South students

**Spring 2019 Grants - $93,250**

- Bellaire Elementary PTA
  - Support for new playground
- Bellevue Ministerial Association Food Pantry
  - Food pantry vouchers
- CHI Health Midlands Hospital
  - Materials and signage for Midlands Health Fair
- The Durham Museum
  - Teaching Our Community History Initiative
- Fontenelle Forest
  - Facility repairs and maintenance at Camp Wa-Kon-Da
- Food Bank for the Heartland
  - BackPack for Kids Program in Cass County schools
- Healing Embrace Fund
  - Bereavement Companion Services
- Inclusive Communities
  - IncluCity residential camp for Sarpy County students
- Joslyn Art Museum
  - Schools, Teachers and Technology and Kent Bellows Mentoring programs
- Keipos
  - Portable restrooms for garden sites
- Lift Up Sarpy County
  - Community Response Program
- Little Giants Foundation
  - Support for Little Giants Farm Run
- Martin Graves, American Legion Post 339
  - Post 339 food pantry
- Mercy Housing Midwest
  - Supplies for Resident Services program
- Merrymakers Association
  - Professional musical entertainment at assisted living and long-term care facilities
- Omaha Conservatory of Music
  - String Sprouts program
- Omaha Symphony
  - Choral Collaborative
- St. Matthew the Evangelist School
  - Dell Chromebooks
- Sarpy County Historical Society
  - Cold War, Korea and Vietnam exhibit
- Share A Fare, Inc.
  - Cab coupon books for visually impaired
- Smart Girl Society, Inc.
  - Social media educational programming
- Tri City Food Pantry
  - Food assistance
- Village of Manley
  - Support for new playground
CHARITABLE FUNDS

Establishing a fund with MCF gives funds immediate access to all the privileges of a 501(c)3 charitable corporation. Funds operate under MCF’s tax-exempt umbrella, allowing donors to take the maximum allowable tax deduction available.

MCF maintains responsibility for financial and administrative services, including recording and receipting contributions, conducting diligence on recommended grant recipients, managing donor records, managing cash and investments, obtaining an annual financial audit, preparing and filing the IRS Form 990 and issuing fund financial reports to the organization.

Following are funds available at MCF:

**Affiliated Fund**
An Affiliated Fund is created by a committee of local community leaders. Local leaders will educate family, friends and businesses about the benefit of supporting such a fund. MCF will handle the administrative details which allow you the time to grow your local community fund.

**Designated Fund**
A Designated Fund supports the good work of a specific program or project. This fund channels your gift to a charitable cause that provides a lasting benefit.

**Expendable** – allows the fund to be spent to the point of exhaustion and have an immediate impact in the community.

**Endowed** – principal will not be spent and can grow over time, providing a source of lasting support.

**Donor Advised Fund**
A Donor Advised Fund allows donors to make irrevocable tax-deductible contributions to the Foundation, which provides maximum flexibility; immediate tax benefits; tax free growth of funds/ the ability to schedule charitable contributions over time; a record of donations; and freedom from the responsibility and cost of legal and administrative details.

**Scholarship Fund**
A Scholarship Fund is set up to help a specified group of people pay for education in a particular field. It is an excellent way to help deserving students pay for college.

**Field of Interest Fund**
A Field of Interest Fund is an endowed fund that allows donor to designate and support a particular area of charitable interest.
MIDLANDS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

MIDLANDS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FUND

DESIGNATED ENDOWED FUNDS
Anderson Grove Presbyterian Church Fund*
Sarpy County Fair Fund
Sarpy County Historical Foundation Fund

