

The Salem Community Foundation was incorporated in early June 2009 in response to the harsh economic times that we found ourselves in. Salem Community Foundation is a tax exempt non profit organization. Therefore, all donations are tax deductible on an individual's tax return.

Our initial purpose was to identify alternate sources of funding for Salem Grade School. Since that time, we recognized that we had a valuable service that we could offer to all students in western Kenosha County. As an example, we have a fiscal sponsorship arrangement with the Westosha Youth Basketball Club. This allows interested parents to make tax deductible contributions on behalf of the Westosha Youth Basketball Club that would not normally be tax deductible. We are open to receiving donations and grant request for all schools and students in western Kenosha County.

One of our major goals is to locate sources of funding which will not financially impact the taxpayers in western Kenosha County. For example, we have applied for at least three grants on behalf of Salem Grade School. This is something that we would like to extend to all schools in western Kenosha County.

A fundraising opportunity that we have identified that will not take money out of local taxpayers pockets are scrip programs. We have identified two such programs that we are enrolled in and the programs are operational now. Scrip is substitute cash for items that you would purchase on a regular basis. Examples include groceries, gas, dining out and clothing, etc. You purchase the scrip card for the store that you would spend the money at anyway and use that instead of cash on your purchases. The money that we would make for the foundation to use for our students would come out of the pocket of the individual store for each card purchased. To purchase scrip cards through our program, go to our website: <http://www.scfinc.org> to find out more about these programs.

The Great Lake scrip program has hundreds of stores that offer the scrip cards with a percentage back to the foundation. The Simplified scrip program gives you the opportunity to buy scrip cards for Woodman's, other retailers not offered by Great Lake Scrip, and magazines. There are literally hundreds of stores that you can buy scrip cards for. A small sampling would include Mobil, BP, Woodman's, Piggly Wiggly, Bass Pro Shop, Applebee's, Old Navy, Best Buy, Tinseltown and many others.

These cards are not just for the holidays. They are for year around purchases of every day items that you would normally spend money on anyway. The beauty of the programs are that if you spend one hundred dollars on a scrip card, you get to spend one hundred dollars on goods and the donation comes out of the store proceeds, not out of your pocket. This gives you the opportunity to give back to the community as you shop.

Another fundraising opportunity that we are involved with is Brass Ball Mobil's Bucks for Education. This gives rebates on receipts for cash purchases of fuel. To increase the impact of this program, it can be coupled with a Mobil scrip card to realize two donations for the same purchase.

One additional fundraiser that is scheduled is a golf outing at Strawberry Creek Golf Course on June 5<sup>th</sup>.

We also collect receipts from LakeSide SuperValu.

We are looking for volunteers that would be willing to help with additional ideas or fundraising. This is for all of western Kenosha County and is not just limited to just the Salem area.

Go to our website at <http://www.scfinc.org> to find out more about the foundation, our goals, and opportunities to help. If you cannot access the website, please feel free to contact Paula Hollandsworth at 262-843-1981.