



# The Kansas Rural Communities Foundation

*A statewide foundation committed to all Kansans*

## Why has this foundation been created?

The Kansas Rural Communities Foundation (KRCF) was formed in 2006 as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization to provide services to local charitable organizations and help rural communities mobilize charitable giving.

## What is the purpose of KRCF, and how can it help my community?

The purpose of the KRCF is to help communities and individuals strengthen and sustain charitable giving at the local level in order to build funds and endowments that will assist local civic institutions and create a new source of opportunity capital for community economic development.

## Who can establish a fund or endowment, and who controls how money raised for that fund is ultimately spent?

Any individual or group may establish a fund or endowment. Individuals who want to set up their own donor advised funds will be able to do so. As long as its use falls within IRS guidelines, the community, group, or individual who establishes the endowment will determine how that money is to be used.

## Who can make a gift to the KRCF, and is it tax-deductible?

Anyone can make a tax-deductible contribution to any fund within the KRCF and receive the full tax benefit of giving to a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. As part of its services, KRCF will automatically issue receipts and tax information to the giver(s). Checks may be made out to the designated fund in care of the KRCF.

## How do I contact the KRCF?

You may contact Kally McConkey, KRCF executive director, via phone at (785) 456-8444 or e-mail at [director@thekrcf.org](mailto:director@thekrcf.org). For more information about the KRCF, including contact information for the Foundation Board of Directors, please visit the KRCF Web site at <http://www.thekrcf.org>.

## What services will the KRCF provide?

KRCF will provide all record keeping responsibilities for affiliated funds and complete any necessary tax-related duties. KRCF will be responsible for issuing donation receipts, developing fund agreements, investment management, fundraising consultations, training, and (when necessary) distribution of marketing materials.

## What fees would KRCF charge to establish and maintain a fund?

To help defray the cost of staff and record keeping, there will be a one-time fee of \$100 to set up either an endowed or a short-term fund. Non-endowed funds are not charged an annual fee. Endowed funds pay an annual 1.5% fee based on the average monthly balance of the fund and deducted annually.

## Where will money that is contributed to a fund be invested?

The Trust Company of Manhattan professionally “manages” the endowed fund money within the KRCF, and there is an emphasis on getting a maximum return on investment for endowed funds. Generally, money will be invested in securities, bonds, and CDs. Funds that are not endowed may be invested only in shorter term investments that preserve capital.

## Will the KRCF be “competing” with local fund raising efforts within my community?

No. Once enough money has been raised to fund the operation of the organization, the KRCF will only work within those communities to solicit money for each community’s endowed fund.

## Will all of this money be in endowed funds?

That depends upon how the fund is set up. Endowed funds will exist in perpetuity and annually grant back a portion of the money earned on the investment. The remainder will be put back into the endowment so it will continue to grow. Other funds may be set up to allow communities immediate or periodic access to the money deposited.