

## A TALE OF TWO BROTHERS- THE TALE OF OUR COMMUNITY

Becoming a community of people who care and work for the common good means we are willing to serve each other. It means we think of others first and put own needs last. It is people who desire to see the success of the community over their own. As community members think of others first, they lose little and gain much more, as the following story illustrates.

*Two brothers worked together on the family farm. One was married and had a large family. The other was single. At the day's end, the brothers shared everything equally, produce and profit.*

*Then one day the single brother said to himself, "It's not right that we should share equally the produce and the profit. I'm alone and my needs are simple." So, each night he took a sack of grain from his bin and crept across the field between their houses, dumping it into his brother's bin.*

*Meanwhile, the married brother said to himself, "It's not right that we should share the produce and the profit equally. After all, I'm married and I have my wife to look after me and my children for years to come. My brother has no one, and no one to take care of his future." So, each night he, too, took a sack of grain and dumped it into his single brother's bin.*

*Both men were puzzled for years because their supply of grain never dwindled. Then one dark night, the two brothers bumped into each other. Slowly it dawned on them what was happening. They dropped their sacks and embraced one another.*

GSCF has initiated two new programs now available to help people with charitable intent can carry out their wishes and save on taxes.

If you want to give back and make a difference in your community even **after retirement**, you can. Many people have Individual Retirement Accounts, but don't realize they can use their required minimum distribution to donate to their favorite local charities. These qualified charitable distributions go directly to the charity. Therefore, QCDs offer advantages over taking a taxable IRA distribution and then contributing the proceeds of that distribution to a charity. QCDs allow you to avoid paying ordinary income taxes on your distribution.

Another program is called **Gift of Grain**. Donating a gift of grain to the community foundation is a simple way to make a lasting difference. The value of the grain can be used to start an endowed fund in the name of your family, for a specific nonprofit organization important to you or support the overall charitable causes in the Sabetha area. No matter what type of fund you choose to establish or support, you can be sure that your gift of grain is growing the future of the Sabetha area.

By giving grain to the community foundation, you *avoid including the sale of the grain in your farm income*. Although a charitable income tax deduction is generally not available to you, the avoidance of declaring it as income. You *deduct the cost of growing the crops* which typically results in saving self-employment tax, federal income tax and state income tax. (You can benefit even if you don't itemize your deductions and take the standard deduction.)

GSCF exists to assist people who strive to think of others first. As we work toward and approach the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual **GIVE TO GROW** Day it is our hope that more people begin to desire to see the success of community!