



**RECOGNIZING THE IMPACT OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS
NOVEMBER 12–18, 2015**

*Fort Scott Area Community Foundation Participates in
National Effort to Highlight Local Impact of Philanthropy*

NOVEMBER 3, 2015– During the week of November 12-18, 2015, Fort Scott Area Community Foundation (FSACF) will join more than 750 community foundations across America celebrating *Community Foundation Week*. For more than 25 years, the effort has raised awareness about the increasingly important role of these philanthropic organizations in fostering local collaboration and innovation to address persistent civic and economic challenges.

During the week, the Chamber of Commerce coffee will be hosted on Thursday, November 12, 8 a.m., at Landmark Bank. During the coffee, FSACF will present over \$21,000 in grants to nine not for profit agencies in Bourbon County. For the first time, a theme was selected to encourage applications for projects that exemplified “Beautifying Fort Scott”.

“Community foundations impact lives, solve problems, and improve futures,” said Carla Farmer, FSACF chairman. “As many residents grapple with limited resources and a growing need for services, we are more determined than ever to bring our community partners together to find innovative and effective solutions for some of our most challenging social problems.”

Community foundations are independent, public entities that steward philanthropic resources from institutional and individual donors to local nonprofits that are the heart of strong, vibrant communities. During 2014, FSACF provided funding for 21 agencies including the Bourbon County Inter-Agency Coalition which provides Network for Families services on an individual need basis.

Through the first ten months of 2015, 56 Bourbon County families received assistance with utility bills and rental fees to help them stay in their homes from the Bourbon County Inter-Agency. “These 56 families included 129 children who have not had to endure the lack of basic human needs as we have been able to keep them in their homes without eviction or disconnected utility services,” said Billie Jo Drake, board chairman. “We say thank you to the Fort Scott Area Community Foundation for awarding \$1,000 that has helped fund the first ten months of our yearly Network for Families assistance program,” Drake added.

Community foundations represent one of the fastest-growing forms of philanthropy. Every state in the United States is home to at least one community foundation—large and small, urban and rural—working to advance solutions on a wide range of social issues. Since beginning the grants in 2009, FSACF has provided over \$96,000 in grants to area not for profits through 2015.

Community Foundation Week, created in 1989 by former president George H.W. Bush, recognizes the work of community foundations throughout America and their collaborative approach to working with the public, private, and nonprofit sectors to address community problems.

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For more information about Fort Scott Community Foundation, visit www.fsacf.com or call Carla Farmer at 620—224-6500.