

April 13, 2011

# Foundation receives matching grant funds

The Russell County Area Community Foundation received \$60,000 in matching funds from the Kansas Health Foundation. The grant is part of the Giving Resources to Our World II program. The Russell County Area Community Foundation was accepted into the program in 2010.

Grow II is designed to help foundations capture the transfer of wealth occurring in Kansas with the creation of strong endowments in community foundations across Kansas. Endowed funds provide permanent philanthropic dollars that are used to enhance the quality of life for residents in the community foundation's service area.

The board of the

Russell County Area Community Foundation has been working to share information about this excellent opportunity to receive matching funds for gifts to the Foundation. For every endowed gift to the Foundation's administrative or community grant fund, as well as to the Public Health Fund, the Foundation receives a 50 percent match. For all other endowed gifts, with the exception of scholarships, the Foundation receives a 25 percent match.

The matching funds will be used to create two new endowed funds in the Foundation, the Kansas Health Foundation Operating Fund, which will provide ongoing support for the Russell

County Area Community Foundation, and the Kansas Health Foundation Fund, which will provide annual grants for programs and projects that support public health initiatives in the Russell County Area Foundation service area.

In addition to the matching grant, the Russell County Area Community Foundation also received a \$10,500 operating grant. The operating support is expendable and is designed to assist with expenses incurred in the effort to raise the match.

The GROW II program is a six-year program. The receipt of these funds from the Kansas Health Foundation marks the end of the first year. The Kansas Health Foundation is a private philanthropy dedicated to improving the health of all Kansans.

The Russell County Area Community Foundation is an affiliate of the Greater Salina Community Foundation. The Salina Foundation applied for GROW II on behalf of the Russell County Area Foundation. GSCF's adherence to stringent national standards and staff support were requirements of GROW II.