



2024 ANNUAL REPORT



MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

I am honored and excited to join the Wamego Community Foundation as its new Director. Becoming part of this vibrant, forward-thinking community is truly inspiring, and I'm eager to contribute to enhancing and supporting Wamego and its residents.

With over a decade of experience in real estate, I've developed skills in sales management, event planning, marketing, business and financial analysis, and leadership—tools that I believe will help drive the Foundation's mission forward. More importantly, I've always been passionate about giving back and working collaboratively to make a lasting difference.

Wamego's spirit of generosity and community pride drew me to this role. I'm energized by the opportunity to help expand the Foundation's impact. Together, we can accomplish great things.

The Foundation has seen significant growth since its start in 1998, with assets now at \$7,666,460, and grants awarded totaling \$668,312.51. These achievements reflect the strong support and vision of this community.

I also want to thank Mike McCall. For seven years, Mike faithfully served as our Director with dedication and care. Since 2017, his leadership and unwavering commitment to this community have made a lasting difference, and he will be remembered with deep gratitude.

I look forward to connecting with many of you and working together to keep Wamego thriving.

*Warmly,
Aimee Nelson
Director, Wamego
Community
Foundation*



MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD

Dear Wamego Community,

As we reflect on the past year, the Wamego Community Foundation is proud to share the many ways our community has come together to support lasting, local impact. Through the generosity of donors, the dedication of volunteers, and the strength of partnerships, we've continued to grow our ability to serve Wamego and the surrounding area.

This year brought opportunities to fund meaningful projects, award scholarships, and support the essential work of local nonprofits. Each grant we awarded and every initiative we supported was made possible by people who believe in the power of community, people like you.

We are especially grateful for the trust you've placed in us to steward these resources wisely and with purpose. Looking ahead, we remain committed to our mission: enhancing the quality of life in our region by connecting passion with purpose and turning generosity into action.

On behalf of the entire board, thank you for being part of this shared journey. Together, we are investing in a brighter future for Wamego.

*With appreciation,
The Board of Directors
Wamego Community Foundation*



Diane Hinrichs-Toburen
Chair



Tom Fulmer
Vice Chair



Amanda Janulis
Secretary



Brian Wohler
Treasurer



Brian Howells
Member



Michele Jacobs
Member



Allison Karnowski
Member



Rob McKim
Member



Dr. Jon Pacht
Member



Jessa Peterson
Member



WAMEGO MATCH DAY

Wamego Match Day was a powerful reminder of what our community can achieve when we come together. This year, we raised \$380,039 including \$145,000 in matching funds, through 1,455 gifts from 592 donors, supporting 61 local organizations.

The day brought energy and generosity to Iron Clad, where nonprofits connected with donors and shared the impact of their work. Displays and personal stories helped donors see how their contributions make a difference. Raffle drawings throughout the day added fun, with bonus funds going to nonprofits selected by attendees. It was a meaningful celebration of giving and community pride.





\$380,039

COMMUNITY
DONATIONS

\$145,000

MATCHING
FUNDS

1,455

TOTAL
GIFTS

592

UNIQUE
DONORS

61

CHARITABLE
ORGANIZATIONS



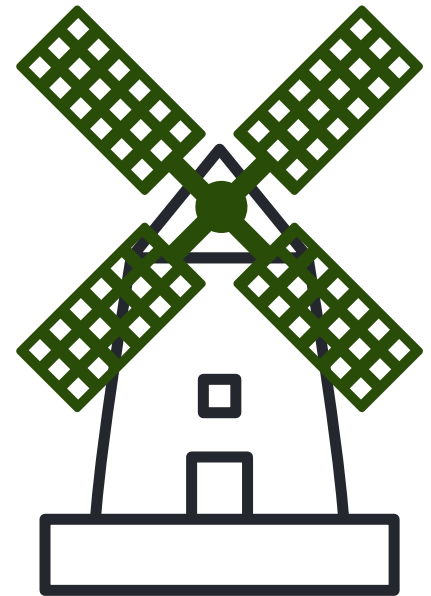
WAMEGOMATCHDAY.COM

WE ARE WAMEGO

Grants

The We Are Wamego Grant Fund was created by the Wamego Foundation Board of Directors to foster a culture of philanthropy in our community. It relies on contributions from various sources, including payroll deductions from employees of local businesses. Through a community-wide effort, grants are awarded to diverse causes and projects via an application process each year in spring and fall. So far in 2024, the the Wamego Community Foundation has granted over \$17,000 to 12 organizations:

