

## 2024 YEARLY REPORT

## **BELLA VISTA FOUNDATION**

The Bella Foundation completed its 13<sup>th</sup> year. The number 13 may be unlucky for some, but not for the foundation and it's receiving charities.

In January the foundation elected Ann Dahlke President, Charlie Teal Vice President, Stu Sorenson Treasurer, Jane Lowe, Associate Director, Secretary. Bob Kronner, Katy Henkel, Steve Hughes, Linda Lloyd, Peg Pfeifer and Carrie Wilson all acting Directors. John Flynn continued as an Ex-Officio member of the Board and representative from the City of Bella Vista.

The Foundation began 2024 on solid financial ground with \$175,925.04 in our treasury. This figure was made up of \$2540.60 in the Sport Fund, \$150,959.50 for Trees from the Walton Foundation, \$12, 564.42 in Unassigned Funds, and \$9.860.52 in Restricted Funds.

The first of the year found us redesigning our website. We now have a secure website with a QR code and are able to take donations directly from the site. We have added a "Splash Page" which highlights our current project/s, and updated pictures. The site tells the viewer all about us, the current Board of Directors, how we function, how we handle our funding - both donations and grants with a list of our past projects, annual reports and last but not least a way to contact us if they have further questions.

In May when Blue Crane made its big announcement about a purchase of land in Bella Vista, our Vice President made contact with them indicating our desire to work with them if we could. This communication is ongoing. One of the projects we would like to work with them on is getting a mural painted on the cement wall at Town Center NE.

May 22-25, 2024 was our annual Golf FORE Charity event. The big day of golf on May 22, 2024 had to be postponed because of weather, but after another delay, the third time was the charm! We finally got our day of golf and Sock It To Me event in the books. The POA donated \$13,274.41 from the rounds of golf played and the Sock It To Me added \$3,085.52 to the event. Individual and corporate donors contributed \$26,790.60 to the event. We were able to have our Silent Auction at the Bella Vista Country Club May 22-25, 2024. It was a huge success. We had more baskets to auction off than ever before and the Wine Tree was completely sold out netting us \$16,779.25. We were able to distribute over \$59,000 to the five charities we selected for 2024. They were Bella Vista Animal Shelter, The Boys and Girls Club of Benton

County, Bella Vista Unit, Bella Vista Community TV, Bella Vista Courtesy Van and the Bella Vista Historical Society.

Our continuing projects are the planting and maintaining of trees on the bicycle trails in Bella Vista. This is done with donations made to us by the Walton Family every year. We continue to be a member of the Bella Vista Business Association.

In the Fall of 2024 three 501(c)(3) charities submitted Grant Requests to us to help them with their projects. The Bella Vista Rotary was granted \$1000 toward their Winterfest in February, 2025, The Bella Vista Fly Tyers received \$1000 toward their Fish Habitat Enhancement Project, and the NWA Women's Chorus received \$1000 to support it's 2025 budget costs to defray Chorus expenses.

We continue to try to get the word out to the public about the Foundation and how it helps the Bella Vista Community. We have a good relationship with The Weekly Vista who publishes articles for us on our events and projects and in the future we will have a formal check presentation to be published in the paper to let everyone know what we are doing to promote goodwill in the community.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Ann Dahlke, President Bella Vista Foundation January 6, 2025