DESIGNATED EXPENDABLE FUNDS
14th Hour Foundation Fund
Alex Shives Memorial Fund
American Heroes Park Fund
Anderson Grove Presbyterian Church – Marion Reed Trust Fund*
Auntie Em's Angels Fund
A Monster's Mission Fund
Bellevue Woman's Club Fund
Benson Plant Rescue Fund
Cass County Arts & Entertainment Fund
Cass County CASA Fund
Daybreak Fund
Dominik Walters Memorial Fund*
ECC Fund
Gretna Volunteer Fire & Rescue Department Fund
HEALing Embrace Fund
Healthy Sarpy and Cass County Fund
Kiwanis Club of Bellevue Fund
The Laurel Hill Cemetery Association Maintenance Fund
Least of My Brethren Fund
Lift Up Sarpy County Fund
Lofte Community Theatre Fund
Louisville Ball Parents Association Fund
MCF Education Fund
MCF Military Fund
Miguel Keith Project Fund
Moving Veterans Forward Fund
Ms. Pat's Kids Fund
National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs Fund*
National Veterans Tribute Network Fund
NCDDAA Constitutional Defense Fund*
Nebraska Fallen Heroes Fund
Nebraska Heat Youth Program Fund
Nebraska Parent & Responder Partnership Fund
Papillion-LaVista Community Theatre Fund
Papillion-LaVista Schools Foundation Fund
Papillion Library Foundation Fund
Papillion Senior Center Fund
Papillion Volunteer Fire Department Fund
Patriotic Productions Fund
Paws for Justice Fund
Rise Omaha Fund*
Salute Our Military Community Fund
Sarpy County Chamber of Commerce Foundation Fund
Sarpy County Historical Society and Museum Fund
Sarpy County Sports Commission Fund
Splash Pads for Bellevue Fund
Springfield Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department Fund
Titan Defenders Fund
Veterans Legal Support Network Fund
Veterans Resource Network Fund
Weeping Water Community Booster Fund
Youth Frontiers Fund

DONOR ADVISED FUNDS
Antle Family Fund*
BB Charitable Trust Fund
CB Charitable Trust Fund
Bob and Bindy Charitable Fund
Brewer Family Fund
Calek-Polikov Foundation Fund
Harlan and Cherie Metchlke Charitable Fund*
Heimes Corp Charitable Fund
Jaksich Timmerman Fund
John and Tressa Jungers Charitable Fund
Madeline Chase Charitable Foundation Fund
Maiwand Jezails Fund*
Mother Teresa Fund
Neal and Paula Wachholtz Fund
Patrick Insulation/Cavanaugh Family Fund*
Robert and Janice Batt Foundation Fund
Temoshek Family Fund
Tim and Tonee Gay Charitable Fund*

FIELD OF INTEREST FUNDS
MCF Arts Fund
MCF Children in Crisis Fund
MCF Community Development Fund
MCF Economic Development Fund
MCF Health Care Fund
MCF Human Service Fund
MCF Seniors Fund

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS
Alex Shives Memorial Scholarship Fund
Bob and Vicki Andersen Scholarship Fund
Bob Mohr Baseball Scholarship Fund
Chris E. Stauffer Scholarship Fund
GHS Class of 1968 Memorial Scholarship Fund
Kaiti Williams Memorial Scholarship Fund
Mark and Rose Delaney Memorial Scholarship Fund*
Miss Omaha Scholarship Fund*
Sarpy County Bar Association Scholarship Fund

* Newly established funds in FYE June 2019
BELLEVUE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

BCF GENERAL FUND

DESIGNATED FUNDS
Bike Trail Fund
Light Up Bellevue Fund*
Olde Towne Development Corporation Fund
Tennis Courts Fund

DONOR ADVISED FUND
Tom and Mary Hansen Fund

GRETA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

GCF GENERAL FUND

DESIGNATED ENDOWED FUNDS
Gretna Neighbors Fund
Gretna Volunteer Fire Department Fund

DESIGNATED EXPENDABLE FUNDS
Addisyn Pfeifer Memorial Fund*
Bright Future Foundation Fund
City of Gretna Swimming Pool and Aquatics Center Fund
Dragons Closet Fund
Gretna Area Chamber of Commerce Fund
Gretna Band Parent’s Fund
Gretna Children’s Choir Music Education Fund
Gretna Days Community Improvement Fund*
Gretna Downtown Association Fund
Gretna HomeTown Heroes Fund
Gretna Neighbors Food Pantry Fund
Gretna Optimists Fund
Gretna YMCA Fund
Little Giants Foundation Fund
Matt’s Music Memorial Fund
Optimists Metro Area Youth Foundation Supporting Families Battling Childhood Cancer Fund

FIELD OF INTEREST FUNDS
Gretna Children in Crisis Fund
Gretna Senior Citizen’s Fund

DONOR ADVISED FUNDS
Jeff and Shirley Boyer Family Fund
Jim and Dorothy Dickinson Memorial Fund
Ephesians 2:8-10 Fund
Huber Charitable Fund
Jim and Susan Koesters Charitable Fund
Sump Charitable Fund

SCHOLARSHIP FUND
Addisyn Pfeifer Scholarship Fund*
Gretna Area Chamber of Commerce Scholarship Fund