- \$1,000** The American Legion
- \$2,300** Boys & Girls Club of Wamego
- \$1,000** Caring Neighbors
- \$3,000** Community Care Ministries
- \$1,000** The Columbian Theatre
- \$1,000** Kansas Honor Flight
- \$1,000** Pawnee Mental Health
- \$3,000** UMW Thrift Shop
- \$1,000** USD 320 Wamego Food Service
- \$1,000** USD 320 Wamego Speech Therapy
- \$1,000** Wamego Community Market
- \$1,000** Wamego Public Library



SCHOLARSHIPS

The Wamego Community Foundation celebrated student achievement at its annual Scholarship Awards Banquet on May 8, 2024, at the Wamego Middle School. The evening brought together graduating seniors, families, donors, and community leaders to recognize hard work, academic excellence, and a shared investment in the future.

This year, \$40,100 in scholarships was awarded to 65 students, thanks to the generosity of local donors and fundholders. From memorial scholarships to awards focused on specific career paths or community involvement, each scholarship carries a meaningful legacy. Students had the chance to meet many of the individuals and families who made their awards possible, creating powerful moments of gratitude and connection that highlighted the true impact of community support.



Young PHILANTHROPISTS



“ We are thrilled to engage the next generation of leaders in philanthropy through the Young Philanthropists program. These students are already community-minded, and through this initiative, they are learning how to give back in a meaningful way that will benefit the Wamego community for years to come. ”

-- Aimee Nelson
Director

\$5,200

given to local nonprofits

YOUNG PHILANTHROPISTS' PROGRAM



The Wamego Community Foundation (WCF) has introduced a new initiative called the “Young Philanthropists” program, announced on October 8, 2024. This program partners with Wamego High School Peer Chamber students, allowing them to engage directly in philanthropy during Wamego Match Day.

Each student received a \$200 giving voucher and was asked to research local nonprofits, interact with representatives, and learn how donations would be used. The goal is to provide hands-on education about giving, community service, and nonprofit impact, ensuring students see the real value of their contributions.

To reinforce community connection, students were reminded that every dollar stays in Wamego. They will also receive thank-you cards from the organizations they support, helping them witness the long-term impact of their gifts.

The program helps develop the next generation of leaders by showing students how meaningful giving strengthens the community. The Bank of the Flint Hills and the Edna Mae Peddicord Charitable Trust made the initiative possible.



FUELING THE FUTURE

Patterson Family Foundation Grants

The Patterson Family Foundation has provided vital support to the Wamego Community Foundation (WCF), helping strengthen its presence, leadership, and capacity through two key initiatives: the Rural Community Foundation Match Program and the Community Foundation Capacity Building Program. These grants have fueled both local giving and long-term organizational development.

Through the Rural Community Foundation Match Program, WCF received \$70,000 in matching funds to boost local participation during Wamego Match Day. The match not only inspired increased giving from community members, but it also doubled the impact of their generosity. These matching dollars encouraged deeper donor engagement, helping nonprofits thrive and building momentum for WCF's continued growth.

“We are committed to keeping rural economies strong by helping grow and retain great talent, attracting former and new residents, and investing in opportunities that strengthen and diversify local and regional economies.”

-- Patterson Family Foundation

MISSION

To enhance the quality of life in the Wamego area by connecting generous donors with local needs.

VISION

A thriving, engaged community supported by enduring philanthropy.

