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$20,000 and more
Big Idea Program,
Glenshaw Square,
Springfield, Missouri
Community Foundation of
the Ozarks, Missouri
Galesburg Community
Foundation, Illinois
Sixteenth Section
Architecture & Development,
Cambridge, Wisconsin

$10,000 and more
James T. and Jean Beddow,
Sioux Falls, South Dakota
Jana and Gary Funk,
Cambridge, Wisconsin
Rural Community Alliance,
Little Rock, Arkansas
The University of West
Alabama, Livingston
West Central Initiative,
Pergus Falls, Minnesota

$5,000 and more
Association of Illinois Rural
and Small Schools
Wendell Bailey,
Willow Springs, Missouri
Dakota Resources,
Renner, South Dakota
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Springfield, Missouri
Carol Slowy,
West Plains, Missouri
Teton Science Schools,
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$1,000 and more
Albany Friends of
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American Family Insurance,
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Springfield, Missouri

Additional contributions
John Aeschlimann,
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Springfield, Missouri
Ray and Molly Chappell,
Charleston, Illinois
Hal and Kathy Funk,
Springfield, Missouri

Would you like to support
our work? Please visit:
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MESSAGE from the chair

We are pleased to present the Rural Schools Collaborative’s annual report, The Rural Route, highlighting RSC’s third year. This road map invites you to explore our world of grassroots projects and initiatives.

The Rural Schools Collaborative strengthens the bonds between schools and communities through place-based engagement, rural philanthropy, and developing teacher-leaders. We implement this mission in four specific ways: supporting Rural Teacher Corps projects, promoting school foundations, administering grants in place, and collaborating on the Place Network Schools.

This past year 10 regional hubs have organically emerged in response to the RSC’s mission and purpose. Remarkable! Our unique “hub” concept has enabled a variety of regional collaborations to shape and implement customized, mission-aligned projects and programs.

The Rural School Collaborative’s modest administrative structure is supported by a board-driven 3-year capitalization plan approximating $300,000. This lean development model allows us to stay keenly focused on our mission. We appreciate the organizations, entities, and individuals who have rallied to support the RSC and its work with rural schools and communities across the country. Thank you.

James Beddow
Board Chair
Sioux Falls, SD

Rural Schools Collaborative
2017-18 Staff

GARY FUNK
Director

EMILY MEIER
Assistant Director of Community Engagement

OUR VALUES

We believe that a sustainable rural future must include a thriving rural landscape. Simply stated, small towns and small schools get better together.

Our work strengthens the bonds between rural schools & rural communities through:

Place-based engagement
Rural philanthropy
Developing teacher-leaders

OUR DONORS

Thank you to the following donors and organizations for supporting our campaign for 2020 and Rural Schools Collaborative programmatic partnerships.

- $20,000 and more
- Big Idea Program, Glenshaw Square, Springfield, Missouri
- Community Foundation of the Ozarks, Missouri
- Galesburg Community Foundation, Illinois
- Sixteenth Section Architecture & Development, Cambridge, Wisconsin

- $10,000 and more
- James T. and Jean Beddow, Sioux Falls, South Dakota
- Jana and Gary Funk, Cambridge, Wisconsin
- Rural Community Alliance, Little Rock, Arkansas
- The University of West Alabama, Livingston
- West Central Initiative, Pergus Falls, Minnesota

- $5,000 and more
- Association of Illinois Rural and Small Schools
- Wendell Bailey, Willow Springs, Missouri
- Dakota Resources, Renner, South Dakota
- Bruce and Julie Leeth, Springfield, Missouri
- Carol Slowy, West Plains, Missouri
- Teton Science Schools, Jackson, Wyoming

- $1,000 and more
- Albany Friends of Rural Schools
- American Family Insurance, Madison, Wisconsin
- David Arorey, Marshfield, Wisconsin
- F. Ation Memorial Fund, Springfield, Missouri

- Additional contributions
- John Aeschlimann, Madison, Wisconsin
- Deborah Anderson, Oakland, Nebraska
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- Megan Funk, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
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- Randy and Cheri Funk, Overland Park, Kansas
- Brent and Jeanne Glover, Springfield, Missouri
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- Jay and Kim Handy, Madison, Wisconsin
- Grace and Galen Hauser, Madison, Wisconsin
- Jefferson County American Federation of Teachers Local 2143, Birmingham, Alabama

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