

# Carl A Nelson Charitable Foundation 2012 Newsletter

By: Christine Robertson, VP of Finance

## A History of the Foundation

The Carl A. Nelson Charitable Foundation was established in 2004 to fund charitable endeavors. Since that time, the Foundation has helped employees with medical expenses in times of severe financial distress, funded college scholarships for dependents of company employees and has contributed to civic projects within the primary geographic area that is served by Carl A. Nelson & Company.

## Funding the Foundation

Contributions to the Foundation come from employees, retirees, and Carl A. Nelson & Company. All contributions are designated into one of three funds: scholarship fund, relief fund for employee assistance, and the general fund for discretionary giving. Since inception, the Foundation has received almost \$162,000 in contributions. That includes \$126,000 from Carl A. Nelson & Company, and \$36,000 from current and former employees.

All employees are encouraged to make a weekly payroll contribution to the Foundation. You can contribute as little as \$1.00 per week. When aggregated with other employees contributions all of the dollars add up quickly. The contributions allow the Foundation to carry out its function. The Foundation is a tax-exempt entity, and all contributions are tax-deductible. A statement of your tax-deductible contributions will be provided to you after the end of the year.

A contribution form is attached to the newsletter for your convenience if you would like to start making a contribution to the Foundation, or if you would like to increase your current contribution. You may contact Renita Jarrett or Christine Robertson if you have any questions.

## Giving Back to the Community

Distributions from the Foundation over the years to other organizations and civic projects have totaled approximately \$63,000. This includes; \$32,400 to the Burlington Area United Way, \$6,800 to Junior Achievement, \$5,000 to the Salvation Army's Capital Campaign, \$2,500 to the Ft Madison Library project and the Food Bank of Southern IA, \$1,500 to the Keokuk YMCA, \$1,200 to the Boy Scouts of America's Mississippi Valley Council, \$1,000 to the Flint River Trail, the Jefferson County Hospital Foundation, the Henderson County Health Dept., the Des Moines County Red Cross for 2008 flood relief, the Ft. Madison Centennial Park renovation, the West Central High School marquee project, Hope Haven, Young House Family Services, and the Muscatine Foster Parents Association. The Foundation has also contributed to several other organizations over the years.

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This year contributions are being made to the following organizations; The Burlington area United Way, Young House Family Services, Jr. Achievement, Hope Haven, Boy Scouts of America's Mississippi Valley Council, Girl Scouts of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois, Great River Hospice, Salvation Army Food Bank, Big Brother's Big Sisters, YMCA- Camp McBride, Christmas for Kids – Ft Madison, and the Habitat for Humanity.

## Supporting our Employees

The Foundation has also provided over \$30,000 to current and former employees for the payment of health insurance premiums and other medical expenses. Providing this support for employees in times of need was the motivation for the formation of the Foundation.

## Contributing to Education

The Foundation has also funded two scholarships for dependents of employees. The Louis H. Kuepper Memorial scholarship was started in 2006 and the Timothy S. Ballard Scholarship began in 2011. The Louis H. Kuepper Memorial Scholarship was originally \$1,000, but was increased to \$1,500 in 2011 when the Timothy S. Ballard Scholarship was started. The Board of Directors of the Foundation has decided to increase both scholarships to \$2,000 starting with the 2013-2014 school year!

Whenever possible the scholarships are presented during the award ceremony at the recipient's high school. This year Tim Seibert was able to present both scholarships in person. The current year recipients are:



Kaleb Moser – son of Kevin Moser is the recipient of the Louis H. Kuepper Memorial Scholarship. Kaleb's goal is to complete a degree in accounting.

Kelly Dorothy – daughter of Colin Dorothy. Is the recipient of the Timothy S. Ballard Scholarship. Kelly's goal is to obtain a degree majoring in chemistry in pursuit of a career in Forensic Chemistry.



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Past recipients include; Ashleigh Harris - daughter of Mike Harris, Ryan Utter – son of Greg Utter, Megan Culp – daughter of Dan Culp, Ben Jaeger – son of Don Jaeger, Alicia Dixon – daughter of Brian Dixon, Whitney Pannell – daughter of Scott Gengenbach, and Brianna Burns – daughter of Bill Miskovic.

The scholarships are awarded in the spring of each year to a son or daughter of a current full-time Carl A. Nelson & Company employee who is continuing their education beyond high school. (Prior recipients of the scholarships are not eligible.) Contact the office in February for an application form and the necessary requirements.

In addition to these two scholarships, the Board of Directors has elected to look into providing a Merit Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 to the SCC Construction Trades program. This scholarship would be for students starting their second year of the program. Look for more information on this scholarship in the next newsletter.

## Requesting Assistance

The Foundation is governed by a Board of Directors, currently comprised of Tim Seibert, Tim Ballard, Christine Robertson, Chris Smith and Len Johnson. All requests for assistance need to be approved by the Board. Requests should be submitted in writing. If the request is for financial support for an employee, documentation should be provided to support the financial need. If you know of someone who has a need, or know of a civic project that might be worthy of our support, please contact any of the directors.