FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kansas Health Foundation, Sunflower Foundation announce grant recipients of summer meals initiative

The Kansas Health Foundation (KHF) and Sunflower Foundation (SFF) have awarded $1.2 million in grant funding to 118 school districts/community partners to help feed Kansas kids and families this summer.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, unemployment in Kansas has reached record numbers, and as a result, many families are needing food assistance. Many school districts are providing meals to students during the summer months, but have limited resources to address the increased need and face additional challenges with meal distribution to meet pandemic distancing guidelines.

“We know families all across Kansas have been devastated by the economic impacts of this unprecedented public health crisis – access to healthy food has been among the pandemic’s casualties,” said Reggie Robinson, KHF president and CEO. “We’re proud to partner with Sunflower Foundation on this vitally important initiative that aims to provide hundreds of thousands of meals to children and families.”

The foundations developed this funding initiative to help school districts and community partners participating in the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). In many communities, school-supported summer food programs are part of the community’s food security response to COVID-19 and grantees will use these funds to enhance existing services or pay for services not reimbursed by the SFSP. These include the added costs of distributing meals while following public health pandemic guidelines, and the expansion of summer meal programs – including adult and family meal services.

“Schools faced a unique challenge when the pandemic forced them to close their doors this spring reminding us that schools are a key source of daily food and nutrition for so many of our children. Kansas schools rose to the challenge and found innovative ways to not just continue, but expand, their meal programs,” said Billie Hall, Sunflower Foundation president and CEO. “It is a privilege to partner with the Kansas Health Foundation, as both foundations have a long history supporting food security programs.”
This program is part of more than $16.3 million KHF has authorized to support emergency COVID-19 response and recovery efforts across Kansas. It is also part of the Sunflower Foundation’s ongoing efforts to support communities and nonprofits as they respond to emerging needs related to COVID-19. For more information about Sunflower’s ongoing efforts, visit sunflowerfoundation.org/.

Learning Tree Institute at Greenbush, an educational foundation located in southeast Kansas, is administering the grant on behalf of the foundations.

The following school districts and community partners, based on school district size, received funding as part of this initiative:

**Grantees in smaller school districts with less than 1,000 students (receiving a base of $3,000 each plus a per pupil rate of $2.17):**

- USD 101, Erie-Galesburg
- USD 105, Rawlins County
- USD 106, Western Plains (Grantee: Kansas Food Bank Warehouse)
- USD 108, Washington County Schools
- USD 112, Central Plains
- USD 205, Bluestem
- USD 208, Trego Community Schools
- USD 211, Norton Community Schools (Grantees: Kansas Food Bank Warehouse and Norton Regional Health Foundation)
- USD 215, Lakin
- USD 218, Elkhart
- USD 220, Ashland (Grantee: Kansas Food Bank Warehouse)
- USD 225, Fowler
- USD 243, Lebo Waverly
- USD 244, Burlington (Grantee: Kansas Food Bank)
- USD 245, Southern Coffey County (Grantee: Kansas Food Bank Warehouse)
- USD 246, Northeast
- USD 252, Southern Lyon County
- USD 254, Barber County North
- USD 255, South Barber
- USD 258, Humboldt Schools
- USD 271, Stockton Schools
- USD 272, Waconda
- USD 281, Graham County Schools (Grantee: Graham County Health Department)
- USD 283, Elk Valley
- USD 284, Chase County (Grantee: Social Innovation Laboratory)
- USD 286, Chautauqua Co Community
- USD 289, Wellsville
- USD 292, Wheatland Schools
- USD 294, Decatur Community Schools
- USD 299, Sylvan Grove
- USD 303, Ness City Schools (Grantee: Kansas Food Bank Warehouse)
USD 306, Southeast of Saline
USD 310, Fairfield
USD 322, Onaga
USD 329, Wabaunsee
USD 335, North Jackson
USD 346, Jayhawk
USD 347, Kinsley-Offerle Public Schools
USD 349, Stafford
USD 350, St. John-Hudson
USD 366, Woodson
USD 374, Sublette
USD 376, Sterling
USD 377, Atchison County Community Schools
USD 387, Altoona-Midway Schools
USD 389, Eureka
USD 392, Osborne County Schools
USD 401, Chase-Raymond
USD 403, Otis-Bison
USD 407, Russell County
USD 412, Hoxie Community Schools (Grantee: Hoxie Recreation)
USD 417, Morris County
USD 420, Osage City (Grantee: Osage City Public Library)
USD 430, Horton Schools (Grantee: Second Harvest Community Food Bank)
USD 449, Pleasant Ridge
USD 454, Burlingame
USD 459, Bucklin Schools
USD 461, Neodesha Schools
USD 462, Central Burden
USD 479, Crest
USD 481, Rural Vista
USD 482, Dighton (Grantee: Kansas Food Bank Warehouse)
USD 483, Kismet Plains
USD 484, Fredonia Schools
USD 487, Herington
USD 498, Valley Heights
USD 499, Galena
USD 507, Satanta
USD 508, Baxter Springs

**Grantees in medium-size districts between 1,000 and 10,000 students (receiving a base of $6,000 each plus a per pupil rate of $2.17):**
USD 113, Prairie Hills
USD 202, Turner-Kansas City
USD 231 Gardner Edgerton
USD 234, Fort Scott
USD 248, Girard Schools
USD 250, Pittsburg Community Schools
USD 253, Emporia Public Schools
USD 257, Iola
USD 260, Derby Public Schools
USD 262, Valley Center Public Schools
USD 290, Ottawa
USD 305, Salina (Grantee: St. John's Missionary Baptist Church)
USD 308, Hutchinson Public Schools
USD 309, Nickerson-South Hutchinson
USD 313, Buhler
USD 320, Wamego
USD 321, Kaw Valley
USD 336, Holton
USD 345, Seaman
USD 348, Baldwin
USD 363, Holcomb
USD 367, Osawatomie
USD 470, Arkansas City (Grantee: Arkansas City Recreation)
USD 373, Newton
USD 375, Circle
USD 382, Pratt
USD 383, Manhattan-Ogden
USD 409, Atchison Public Schools
USD 418, McPherson
USD 428, Great Bend
USD 437, Auburn -Washburn
USD 445, Coffeyville Public Schools
USD 446, Independence
USD 450, Shawnee Heights
USD 453, Leavenworth Public Schools
USD 457, Garden City
USD 469, Lansing
USD 473, Chapman
USD 475, Geary County Schools
USD 480, Liberal
USD 489, Hays
USD 491 Eudora

Grantees in large districts with more than 10,000 students (receiving a base of $10,000 each plus a per pupil rate of $2.17):
USD 233, Olathe
USD 259, Wichita
USD 497, Lawrence
USD 500, Kansas City
USD 501, Topeka Public Schools
USD 512, Shawnee Mission Public Schools
ABOUT THE KANSAS HEALTH FOUNDATION
The Kansas Health Foundation is based in Wichita, but statewide in its focus. With a mission to improve the health of all Kansans, KHF envisions a culture in which every Kansan can make healthy choices where they live, work and play. To achieve this, KHF focuses its work in four impact areas: access to affordable health care, healthy behaviors, civic and community engagement and educational attainment. During its 30-year history, KHF has provided more than $500 million in grants to Kansas communities and organizations and looks forward to working toward its mission and vision for many years to come.

ABOUT THE SUNFLOWER FOUNDATION
The Sunflower Foundation serves as a catalyst to improve the health and wellbeing of all Kansans through grantmaking, collaborative learning, and promoting health equity at the community and public policy level.