



CITY OF KEARNEY **PRESS RELEASE** ***For Immediate Release***

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2026 Community Betterment Awards

The City of Kearney, in partnership with the Keno Application Advisory Committee, is proud to announce the 2026 Community Betterment Awards for fifteen (15) projects. This annual grant program is competitive, and we appreciate all of the applicants and their work in our community.

The Community Betterment Awards are community development grants with no match that are available to local not-for-profit organizations with a maximum award of \$5,000. The program is funded by 10% of the gross proceeds generated by the City of Kearney Lottery after prizes, commissions, legal, audit and other allowable expenses.

2026 Award Recipients:

- \$5,000 to Buffalo County Community Partners towards Building for Kearney's Future Emerging Health Needs
- \$5,000 to Buffalo County Historical Society for Archival Storage
- \$5,000 to Crane River Theater for Upgraded Computers
- \$5,000 to HelpCare Clinic for Point of Care Lab Supplies
- \$5,000 to Hot Meals USA for Kitchen Equipment
- \$5,000 to Kearney Area Children's Museum for Sensory Stop Exhibit
- \$4,500 to Kearney Community Sustainable Housing for Transitional Housing
- \$4,500 to Kearney Community Theatre for Landscaping
- \$5,000 to Kearney Jubilee Center for Help Now Program
- \$1,500 to Kearney Literacy Council for Helping All to Read in Today's Diverse World
- \$4,000 to Kearney Visitor's Bureau for Kearney Sports Marketing Video
- \$4,500 to Kearney Woman's Club for carpet, clubhouse repairs and repainting
- \$1,700 to LyonHeart Equine Assisted Learning for The Heart of LyonHeart EAL – Our Horses
- \$5,000 to The Friends Program of Kearney for Community Roots: Growing Together Through Mentorship
- \$4,760 to The S.A.F.E. Center for Trauma-Informed Environment

Congratulations to all of the grant awardees! The 2027 Lottery Trust Fund Application is currently anticipated to open in January 2026. If you have any questions about the grant program, please contact Brian Schultz, Director of Finance, (308)-233-3213.

Check out our web site at www.cityofkearney.org.

We are sending this News Release as a service to the news media and citizens of Kearney.

We provide services, solutions, and opportunities for our community.