

Pheasant Heaven Charities, Inc.

PheasantHeavenCharities.com • P.O. Box 338, Hugoton, KS 67951



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JANUARY–JULY 2023: MID-YEAR UPDATE

THE PHCI MISSION

Founded in 2004, Pheasant Heaven Charities, Inc. (PHCI) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization. The *PHCI goal is simple: to help those in need* in the Southwest Kansas and Oklahoma Panhandle area.

This update is intended to inform you—our Pheasant Heaven Partner—about valuable contributions being made to the community through each of the three PHCI branch committees.

LOVE FROM ABOVE

The Love From Above (LFA) Committee began in 2015. This committee helps those diagnosed with cancer. It does so by *paying utilities, medical expenses, and travel expenses for those undergoing cancer treatment.*

On top of these services, *LFA collaborates with cancer centers* in both Liberal and Garden City. Striving to provide a personal touch, LFA gives *care packages* filled with a neck pillow, blanket, water bottle, hand sanitizer, and a daily planner to help comfort those going through chemotherapy.

This year, LFA would like to share *an instance of support given to an individual diagnosed with cancer.* After being diagnosed, this individual lost their job, was kicked out of their rental home, and had no family nearby to help them. LFA was notified of this individual's needs and was able to provide the following:

- 1) Located and secured *new living arrangements during treatment*
- 2) Assisted the individual with *rental payments during treatment*
- 3) *Transported a family member* to help the individual during recovery

No matter the size of the need—small or big—LFA strives to comfort and support our friends, families, and neighbors who are battling cancer.

BENEVOLENT COMMITTEE

The Benevolent Committee is responsible for *providing assistance to those dealing with catastrophic medical needs.* It determines on a case-by-case basis how best to meet the individualized needs of those undergoing medical hardships.

Individualized needs come with individualized resources. For example, some need financial assistance to travel to specialized hospitals throughout the state. While others need financial help with utilities and rent so that they can *focus on recovery.* In 2023, Benevolent has dedicated countless hours and funded tens of thousands of dollars to deserving individuals ensuring they receive the help they need.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

The Scholarship Committee began in 2004. *It provides scholarships to high school seniors* who are planning to attend a 2-year college, 4-year college, or trade school. Additionally, for *college students* who have previously received a PHCI Scholarship, there is an opportunity to receive more funds. With approval from the PHCI Board, the Scholarship Committee has made *the following changes* this year:

1) NEW Online Application Process —

Switched from paper submissions; streamlines deadlines and ensures accessibility

2) NEW In-Person Interviews —

Top 4 prospective recipients must attend in-person interviews; ensures recipients embody the PHCI values

3) NEW Scholarship Distinctions & Award Amounts —

Reduced from 20 smaller awards to 10 awards with varying levels of distinction and amounts (shown to right); emphasizes quality versus quantity of candidates

Congratulations to the Class of 2023 graduates chosen as this year's distinguished PHCI scholars!

ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENTS

This July, PHCI held two golf tournaments. These golf tournaments are one of many fundraisers PHCI does throughout the year. Since 2011, PHCI has held a golf tournament every year at *Hugoton's Forewinds Municipal Golf Course*. A second tournament at *Satanta's Cimarron Valley Golf Club* was added in 2020.

These events are made possible through the generous donations of 120 hole sponsors, and the support of dozens of volunteers. The event meals were also generously donated by Balon Valve (Hugoton) and Seaboard Foods (Satanta). All together, *the tournaments hosted 156 participants and grossed over \$35,000*. These funds will be used to support the future endeavors of the three PHCI branch committees.

MOVING FORWARD WITH YOU—OUR GENEROUS PARTNERS

As Pheasant Heaven Partners, you are *the lifeblood of PHCI*. You are the reason PHCI can care for those with cancer, lift up those with catastrophic medical needs, and invest in the education of the next generation.

PHCI couldn't do any of these wonderful things mentioned above without the strong support from you—our generous partners. *Thank you again and again for donating to PHCI* and choosing to make a difference for those in our community.

This year marks a big milestone for PHCI—the *20th Annual Calf Fry*. Mark your calendars and join us on *Friday, November 10th, 2023* for a night of good food, good friends and an auction for a good cause!

(1) Top Scholar
Recipient of \$5,000

Sean Wagner
Satanta, KS

(3) Honorable Scholars
Recipients of \$3,000 each

Ainsley Horinek
Sublette, KS
Reagan Romero
Forgan, OK
Claudia Clark
Hugoton, KS

(6) Merit Scholars
Recipients of \$1,000 each

Carissa Sohm
Rolla, KS
Hudson Brown
Liberal, KS
Kara Kunselman
Satanta, KS
Lucy Vajnar
Plains, KS
Lakota Persing
Hugoton, KS
Rylee Fann
Hugoton, KS

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20th Annual Calf Fry & Auction
Friday, November 10th, 2023

Southwest Fresh Potatoes Bldg.
Hugoton, KS

Sincerely,



Clayton Gerrond