

## Getting It

Do you remember a time when it finally clicked? The moment that you realized that what you did not understand, you now understand. I thought I was a poor student in chemistry class and Mr. Zerger would probably have agreed with that assessment. However, through all my hard work to understand chemistry and despite not receiving a very good grade in the class, I learned many years later that I finally “got it!” It took having a child in high school chemistry class and assisting with homework that I discovered, to Mr. Zerger’s credit, I **had** learned some chemistry and I was actually able to help balance a chemistry equation. That taught me a valuable lesson that I applied as a teacher and as a mom. It’s not always the grade a student receives that demonstrates learning, it is actually the work that goes into the grade, whether it be an “A” or even a “D.”

I am excited that people are “getting the community foundation thing.” In the last part of GSCF’s third year of existence, several people, with assistance from their professional advisor or banker, donated to their favorite fund and by doing so kept Uncle Sam from getting “more than his fair share.”

By the end of 2018, more than \$6 million has been deposited as donations or transfers from other nonprofits, and more than \$1.4 million has been transferred back to the nonprofit funds in grants. There is currently over \$3.5 million available for local projects and organizations in the GSCF asset base.

Yes, Sabetha is really “getting it” and in the next three years, we expect to see more growth and more people remembering to keep giving local through GSCF. Kelly Girton, board member, recently made the comment, “I really don’t see how a community can move forward without a community foundation.” It is evident that Sabetha is moving forward and it would be a great time to get involved.

Currently 69 different funds are available to support. Listed on our website are three animal support funds, four funds that support the arts and humanities, eleven in the human needs and healthcare category, eight funds that target children and youth, many funds that fall under the category of community support and education, one Veteran’s support fund, two unrestricted funds and ten donor advised funds. Because of the merger with USD 113 Foundation, GSCF now lists 16 different scholarship funds available to support through giving.

The nominating committee (Von Lauer, Chris Tramp, Steve Lukert, and Harold Schmelzle) is currently reviewing the list of Ambassadors to the foundation. This group of people will learn more about the foundation and how GSCF can help the community. They will help promote the foundation goals and we ask only that they demonstrate interest in our community efforts. If you would like to join this part of GSCF, the committee would like to hear from you. Email [info@sabethafoundation.org](mailto:info@sabethafoundation.org) to get in touch with a committee member.

I wish Mr. Zerger could know that I finally got it. It probably would not mean much to him, but it was a life lesson for me. So, if you have a child who seems to struggle, remember what Frederick Douglass, escaped slave, activist and author said, “If there is no struggle, there is no progress.”