



Community Investment Program

Community Investment Grants Fall 2023

Major investments in food insecurity programs, fire departments, and services for children and families across Texas and Cimarron counties.

In a significant boost to nonprofit organizations serving Northwest Oklahoma, the Cherokee Strip Community Foundation (CSCF) has announced grant awards totaling \$290,000 from the Three Corners Connector Community Investment Program (CIP). These grants promise to make a substantial impact on communities in the Panhandle: Texhoma, Goodwell, Guymon, Hooker, Boise City, Felt, Keyes, Wheelless, and Mexhoma.

Grid United established the Three Corners Connector Community Investment Program at the Cherokee Strip Community Foundation as a way to support communities in Cimarron and Texas Counties, where Grid United is developing Three Corners Connector, a transmission line connecting the U.S. eastern and western electric grids in Oklahoma and Colorado. Because Grid United is dedicated to partnering with the communities in which Three Corners Connector is being developed, the CIP funds support projects that enhance quality of life while strengthening communities in this corner of Northwest Oklahoma.

CSCF assembled a diverse community advisory committee comprised of leaders and residents in Cimarron and Texas counties. This committee carefully reviewed grant applications and determined funding for projects and programs expected to have a significant positive impact.

The following grants were awarded on December 18th, 2023:

Boise City Fire Department, \$20,000: To help replace ageing pumper tanker equipment.

Cimarron County EMS, \$20,000: To help build a new ambulance station.

Cimarron County Food Pantry, \$20,000: To help with building expansion to allow for more food storage.

Felt Fire Department, \$10,000: To install a remote nozzle on a truck to allow for safer operation during fires.

Guardians of the Ribbon-Oklahoma Panhandle Chapter, \$4,000: To assist cancer patients with bills, fuel cards, medication co-pays, etc.

Hooker Fights Hunger Inc, \$20,000: To help install freezer storage to offer more frozen food.

Keyes Fire Department, \$10,000: To help replace an aging rescue truck.

Loaves and Fishes Food Cupboard (Guymon), \$25,000: To help supplement their food purchases through the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma.

NW Domestic Crisis Services, \$21,000: To provide legal services to victims and renovate a shelter kitchen.

Panhandle Services for Children, \$22,500: To help provide youth services for juvenile offenders.

Panhandle State Foundation, \$24,000: To establish a scholarship offering local graduates access to higher education at OPSU.

Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma, \$16,500: To support food insecurity programs serving families and children.

Ronald McDonald House of Amarillo, \$7,000: To provide nighttime care for families from Texas and Cimarron County seeking medical care.

Texas County Firefighters Association, \$25,000: To purchase mobile radios for 11 communities, reducing response times.

Panhandle Cares Association, \$6,000: To support projects to enhance health and social services for local families.

Town of Texhoma, \$29,000: To help renovate three Little League fields for youth sports.

Wheless-Mexhoma Fire Department, \$10,000: To install a remote water cannon on a truck to offer safer operation.

The Community Investment Program will have two application cycles each year over the next three years. In 2024, the submission deadlines will be May 15th and November 15th. More information and the grant guidelines can be found on the community foundation's webpage at www.cherokeestripcf.com/CIP.