



Serving the residents of  
Custer County since  
1991

Anselmo ♦ Ansley  
Arnold ♦ Berwyn  
Broken Bow ♦ Callaway  
Comstock ♦ Mason City  
Merna ♦ Oconto  
Sargent ♦ Westerville

**SAVE THE DATE**

15th Annual Gala & Auction  
to be held December 14!!  
Reserve your seats today!

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Grant application deadline is  
October 31. For grant  
guidelines and to download  
the application, go to  
custercountyfoundation.org.

**Inside this Issue:**

Flood Relief: 2  
Charitable IRA Rollover: 2  
Gala & Auction: 3  
Grant Deadline: 3



Office Hours:  
Monday through Friday  
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Email: CusterFoundation@msn.com  
Phone: 308-872-2232  
Online: custercountyfoundation.org

Fall 2019



**Sustaining Membership Drive needs \$2,000 to reach it's goal!**

Did you know, you can now donate to our membership drive directly from your smartphone? Simply text **CCFMEMBER** to **44-321**.

As the end of 2019 draws to a close, the Foundation is busy striving to reach our membership drive goal of \$25,000. Having almost reached our goal, and with only three months left in 2019, we still need to raise a total of \$2,000 in memberships. Please help us make this possible by becoming a member today!

Membership donations help the Foundation offset their operating costs. Without our members, the Foundation would not exist and be where it is today. In our 28 years of service, the Foundation has proudly reinvested over \$4 million back into Custer County! This amount would not be possible without our generous members.

A gift to the Foundation ensures we can continue our mission of charitable giving to benefit residents throughout Custer County. As a way to show our appreciation, we will publish your name in our 2020 Winter Newsletter, as well as in the 15th Annual Gala & Auction program. Your donation needs to be received, however, prior to November 18, 2019. You will also receive a window decal (pictured right) to display in your business, home, or on your vehicle.

Please help us continue to tell the Custer County Foundation's story with your donation.

**"Sustaining members circle together to make a difference."** When we circle together, we CAN make a difference.



*Yes!* I want to support the efforts of  
the Custer County Foundation!

Individual • Family • Business  
**MEMBERSHIP LEVELS**

- \$1,000+ **DIAMOND**
- \$500-\$999 **PLATINUM**
- \$250-\$499 **GOLD**
- \$100-\$249 **SILVER**
- \$50-\$99 **BRONZE**
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Other Contribution

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
*(As you would like it to appear in CCF Publications.)*

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

I request to remain anonymous in any publications.

**Please make checks payable to  
Custer County Foundation & return to:**  
PO Box 304 • Broken Bow, NE 68822

*Thank You!*

The Custer County Foundation, Inc. is a public charity and your gift, in most cases, will qualify for a federal income tax deduction. As required by law, it is important to acknowledge that you did not receive any goods or services in exchange for this contribution.

## Flood Fund assists 146 households and awards \$139,485!

In addition to the donations received for the flood fund, the Custer County Foundation awarded a \$9,000 grant to the fund to cover administrative fees and to fund grant requests when the flood fund was depleted. The Custer County Foundation would like to thank Central Nebraska Community Action Partnership for working side by side with the Foundation to assist flood victims. The Foundation started collecting donations on March 15 and all funds were distributed by September 1. Donations were received from twenty-two towns throughout Nebraska and twenty-three states, ranging from California to New York, and Texas to Idaho. The flood relief efforts would not have been possible without all the generous donations from businesses and individuals. **Thank you** for supporting the flood relief efforts. You truly made a difference for many individuals!

Communities Funded:	Amount Received:
Anselmo	\$17,484.00
Ansley	\$7,000
Arcadia—Custer County	\$3,944.55
Arnold	\$3,000
Berwyn	\$2,915.94
Broken Bow	\$36,798.54
Callaway	\$17,022.24
Comstock	\$1,000
Mason City	\$5,000
Merna	\$12,716.06
Oconto	\$12,590.57
Sargent	\$19,012.61
Westerville	\$1,000

Services Funded:	Amount Received:
Gravel	\$67,503.03
Clean up of residence	\$22,236.88
Barb Wire/Fence Posts	\$21,108.85
Flooring	\$7,658.08
Dirt	\$4,551.81
Hay	\$4,500
Veterinarian Care	\$3,398.80
Well Repair	\$3,000
Livestock Feed	\$2,719.68
Displacement/Hotel	\$1,807.38
Water Heater	\$1,000

## Using your IRA for Tax-Saving Charitable Gifts

The Custer County Foundation can help turn your individual retirement accounts (IRAs) into tax-saving charitable gifts. Extended tax benefits allow more people to experience the joy of giving during their lifetime. A Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) is a distribution from an Individual Retirement Account (IRA) that allows taxpayers, who are over the age of 70½, to give up to \$100,000 directly to a non-profit organization without having to count the distribution as taxable income. You can use your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) to make a QCD to a local charity such as the Custer County Foundation. Such rollover payments apply toward RMDs and do not add to income. Giving is one of life's pleasures; the Custer County Foundation can help you enjoy it today.

