Jean Garinger Named 2020 Generosity Award Recipient

Generous is the first word that most people would use to describe Jean Garinger, recipient of the Derby Community Foundation 2020 Generosity Award. “Generous is her lifestyle. She sees need and doesn’t wait for someone else to come to the aid. Jean is the first to step up and she gives without any hesitation,” said Lisa Woolsey who nominated Garinger for the award.

A few examples of Garinger’s generous acts include:

**Kansas Honor Flight** – American Family Insurance is a national sponsor of Honor Flights and when they wanted to support the Kansas Honor Flights program, they looked to their local agent and community leader, Jean Garinger, to be part of a $2,500 donation to the Kansas Honor Flights (KHF) program. It was that connection between American Family and Kansas Honor Flights that ignited a desire in Jean to do something big that could bring awareness and funding to Kansans who deserve the Honor Flight experience.

Jean created an event that would support local veterans: Handbags for Heroes, a gala event featuring an auction of high-end purses. Sadly, the event was put on hold due to the pandemic. However, Jean conducted two online auctions of handbags and has secured over $3,700 additional dollars for Kansas Honor Flights.

**Providing Office Space** - Jean Garinger’s generosity does not end at financial support. She is willing to give and share any resources, including allowing non-profit organizations to use space in her office to support their programs. The sharing of office space started when a small, local church needed office space because their weekend meeting space did not allow for an office during the week. Without hesitation she recognized the need (without being asked) and offered to donate an office to the pastor so the church could have a permanent location to accomplish administrative work. When the church no longer needed the office space, Jean recognized that another local non-profit could utilize the space and she offered her space to Circles of Derby.

She also converted space in her office into a storage location for a national non-profit that provides support to women in crisis pregnancies.
Jean Garinger has also been a great friend of the Derby Community Foundation, by sponsoring the annual gala, Uncorked, and by serving on the DCF’s Marketing Committee. Jean also opened a donor advised fund with the Derby Community Foundation from which she awards grants to local non-profits who are serving the community.

“There does not exist anywhere a person with more enthusiasm and passion for generosity than Jean Garinger,” said Woolsey.

Also nominated for the 2020 Generosity Award were:

- Pleasantview Baptist Church for their support of Swaney Elementary School; and the Keith & Amy Bruso Family (Keith, Amy, Parker, Conner and Alexis) for the many ways they serve the community through volunteerism.
- The Derby Community Foundation is proud to recognize these 3 nominees for their generous acts. Do you know someone who makes a difference in the Derby area? Nominate them for the 2021 Generosity Award. The nomination form may be found at www.derbycf.org.

Office Space Donated

Before COVID turned the world upside down, the Derby Community Foundation began the year settling into office space donated by Keith Humphrey, DCF Board member. The building located at 946 N. Buckner is a 1950s home that was renovated to serve as office space. We are grateful to Keith Humphrey for this generous gift which gives the Derby Community Foundation visibility in the community as well as a place to call “home.”

The Derby Community Foundation is now located at 946 N. Buckner in Derby.

Legacy Gift from Jim Coffey

Longtime Derby resident Jim Coffey passed away in April 2020. The local insurance agent was a former member of the DCF Board of Directors, serving from 2012 to 2015, and a part of the foundation’s Legacy Society – a group intent on leaving estate gifts with the DCF to benefit the Derby area.

The Legacy Society was created in 2013, with Jim Coffey as one of the first to join – and his legacy gift of $10,000 came in the form of an insurance policy with the designated beneficiary being the DCF.

Part of that $10,000 gift will go toward the Derby Area Veterans Memorial while the other part (to be split evenly) will go toward the DCF operating budget.

Considering the current situation, the gift will have an immediate impact when it comes to supporting the foundation’s operations.

Jim Coffey was heavily involved in the Derby Area Veterans Memorial-Walk of Freedom from the start, with a station paying tribute to the families of military veterans created as the result of a gift from Coffey. Originally intended to honor his late wife, Sarah, a bronze sculpture (“Patriotic Boy”) was installed along the memorial walk as a tribute to all veterans’ families. A photo featuring Coffey’s three sons in military fatigues sits at the base of that statue.

Jim was a quiet giant in the Derby community. He was involved in supporting so many causes in Derby, but worked quietly behind the scenes, never seeking recognition for his good works. His legacy gift to the DCF is an example of how much Jim loved his community; by providing a gift from his estate he has forever made a positive impact on Derby.

Jim Coffey’s legacy gift has inspired two additional community members to make arrangements to leave something behind in support of the community. Lisa Woolsey, Farmers Insurance Corporate Trainer, and Jean Garinger, American Family Insurance Agent, both joined the DCF Legacy Society this fall by designating estate gifts to the DCF.

Please contact the DCF if you are interested in joining the Legacy Society.

If you would like to start the New Year by supporting the Derby Community Foundation, there are two easy ways to donate:

Online Contributions:
Online contributions can be made to specific funds through www.derbycf.org/donate (select the button for the fund you wish to contribute to or make an “Unrestricted Gift” by selecting that button). Recurring monthly contributions can be made by selecting that option at checkout.

