

## WHAT DUES DO YOU OWE?

I was handed some cash the other day and I looked at the man who handed it to me and asked him what it was for. He said, "Well, it's my dues, I haven't paid my dues." I realized he thought there are dues to be a member of the Greater Sabetha Community Foundation. Wrong. We don't charge dues to belong to what we think of as YOUR community foundation.

So, how does one belong you might wonder? You give. You become involved. You learn what we do. That's it. We want it to be a simple and positive relationship. Over 400 people have become "members" just by donating to a nonprofit or a project they see serving a need in the community.

The latest project for the community is the Sabetha City with Heart Assistance/Recovery Program. We feel proud of this cooperation between GSCF and the Sabetha Chamber of Commerce because it makes it possible for us to get Chamber checks to people in need and in turn the money will be spent right here on Main Street. You can become a part by donating to this worthwhile cause.

There are many who are really hurting—our neighbors who own the restaurants and the waitresses who serve our food, the girls who opened clothing stores, the flower and décor shops, the print shops, the hair salons and photographers. Some are now deemed non-essential. But to our small town these are not nonessential businesses, these are our people. They take care of us. They might be our first smile in the morning or our only human contact on a normal day. But, today is not normal. It's very abnormal to not be able to be social and hug and high-five. It's just weird and we all know it. But we all have to play the role now of not being able to do as we normally do and being socially distant. We just have to.

But that does not mean we can't support our businesses; our people. Let's start our own fun ways to help like holding "Make an appointment Monday", "Place an Order Tuesday" and "Take out Thursday." Order from our restaurants as they serve us with carry-out meals, send flowers to brighten someone's day, order some new décor for your home, make your hair appointment now for May, call the clothing stores and order a new top to replace t-shirt you've been wearing every day, make an appointment for a massage or photography session or order some cute cards from one of the creative graphic artists.

So, no GSCF does not hold a membership drive or charge dues. The English word dues, comes from the French word "dunoir." And that word comes from the Latin "debere" which means "debt." Dues are the debt we owe for the privilege of being a part of some sort of society. The only obligation or duty we encourage everyone to feel is one to rally around our people, act as a good neighbor, uphold each other so we make it through this difficult time. And if you live in this community or have ties to it, we are YOUR community foundation. So, if you know someone who should fill out an application for assistance, please encourage them to do so! We are here to support this community, to care for our people and to make a positive difference for the future.