The Custer County Foundation can connect you to the causes you care about most. You can set up a charitable fund in your name or make an unrestricted gift. By giving through your community foundation, you can use your gift to meet ever-changing community needs—including future needs that often cannot be anticipated at the time your gift is made. Your gift can target the causes and programs that mean the most to you.

The Custer County Foundation understands our community's most pressing issues and can help you establish a fund to make an impact in areas of need or opportunities that are important to you. Here are three great ways to turn your IRA into community good:

**Major Impact Grant Fund—Meeting ever-changing community needs.**

Address a broad range of current and future needs. Custer County Foundation evaluates all aspects of community well-being, arts and culture, community development, education, environment, health and human services, and awards strategic grants to high-impact projects and programs.

**Field of Interest Fund—Connecting personal values to high-impact opportunities.**

A Field of Interest fund allows a donor to establish a fund that addresses issues of specific interest to them: youth welfare, rural education, recreation, a specific community, and more. The donor puts the grant making parameters in place and the Custer County Foundation awards the grants based on the donor's parameters.

**Designated Fund—Helping local organizations sustain and grow.**

A Designated Fund could be set up to make annual or periodic grants to charities pre-determined by the original donor. The complete parameters for grant making must be determined at the time the fund is established. After parameters are set, donor involvement is limited.

Please note, Donor Advised Funds do not qualify. To learn more, contact the Custer County Foundation at 308-872-2232.

## 15th Annual Gala & Auction to be held December 14!

The 15th Annual Gala & Auction is quickly approaching! We are excited to announce the theme this year -- "An Evening in the Tropics!" Mark your calendars for **December 14, 2019**. Tickets are on sale **NOW!** Don't miss out on this evening of fun while raising money to benefit the residents of Custer County.

Call our office at **308-872-2232** to reserve your tickets today!

The evening will feature both live and silent auctions, exciting raffles, games, and a wonderful meal. Skeeter Barnes will once again be catering this event.

Proceeds from our annual auction are awarded to Custer County organizations in the form of grants and nontraditional scholarships to area students. If you cannot attend, and still want to help support the Foundation, please consider donating a live or silent auction item or making a monetary donation. For your convenience, a sponsorship form has been included in this newsletter. The attached form may also be used to make dinner reservations. Once completed, please return the form to the Foundation office, or to any board member, to show your support for the 15th Annual Gala & Auction. Contact information for the board members can be found on the back cover.

The Foundation will raffle off the winner's choice of a new Polaris Ranger OR a \$6,500 travel voucher with \$1,000 cash. For only \$50, you can buy a chance at winning this hard-working, smooth-riding, utility vehicle OR a fabulous vacation to the destination of your choice. Only 300 tickets will be sold, so purchase yours today before it is too late! Thanks to AgLand ATV and the Custer County Foundation Ag Boosters for sponsoring this raffle!

The ever-popular Heads or Tails game will once again be featured at this year's Gala. A CASH prize will be awarded to the winner! Keys will also be available for purchase to unlock some great cash prizes.

BACK THIS YEAR... something that glitters, which involves the live auctioning of five glasses of champagne, where one glass will contain a 1/2 carat diamond worth \$2,000. The other four glasses will contain a cubic zirconia stone. Hawthorne Jewelry and Custer County Foundation Board of Directors are sponsoring this fun item for this event. The diamond featured will be hand-selected by a representative from Hawthorne Jewelry, who will travel to Antwerp, Belgium--the diamond capital of the world! Again, the retail value of this loose-cut round diamond is \$2,000!!! Hawthorne Jewelry will also be offering a 25% discount on a setting of the winner's choice.

In addition, stunning diamond stud earrings will be featured for our Ladies Raffle, and donated by Sargent Irrigation, Co. and Cintrese Boutique. Tickets are on sale for \$10! Ladies, or gentlemen needing a gift for that special lady, purchase your tickets early, as only 200 tickets are available.