LOUISVILLE AREA FOUNDATION

LOUISVILLE AREA FOUNDATION FUND

DESIGNATED FUNDS
Louisville Athletic Booster Club Fund*

DONOR ADVISED FUNDS
Downs Family Donor Advised Fund
Habrock Family Donor Advised Fund

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE DIRECTORS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

NASDVA GENERAL FUND

SARPY COUNTY SHERIFF’S FOUNDATION

SARPY COUNTY SHERIFF’S FOUNDATION FUND

SPRINGFIELD COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

SCF GENERAL FUND

DESIGNATED FUNDS
SCF Kozy Korner Fund
SCF Park Account Fund
SCF Springfield Community Center Fund
SCF Springfield Library Fund

SCHOLARSHIP FUND
SCF Fleming Groesser Scholarship Fund
MATCH PROGRAM
A Personal Approach to Giving

MCF provides donors a simple, powerful and highly personal approach to giving. We meet the challenges of changing times by providing charitable options and give our donors strategic advice about the charitable funds in which they want to invest.

Under MCF’s 2019 Matching Charitable Program, matching donations were made on a dollar-for-dollar basis up to a limit of $5,000 per individual donor for NEW contributions made to existing and newly created funds, and subject to a maximum of $100,000 of matching dollars being available in the aggregate for all funds.

Because more than $100,000 was contributed on an aggregate basis to all Funds, the matching dollars were pro-rated among such donors based on total contributions made.

**Funds**

$739,048

$429,681 qualified for matching funds

**Donors**

1,008

**Impact**

79 charitable funds were impacted

The program taught me a lot as a student and that is one way that a lot of students are getting our feet into the Broadway realm and seeing what the real world is like. They really give us experience and opportunities which is the most crucial thing that we could have at our age, especially coming out of high school. And, wherever I go, I think if I never had these opportunities that I would not be where I am today.

Marcel Daly, Omaha Performing Arts

OMAHA PERFORMING ARTS
2019 Reflection Ball

FUNDS RAISED
$143,000+

PARTICIPANTS
450

Grants awarded to nonprofit organizations that provide programs and services in Sarpy and Cass counties in the areas of art, community, economic development, education, health and human services.

2019 Reflection Award Recipients:
Terri and Tim Burke
Honorary Chairs:
Sara and Martie Cordaro

2019 Golf Tournament

FUNDS RAISED
$46,000+

PARTICIPANTS
148

Papillion-LaVista Community Theatre (Kids Music Clinic)
Monarch Band Boosters Association
(student performances at senior centers)
Conestoga Elementary School
(equipment for outdoor classroom)
Summer Reading Programs at libraries in Sarpy County (Bellevue, Gretna, LaVista, Papillion and Springfield) and Cass County (Elmwood, Louisville, Plattsmouth and Weeping Water)

SOLD OUT EVENT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Midlands Community Foundation Board of Directors is made up of individuals from the Sarpy and Cass county areas who bring a high degree of involvement to the Foundation and its mission.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

- **Patrick Sullivan**
  - President

- **Kevin Dasher**
  - Vice President, Treasurer/Secretary

- **Karla Rupiper**
  - Past President

- **Tom Ackley**
  - Member-at-Large

- **Julie Bear**
  - Member-at-Large

- **Mary Gaweki**
  - Member-at-Large

- **Rick Iske**
  - Member-at-Large

STAFF

- **Tonee Gay**
  - Executive Director

- **Diane Knicky**
  - Director of Operations and Public Relations

- **Andrea Hansen**
  - Senior Accountant

BOARD MEMBERS

- **Janet Barna**
  - Gretna

- **Brenda Carlson**
  - LaVista

- **Jonathan Davidson**
  - Gretna

- **Jan Davis**
  - Gretna

- **Valerie Downs**
  - Louisville

- **Brad Eckhoff**
  - Papillion

- **Kara Habrock**
  - Louisville

- **Mary Beth Harrold**
  - Papillion

- **Jim Langley**
  - Papillion

- **Lee Polikov**
  - Bellevue

- **Matt Pospisil**
  - Bellevue

- **Barb Slattery**
  - Nehawka

- **Ken Summerfield**
  - Papillion

- **Jim Thompson**
  - LaVista

- **Kathy Wendlandt**
  - Gretna

Thank you for “Investing in the Power of Community.”