February 29, 2024

EMBARGOED UNTIL 7:45 AM ON FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 2024 Contact: Loni Heinen, Financial Officer (620) 342-9304

2024 EMPORIA AREA MATCH DAY APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE MONDAY



The 11th annual greater Emporia Area Match Day, hosted by the Emporia Community Foundation, (ECF) will be November 18, 2024, as approved by the ECF Board of Directors. Ruth Wheeler, 2024 Match Day Chair, said, "Match Day plays an important role in the finances for many smaller non-profits who are selected in our communities. Match Day is truly ECF's gift to the community."

The ECF will accept applications from charitable organizations who meet the following qualifications: an operating budget of \$175,000 or less; the organization must have an ECF fund; the organization must be in and serve one of the counties in the ECF area. Match Day applications will be available starting at **noon on Monday, March 4th** via the ECF's website at <u>www.emporiacf.org</u>; the link on the Emporia Community Foundation Facebook page; requesting a copy from the ECF office at 620-342-9304; or picking one up at the ECF office. Applications may be submitted electronically or delivered to the Emporia Community Foundation office at 527 Commercial, Suite B **no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 29th**.

Last year, 35 organizations and the ECF Fund for the Future shared a purse of \$667,733.74 raised from over 1,400 donors. The Emporia Area Match Day has increased every year since its beginning, and last year's checks brought the total to \$3,048,059.71 given to 58 nonprofits in the past ten years. The ECF is excited to provide area non-profits this fundraising opportunity that has become one of the major giving events for the Emporia community.

The 2024 Emporia Area Match Day event will again be held at the ECF Office. Donors will also be able to go online to emporiamatchday.com on Match Day to give their donations. "The participating organizations did an excellent job of reaching out to their donors last year" according to Wheeler. "We are expecting great things for the greater Emporia area for the 11th Match Day event."

The greater Emporia 2024 Match Day will bring together diverse networks of people and charitable causes to encourage and strengthen acts of kindness in the service of changing our community and our world for the better. It is an opportunity for communities to celebrate giving and work together for good.

For additional information about Match Day or to become a Matching Donor, please contact the ECF at (620) 342-9304, or <u>www.emporiacf.org</u>.