Welcome to the first edition of *Raising the Bar!* Why that name you ask? If you look at our website or our logo, the bar plays a prominent role in our branding. Its placement above our name signifies that we function as a foundation not just by making grants to incredible organizations, but also through our commitment to support and uplift the grantees and communities we serve to reach new heights. We are committed to your success, along with being a good partner, and being transparent. Through this newsletter, we plan to share with you the grants we make, the extraordinary work of our grantees, updates on foundation activities, and what we are learning about the issues we address. We hope you find it both informative and engaging. Remember we are always looking for ways to highlight you, so feel free to send us your stories, photos, insights and reflections to add to the newsletter.

**Grants Approved:**
**Second Quarter 2016**

The foundation approved 26 grants for a total of nearly $6.0M at our June 2016 board meeting. For a list of the grants awarded and the projects we are supporting please follow the link below.

*Approved Grants*
YOUTH PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS

Preparing Low-Income Millard Public School Students for College

In July 2015 Peter Kiewit Foundation provided Millard Public Schools (MPS) with a $150,000 grant to help the district launch Nebraska’s first Early College High School at Millard South. The program provides participating students with a rigorous, fully integrated high school and college curriculum, as well as the needed supports to complete the challenging program and gain admission to college after graduation. Participating students earn up to two years of college credit from Metropolitan Community College, potentially graduating high school having already received an Associate of Arts degree. These credits are also accepted by the University of Nebraska for students working toward completion of a bachelor’s degree. And the early results are very promising...

Read more

ECONOMIC GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY

Revitalizing Distressed Neighborhoods in Omaha

In July 2015 Peter Kiewit Foundation provided the newly formed Omaha Municipal Land Bank with a $200,000 grant to support startup costs. Following a city ordinance in 2014, the Land Bank was created to work collaboratively with public, private and non-profit organizations to aid in the revitalization of distressed neighborhoods in eastern Omaha. Their work is intended to facilitate the return of vacant, abandoned, and/or tax delinquent property to productive use, spur additional development, engage the community, and improve neighborhood safety. The organization has hired a full-time director, put in place a high-quality board, and acquired nearly 80 properties.

STRONG AND VIBRANT COMMUNITIES

Reviving Scottsbluff’s Historic Midwest Theater

In September of 2015, Peter Kiewit Foundation provided the Midwest Theater in Scottsbluff, Nebraska with a $60,000 grant to support equipment upgrades and renovations to enhance the overall artistic production value and audience member experience. Since opening its doors in 1946, the Midwest Theater has taken a collaborative approach to providing the best possible experience for its patrons. Serving over 40,000 people yearly, the Theater is a cultural and social hub for the
The Historic Midwest Theater was placed on the National Registry of Historic Places in 1997.

GET TO KNOW OUR TEAM

Wendy Boyer is a Senior Program Officer at Peter Kiewit Foundation, leading the foundation’s Youth Pathways to Success and Economic Growth and Opportunity impact areas. When she’s not working to help more youth succeed in their educational endeavors or improving our economy via job stimulation, you can find her on the lake spending time with her family. To find out more about Wendy, including the most adventurous thing she has done, click the link below.

More About Wendy

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

If you are interested in applying for a grant and want more information, visit: www.peterkiewitfoundation.org/for-grantseekers/application-process

October 15th
Deadline for Grant Applications

December 31st
Notification to Grant Applicants

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