Just a reminder... Tickets for the dinner and raffle items sell quickly, so call the Foundation office at 308-872-2232 to purchase your tickets TODAY! Also, be sure to like our Facebook page, as we will be posting "sneak peeks" of this year's auction items.



## Fall Grant Deadline October 31!

The goal of the Custer County Foundation is to improve the quality of life in the Custer County area by supporting the needs of its communities. One way the Foundation strives to achieve this goal is through the grants program. Any nonprofit group that falls under the guidelines of the Foundation's grant policy can apply for a grant from the Custer County Foundation. Grants have been awarded in the areas of arts, community service, law enforcement and drug awareness, recreation, and youth activities. To review the criteria or download the application, please visit the Foundation's website at [custercountyfoundation.org](http://custercountyfoundation.org), select Grants and then Grant Guidelines from the drop-down menu. Please note that the grant criteria has recently been updated. The current grant deadline is fast approaching, so we urge you to submit your completed grant application soon. Again, the grant application deadline for this cycle is October 31. Please call the Foundation office at 308-872-2232 with any questions.



Broken Bow Library Foundation received a grant for help with their summer reading program.

Please join us for the Custer County Foundation's 15th Annual Gala & Auction.

# Evening in the Tropics



Save the Date

December 14, 2019

One Box Convention Center

5:00 p.m. Social Hour/Silent Auction

6:15 p.m. Dinner

7:00 p.m. Live Auction

Tickets on Sale October 1st at Custer County Foundation

## "Evening in the Tropics" Dinner, Live Auction, and Silent Auction:

Local businesses & individuals are asked to donate live or silent auction items. Attendees have the opportunity to bid on silent auction items during the evening. We urge you to come early and socialize with your friends and colleagues during the silent auction. Other featured items will be auctioned off as live items. Below you will see the many options available to support the Gala & Auction.

I wish to donate an auction item:

Auction Item \_\_\_\_\_

Retail Value of Item \$\_\_\_\_\_ The retail value will be the amount on the donor receipt.

I wish to be a "Friend of the Foundation" and underwrite an auction item. Donation enclosed.

I wish to be a Wine Bar sponsor (sponsorship starts at \$100). Donation enclosed.

I wish to be an Ag Booster sponsor (sponsorship starts at \$500, with two dinner tickets included.)  
Donation enclosed.

Number of Dinner Tickets \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$60/person = \_\_\_\_\_

Tables are available for parties of 10 or parties of 16 Table \_\_\_\_\_

Cash or Check (enclosed) \_\_\_\_\_ Call with Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Donor: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to be listed as an anonymous donor.

\*Please contact the Foundation office or a board member if you have questions on how you can support the Foundation's 15th Annual Gala & Auction.

*\*Donation must be received by November 8th to appear in the program.\**

This annual event has proven to be extremely successful because of the support of individuals and businesses like you! Thank you!

Proceeds will be incorporated into the funds of the Foundation and returned to the community in the form of grants and scholarships. The Custer County Foundation's status as a 501(c)3 public charity ensures that contributions to the Foundation are tax deductible to the highest extent allowed by the Internal Revenue Code.

Custer County Foundation; PO Box 304; Broken Bow, NE 68822 308-872-2232



The Custer County Foundation's Annual Gala and Auction has been a tremendous success over the past 15 years. We owe a big "thank you" to you and other donors for that success. In 2018, the Foundation distributed over \$400,000 in grants, scholarships, and program support.

### Scholarships:

Custer County Students	84,500
Non-traditional Students	500

### Arts/Culture:

Arnold Community Theater	1,284
Custer County Children's Theater Assoc.	760
Custer County Junior Orchestra	75
Vissi d'Arte Club	500

### Economic Development:

Broken Bow Chamber of Commerce	550
Custer Economic Development Corporation	2,000
Sandshills Scenic Journey Byway	25
Sargent Chamber of Commerce	125
Seven Valley's Museum - Callaway	3,000
Village of Ansley	3,000

