

Lawrence Board of REALTORS® Community Foundation accepting charitable giving requests.

Lawrence KS, September 19, 2018 – The Lawrence Board of REALTORS® is excited to announce the formation of the Lawrence Board of REALTORS® Community Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization, which will serve as the charitable arm of the Lawrence Board of REALTORS®. The Lawrence Board of REALTORS® Community Foundation is currently accepting applications for charitable giving requests through October 17, 2018.

Lawrence Board of REALTORS® Community Foundation brings REALTORS® and the Community together towards solutions for housing needs. The Foundation will focus on distributing funds to organizations that are assisting local households with housing needs within Douglas County. According to Henry Wertin, 2018 President of the Lawrence Board of REALTORS®, ***“This is only possible because we have so many dedicated member volunteers who are working together to give back to the community in which they live and work.”*** Additional information and details are available online at <https://LawrenceRealtor.com/Foundation>. Selected organizations will be notified the beginning of November and Foundation funds will be distributed the beginning of December.

Research has consistently shown the importance of a stable housing sector within a community. There are long-term social benefits for families and communities that support stable housing (as opposed to transitory housing and homelessness) such as educational achievement, civic participation, health benefits, crime, public assistance, and property maintenance and improvement. Because of these extensive social benefits, the Lawrence Board of REALTORS® through the Lawrence Board of REALTORS® Community Foundation, is committed to partnering with other community stakeholders and charitable organizations to make a positive impact through giving.

In the last four years through the Charity Classic annual fundraiser, The Lawrence Board of REALTORS® Community Relations Committee has raised more than \$40,000, of which 100% has been given back to the community to assist local families in case management by paying for a variety of housing costs, utility payments, badly needed car repairs, tuition assistance, medical expenses & supplies, clothes & winter coats, as well as gas & groceries for families. Providing gifts to repair cars, pay medical expenses, and nurture a household, helps to keep families in their homes.

Ryan Desch, who is serving as the inaugural Chairperson of the Lawrence Board of REALTORS® Community Foundation, added ***“The Lawrence Board of Realtors® is one of the largest business organizations in Lawrence and I believe that our Realtor® and Affiliate Members are some of the most generous and dedicated individuals I know. The creation of our foundation reaffirms and expands our commitment to the idea that secure housing is important for all members of our community.”***

The Lawrence Board of REALTORS® is a local trade association representing over 600 members involved in all aspects of the residential and commercial real estate industry, advocating for private property rights, and working to enhance professionalism and integrity in the real estate industry.

###