

Giving and Growing

In 1919, the citizens of Kansas City raised more than \$2.5 million in 10 days to build a “lasting monument to the men and women who had served in WWI.” The Liberty Memorial was built with donations received from more than ¼ of the city’s population and a large portion of the giving was from children going door to door.

Thanks to the 161 donors who helped raise more than \$122,000 during the second annual *Give to Grow Day*. Those donations support 31 local nonprofit groups. Giving has changed since 1919. In fact, this year more than 20% of the *Give to Grow* donations were made via credit card transaction! No children running around the streets today knocking on doors. People like giving to be simple and we comply.

If you have visited the WWI Museum and the Liberty Memorial, you were not disappointed. Kansas City has had a tremendous return on investment over the years from a project initiated by a few people who cared about the many who gave so much.

The Main Event is such a project for Sabetha. By now, most of us have attended a reception or party there and come away impressed by the space and the improvements made over the years. Events at The Main Event bring people to town who then stay in our hotels and eat at our restaurants. It has been a good investment and we are grateful to the small group of women who have steered the donation-based project.

The Sabetha Health & Wellness Center will be another positive return on investment. New housing and the employment opportunities in Sabetha will encourage more people to live here and the availability of a health and wellness complex will add to this growth. We thank this small group of dreamers who saw a need and preserved until it will soon become a reality.

GSCF has supported the eight member SH&W committee in raising over \$2 million that will be used to build the facility. The next needs are for amenities and equipment such as weights and cardio machines. Some additional parking must be added to make up for some lost in the site relocation.

Now is the time for other people to help the committee by giving to the project. So far, the donations have been from a very small percentage of the population. More can become involved by giving what we are able. Your donation is important, no

matter the amount. The Give to Grow Day was successful due to many people who gave what they could give. If you gave, you understand the feeling of “playing the game” and supporting projects or groups that are striving to make positive local changes.

If you are reading this and you are thinking that neither of these projects are “your thing,” that is fine. Maybe you can gather a small group and find your thing! Someone once said, “I wondered who somebody didn’t do something. Then I realized, I am somebody.

The Greater Sabetha Community Foundation exists to support dreamers and doers. Many “somebody’s” can do many “something’s!”