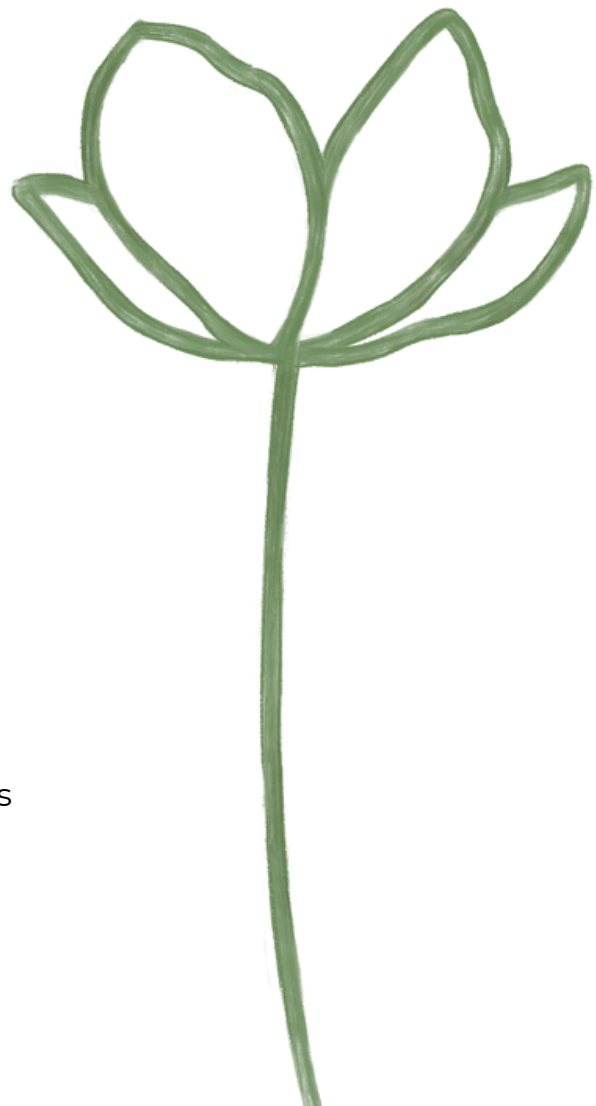
CORE VALUES

Integrity, Leadership, Inclusion, Collaboration, & Stewardship.

PATTERSON FAMILY FOUNDATION GRANTS

The Capacity Building Program enabled the Wamego Community Foundation (WCF) to take a critical next step by hiring a full-time executive director, Aimee Nelson. With year-round leadership in place, WCF has expanded fundraising, increased nonprofit support, and deepened community outreach. The results are clear: in just nine months, WCF's assets grew by \$1 million, reflecting stronger donor confidence and engagement. Full-time staffing has also made it possible to attend local events, build new partnerships, and raise awareness of funding opportunities for area nonprofits.

Looking ahead, the Patterson Family Foundation's three-year investment is helping WCF—and other participating foundations—establish sustainable strategies to continue serving their communities well beyond the grant period.



“People feel like they can come talk to us; they know us, and they trust us.”

-- Aimee Nelson

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

DECEMBER 31, 2024*

ASSETS

Checking Account - Fiduciary	\$ 12,023.55
Outside Advisors	\$ 457,805.63
TTC Pooled Investments	\$ 7,200,564.25
Undepositioned Funds	\$ 20,114.44

Total Assets **\$ 7,666,460.77**

LIABILITIES

Scholarships Payable	\$ 1,000.00
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Total Liabilities **\$ 1,000.00**

FUND BALANCES

Fund Balance - Endowed Gifts	\$ 1,747,731.50
Fund Balance - Endowed Spendable	\$ 226,205.75
Fund Balance - Expendable & Earnings	\$ 5,691,523.52

Total Fund Balances **\$ 7,665,460.77**

Total Liabilities and Fund Balance **\$ 7,665,460.77**

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024*

REVENUES

Gifts and Bequests	\$ 1,633,663.63
Inter-fund Gifts	\$ 180,065.20
Interfund Grants	\$ (212,279.32)
Subtotal Net Gifts & Grants	\$ 1,601,449.51

Interest/Dividend Income	\$ 215,163.89
Realized Gain/Loss	\$ 161,400.09
Unrealized Gain/Loss	\$ 71,141.04
Subtotal Invest. Performance	\$ 447,705.02

Scholarship Banquet Revenue	\$ 3,563.00
Administrative Fees Revenue	\$ 16,555.18
Subtotal Other Revenue	\$ 20,118.18

Total Revenue **\$ 2,069,272.71**

EXPENSES

Operating Expenses

Custodian Fees	\$ 9,138.78
Administrative Fees	\$ 66,623.07
Expendable Fund Fees	\$ 6,413.63
Scholarship Banquet Expenses	\$ 8,762.65
Credit Card Fees	\$ 4,225.15
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 95,163.28

Grants and Program Expenses

Grants	\$ 501,751.86
Scholarships	\$ 44,714.50
Program Expenses	\$ 121,846.15
Total Grants and Program Expenses	\$ 668,312.51

Total Expenses **\$ 763,475.79**

Net Activity **\$ 1,305,796.92**

WAMEGO BY THE NUMBERS



\$7,666,460

Total Assets Managed

79

Nonprofit
Organizations



170

Community
Charitable Funds

Since 2019,

\$2,221,403

Raised Through

WAMEGO MATCH DAY

Every donation you
make stays right
here in Wamego,
helping to build a
stronger community
and lasting legacy.

Your support directly
benefits local
initiatives, making a
difference where it
matters most.



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