### Youth Services:

Anselmo-Merna Skills USA	5,500
Anselmo-Merna Wrestling Club	4,000
Broken Bow Backpack Program	7,470
Broken Bow FBLA	4,500
Broken Bow Girls Basketball	500
Broken Bow Public Schools	300
Broken Bow Rodeo	300
Broken Bow Skills USA	250
Broken Bow Wrestling Club	3,200
Callaway Public Schools	1,500
Callaway Team Mates	1,500
CAPABLE	3,250
Central Plains Center for Services	3,000
Children's Christmas Fund	13,500
Grants from A-M Foundation	44,299
Grants from BBPS Foundation	1,952
Grants from Broken Bow Beef Boosters	1,953
Grants from Bulldog Education Foundation	7,061
Grant from Caring Community Closet	1,003
Grants from S-E-M School Foundation	16,182
Grants from S-E-M Scholars	2,600
Grants from Spartan Youth Activities	13,311
Grants from Sumner Alumni Association	7,000
Post Prom	3,000
Sargent Public Schools	40
Sargent Wrestling Club	500
Youth Leadership Custer County - Arnold	500
Youth Leadership Custer County - Callaway	471

### Elderly Services:

Callaway Good Life Center	4,000
Custer Care Center	3,950
Comstock Den	2,500

### Community Service

Broken Bow Food Pantry	3,000
Broken Bow Lions Club	776
Community Connection	50
Custer County Sheriff's Office	2,500
Custer Co. Local Emergency Planning Comm.	150
Finch Memorial Library	509
Oconto Fire Department	5,000
Sargent Township Library	650

### Special Projects:

Arnold Economic Development Corporation	2,000
Arnold Rotary Club	509
Broken Bow Elks Lodge #1688	4,500
Broken Bow Library Foundation	22,000
Broken Bow Rotary	1,000
Callaway Community Foundation	1,000
Callaway Memorial Garden	3,000
Comstock Community Garden	1,500
Custer County 4-H	94
Custer County 4-H Livestock Auction	500
Custer County Ag Society	1,500
Custer County Classic Bull Riding	500
Custer County Fair Entertainment	40,945
Custer County Free Pit BBQ	8,248
Custer County Historical Society	1,850
Knights of Columbus	1,600
McCain Cemetery	509
Merna Area Promoters	10,000
Mid-Plains Technical Equipment	15,838
Muddy Creek Celebration	300
Nebraska Junior High Rodeo	550
Oconto Social & Study Club	1,250
Quiet Zone	4,950
Sargent Veterans Memorial Wall	2,900
Seven Valleys Rodeo Association	200
Tehama Shriner	350
Theford Community Foundation	250
Veterans Memorial	3,000

### Recreation:

Broken Bow Booster Club	400
Broken Bow Cosmos Swim Team	40
Broken Bow Optimist Club	250
Diamond Youth Organization	900

Thank you for supporting the  
Custer County Foundation!



P.O. Box 304  
Broken Bow, NE 68822

PRST STD  
US POSTAGE PAID  
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PERMIT NO 30

**Living Up to Our Motto:  
“Preserving Our Heritage...  
Planning Our Future.”**

**Custer County Foundation, Inc.**

**Officers:**

President: Chris Smith, Broken Bow;  
308-872-6467

Vice-President: Jami Anderson, Broken Bow;  
308-870-0735

Secretary: Deb Girardin, Broken Bow;  
308-870-4242

Treasurer: Alicia Hermsmeyer, Ansley;  
402-631-7577

**Board of Directors:**

Cory Beran, Sargent; 308-215-0065

Brett Eggleston, Oconto; 308-325-1154

Karen Evans, Berwyn; 308-870-0435

Julianna Jenkins, Callaway; 308-836-2440

Julie Johnson, Broken Bow; 308-870-1117

Guy Mills, Jr, Ansley; 308-732-3419

Jami Myers, Broken Bow; 308-872-5469

Neal Neth, Broken Bow; 308-870-3039

Craig Safranek, Merna; 308-643-2666

Andrew Tickle, Arnold; 308-529-1919

**Executive Director:**

Lindsay Divan, Broken Bow; 308-627-2198

**Office Assistant:**

Lisa Bell, Broken Bow; 308-872-6177

**Our Mission**  
**The Custer County Foundation is a non-profit community trust which is structured to seek out, receive, and administer funds to meet the present and future needs of the residents of Custer County. The funds are administered in the areas of health, arts and culture, social welfare, environment, education, and civics.**

**CUSTER COUNTY  
FOUNDATION, INC.**  
403 S. 9TH AVENUE  
P.O. BOX 304  
BROKEN BOW, NE 68822

Phone: 308-872-2232  
E-mail: [CusterFoundation@msn.com](mailto:CusterFoundation@msn.com)  
Website:  
[www.custercountyfoundation.org](http://www.custercountyfoundation.org)