Checks:
Checks may be sent to:
Derby Community Foundation:
PO Box 372
Derby, KS 67037

Thank you, in advance for supporting the Derby Community Foundation.
In April, when the Derby community began to feel the pandemic’s impact, the DCF Board froze all requests for Community Enrichment Grants in order to focus those funds ($10,000 annually) toward COVID-19 response and recovery. Through a streamlined application process, the DCF began awarding grants to support local response and recovery activities. Additionally, the DCF applied and received 4 grants totaling $26,000 to provide needed assistance in Derby: Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Kansas-$10,000; Kansas Health Foundation-$10,000; Evergy-$5,000; Shelter Insurance Foundation (Tim Hicks, local agency)-$1,000 (and several gifts from individual donors).

In October, the DCF Board agreed to allow non-COVID related grant applications to be reviewed by the Grant Committee. An additional $6,300 in Community Enrichment and Kansas Health Foundation Fund grants were awarded in December.

The DCF will continue to support the frontline organizations that are providing services to help the Derby area respond and recover from the impact of COVID-19 on the community as long as grant funds are available.

A variety of grants and scholarships were awarded through the Derby Community Foundation in 2020 (not an all-inclusive list).

**Community Enrichment Grants**
- Boys Scouts-Quivira Council – Scouts Give Back............$2,400
- Derby Historical Society – Lighting for Museum.........$2,500

**Kansas Health Foundation Grants**
- Derby Senior Celebration 2020..................................$500
- LEAD Derby.........................................................$500
- DCF Match Day.....................................................$5,000
- Guadalupe Clinic-Diabetes Test Strips.......................$650
- Derby Recreation Commission/ Derby Health Collaborative-Kids Kitchen Afterschool..................................$750

**Generosity Award Grant**
- Kansas Honor Flight (designated by Jean Garinger).....$500

**Decarsky Field of Interest Fund Grants**
- Kansas Humane Society..........................................$10,000
- Wichita Animal Action League.................................$500
- Pando Initiative......................................................$250
- Career Technical Education Assistance Fund..............$5,000
- CARES Foundation..............................................$3,000
- Derby Community Foundation Match Day.................$5,000
- Derby Historical Society..........................................$500

**Garinger Agency Fund Grants**
- Pando Initiative......................................................$250
- Kansas Honor Flight...............................................$2,500
- Uncorked 2020 Volunteer Table Sponsor....................$1,000

**Mike Burr Memorial Scholarship**
- Kendal Meyer.......................................................$500

**Braxton Kooser Memorial Scholarship**
- Lily Vincent.........................................................$350

**Kermit Daum Scholarship**
- Alexandria Stegman...............................................$500

**Ada Thoma & Melva Owens Memorial Scholarship**
- Hannah Mae Atakpa..............................................$850

**Rotary Club of Derby Scholarship**
- Daniel Archer, Heather Mills, Ana Scott, Alexandria Stegman, Mariah Wheeler..................................$5,000 total

**Derby High School Multifaceted Student Scholarship**
- Chloe Brown & Haylee Nickel.................................$2,000 total

**Diana Unkel Memorial Music Scholarship**
- Adin Gilmore.......................................................$2,500

**Colleen Zirkle Memorial Scholarship**
- The Independent School........................................$1,000

**Re’Ana Mekaeil Memorial Scholarship**
- Daniel Archer.......................................................$500

**Decarsky Foundation Scholarship**
- George Grant Brown (2020 recipient), Lauren Eichman, Meaghan Mizak, Ryan Palmer, Samantha Hill, Emily Hightower, Haley Smith, Holly Mills, Karis Brown, Averi Baker, Skylar Howell, Erin Kooser, Daniela Loera, Harli Lowmaster.............................................$56,000 total

**DCF 2020 Grant Focus Shift**

Following are the COVID-19 Response and Recover Grants awarded as of December 1:

**Derby Food Pantry:**
- Food Items.........................................................$110.16
- Food Items.........................................................$158.76
- Food Items.........................................................$118.60

**USD 260 Food Service:**
- Farmers to Families Program.................................$480
- Mister Fans for Curbside Lunches.........................$476

**Derby Senior Services**
- Meals on Wheels/Activities for Seniors.....................$2,500

**Derby Recreation Commission:**
- Oaklawn Activity Center After School Program........$2,500

**Guadalupe Clinic:**
- Support Telemedicine Visits for Derby Residents.......$2,500

**Salvation Army:**
- Utility Assistance Program for Derby Residents.......$2,500

**Operation Holiday:**
- General Support....................................................$2,500

**Scholarships Awarded Despite Pandemic**

**Uncorked 2020**
- Ryan Palmer, Samantha Hill, Emily Hightower, Haley Smith, Holly Mills, Karis Brown, Averi Baker, Skylar Howell, Erin Kooser, Daniela Loera, Harli Lowmaster

**Historical Society Grants**
- Joyce Hightower, Dan Nelson, Mike McMillin, John Moss, Jody Pepple, Jeannine Plummer, Ryan Richman, Richard Seifert, John Suiter, Janet Thompson, R. Jeff Van Dyke, Robert Wilkerson, Paul Wilson, Kim Wilson
Please join us in welcoming our new Assistant for Events and Marketing, Sarah Buie. Sarah was born and raised in the Derby area. Now, she is a senior at Wichita State University. She is triple majoring in Health Sciences, Psychology, and Health Management with an Honors Leadership Track, as well as a GORE Scholar. Sarah has a wealth of experience with marketing, social media, graphic design, and event planning. After graduation, Sarah hopes to attend graduate school and eventually work on health campaigns in order to spread awareness about public health issues. In her free time, she enjoys art and photography, so she is looking forward to utilizing those skills for DCF!