



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Foundations Unite to Better Serve Central Kansas Communities

Newton, Kan. (July 21, 2010) The Central Kansas Community Foundation recently announced a partnership and affiliation with the Community Foundation of Greater Butler County. Board chairs Don Patry from Butler County and Bill Goering from Central Kansas made it official Wednesday by signing a formal affiliate agreement.

Butler County joins Hillsboro Community Foundation, Hesston Community Foundation and Peabody Community Foundation as organizations operating as regional affiliates of the “host” organization, Central Kansas Community Foundation, based in Newton.

Bill Goering believes in the strength of collaboration and commented, “The Community Foundation of Greater Butler County is a natural partner for us. We share a common county border, have similar philosophies, and deal with common issues. Donors in Butler County can be assured that this partnership will strengthen their local community foundation and allow them to provide an even greater level of service to their donors and charities alike.”

Sandra Fruit, executive director of CKCF, welcomes the Community Foundation of Greater Butler County as a new affiliate and noted, “The trend across Kansas in the community foundation world is towards more partnerships and alliances. These associations allow us to operate much more efficiently and share overhead expenses that otherwise can become burdensome to smaller foundations.”

According to Don Patry, chairman, the Community Foundation of Greater Butler County (CFGBC) was established in 2001 with a mission to assist donors in building permanent endowments to meet charitable needs in the greater Butler County community. Presently Butler County manages more than forty funds and has an asset base of more than \$1,000,000. This year alone they awarded \$55,000 in charitable gifts, bringing their total impact to more than \$250,000 since their inception in 2001.

“The affiliation with Central Kansas Community Foundation will allow us to continue our work in Butler County with a renewed energy. By sharing accounting and investment management responsibilities we will gain significant operational economies, not to mention donor management tools that will provide our established fund representatives the ability to see balance details online, 24/7” said Angie Baur, executive director of the CFGBC.

Many of the quality services and benefits our partners have come to expect from the community foundation will remain unchanged; basically CFGBC is being provided with a stronger backbone of resources and services so their focus can remain on building endowments and providing service to their local donors.

“Of tremendous value and importance is our ability to maintain our local board of directors and continue to make decisions locally regarding staffing and grant recommendations. Butler County will have board

representation on the Central Kansas Community Foundation board and on the Finance Committee. Basically, for the donors and the charities we support it is business as usual for the CFGBC. The only thing they are likely to notice is improved and enhanced services,” concluded Angie Baur.

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Photo Caption

Don Patry, chairman of the Community Foundation of Greater Butler County and president of the Bank of Whitewater and Bill Goering, chairman of the Central Kansas Community Foundation sign the affiliate agreement, securing the partnership between the two foundations.

About the Central Kansas Community Foundation

In January, 2009, the Greater Newton Community and Central Kansas Community Foundations merged to form the newly revived entity, Central Kansas Community Foundation with the goal of better serving the citizens of Harvey, Marion, and McPherson counties.

Today, the Foundation has grown to include the residents of Butler County in their mission: to encourage philanthropy, strengthen communities, and improve the quality of life for residents in Harvey, Marion, McPherson and Butler Counties. We envision being the leader in philanthropy in the communities we serve, connecting donors with meaningful programs and causes, strengthening charitable organizations, providing leadership on local and regional issues and building permanent community resources.

Together We Can Accomplish Great Things!