

Wealth transfer is \$ potential for county

Research results announced today by the Kansas Association of Community Foundations, including the Russell County Area Community Foundation, projects that over the next 50 years, more than \$856 million will transfer from one generation to the next in Russell County. When considering a 12-year time frame, this wealth transfer is estimated at \$213,418,154.

"For generations, people lived their entire lives close to their birthplace and as wealth passed from one generation to the next, most stayed in the same county. This is no longer true," states Byrne Wood, Executive Director. "Once the wealth leaves our community, it may never return. Many of the "next generations" no longer live in Kansas. We hope to encourage residents to designate a portion of their estates, 401 (k) and IRA accounts or life insurance policies to the community

foundation."

Total value of the foundation's fund has recently surpassed the \$2.5 million mark.

Recently the Kansas health Foundation recently challenged RCACF to raise \$700,000 in new contributions by the end of the year. That goal has already been met. RCACF will soon receive a \$350,000 grant from the the KHF to create a new fund benefiting the youth of the area.

There is a additional challenge from the Kansas Health Foundation. If \$50,000 in new gifts is received to the administrative fund, the KHF will contribute an additional \$100,000.

"Our conservative goal is to secure 5 percent of the total amount transferred in the area served by the Russell County Area Community Foundation by encouraging every resident to consider leaving a gift to our community foundation's unrestricted endowment or an endowment at

the Community Foundation for a local nonprofit. We have the potential to add \$ 10 million to our community foundation endowment in the next 12 years, which would help us provide annual grants in excess of \$530,000 to local nonprofits and ultimately strengthening our community," states Wood.

The Russell County Area Community Foundation was established in 2001. The Foundation, an affiliate of the Greater Salina Community Foundation, is an endowment that will ensure Russell County enjoys the long-term benefits of this transfer of wealth opportunity.

Community foundations are tax exempt, public charities created by and for the people of a designated area. Community foundations have a long history as experts in identifying and supporting the longterm needs of communities, as well as acting as knowledge leaders in the



PRESENTATION -- Recently Byrne Wood, executive director of The Russell County Area Community Foundation, attended a Transfer of Wealth Seminar in Salina May 7, hosted by the Greater Salina Community Foundation. Pictured are Michelle Griffin, GSCF, Wood, and Betsy Wearing, with GSCF.

Photo by RCACF Board Member Marty Myers

area of philanthropy, assisting individuals, families and businesses with their charitable giving decisions.

According to the study, a statewide total of \$598 billion will transfer from one generation to the next by 2060 and \$66 billion will transfer by 2020. Five percent of this 12-year transfer would bring \$3.3 billion to community foundations or local nonprofits across Kansas.

"We would invest the dollars and use just 5 percent each year for community betterment projects and programs undertaken by our local nonprofits. Within a decade we would be able to address the challenges facing our com-

munity and enhance the quality of life for our residents," states Wood.

RCACF will award \$4,500 in grants to nonprofits organizations this month.

Area graduating high school and college students will receive \$34,000 in scholarships this month.

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