

## SERVING COLORADO | KANSAS | NEBRASKA | OKLAHOMA

## 2024 #500forGood Selections

Selections are sorted alphabetically by state.

Financial Institution	State	If you had \$500 to help your community, what would you do? (If selected your financial institution will be required to submit a W-9 form to FHLBank)
Bank of Colorado	СО	The Glen Haven Volunteer Fire Department serves the small mountain community of Glen Haven, CO. They are entirely volunteer, and they have limited funding. Their operational budget for 23 active volunteers, seven pieces of apparatus and two fire house locations is equivalent to one firefighter's salary for a year. The GHVFD also responds for mutual aid with the Estes Park Volunteer Fire Department and Loveland Fire and Rescue. During the Cameron Peak Fire, the GHVFD worked tirelessly to defend their community as fire raged all around them. Their funding was so limited that firefighters were paying for gas for the fire trucks on their personal credit cards. The majority of the funding for the GHVFD is raised during their annual pancake breakfast, and additional funds are essential for the continued maintenance of their equipment and training.
Bank of Estes Park	СО	I would donate it to the Plant a Book, Grow a Child Program. Bank of Estes Park started this program in 2016, providing \$200 vouchers to each teacher in our local elementary school every year during its Book Fair. The teachers use the funds to purchase books for students who can't afford books, who could use books in a specific subject and/or who simply wouldn't usually buy books. Due to construction and parking issues this summer and then the Alexander and Stone Mountain Fires, tourism (thus income) is extremely down this year and donations to the program are half of what they have historically been.
Colorado Credit Union	со	Colorado Credit Union is seeking the \$500 grant opportunity from FHLBank Topeka to expand our adopt-a-family holiday giving in partnership with 27J School District. This initiative, aimed at providing essential holiday support to families in need within our community, has grown each year, but our resources have limited our ability to help as many families as we would like. With the requested grant of \$500, we will be able to extend our reach, adopting more families this holiday season and ensuring they receive the necessary support, gifts and food to celebrate the holidays with dignity and joy.
First FarmBank	СО	We would give the \$500 to THIRST Living Waters Fund. The purpose of Thirst is the proactive prevention of suicide by encouraging people physically, emotionally and spiritually – Body, Mind, Heart and Soul.

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		<ul> <li>To lend support to families and friends who have lost loved ones to suicide.</li> <li>To actively promote suicide education, prevention and support.</li> <li>To create a Prayer Line to lift up the emotional and spiritual needs of the hurting.</li> <li>To financially support and partner with causes and organizations with a similar passion and successful outcomes.</li> </ul>
Frontier Bank	СО	I would like to make the \$500 donation to the Prowers County Youth Council as they do wonderful things for our youth in Lamar by providing a safe space to keep kids engaged and out of trouble. The Prowers County Youth Council is a youth-based council with the goal of having representation from the four school districts in Prowers County. The Prowers County Youth Council is open to all elementary, middle and high school students in Lamar, Granada, Holly and Wiley school districts. Each council will address various issues unique to their communities and the county as a whole. The Prowers County Youth Council gives youth a place to spend time and grow, empowers youth to create projects and events and helps them to uplift their communities all while learning skills for the future.
Horizons North Credit Union	СО	I have three aunts, all of them were teachers. I grew up hearing stories about how much teachers care, along with how much time and money was spend on their students. I work for a credit union that was created to support The Adams 12 Five Star School District. I'm not a teacher, but I'm fortunate to work with a lot of AMAZIING educators. I also volunteer as a board member of the Five Star Education Foundation. The Foundation has a great program that supports teachers when they have a school or classroom project that needs a boost. It's called the YES fund. Because the need is so great, the fund only accepts applications for a small window of time during the fall and spring semesters. I'd like to make a directed donation to this fund, so we can say yes to more teacher projects. We all have that fun aunt. I'd like to make this that fun GrAunt.
Citizens Bank of Kansas	KS	Outside of my full-time job at CBK, I'm also a full-time volunteer EMT. As a member of the volunteer EMS department in my small town of Pretty Prairie, I would donate \$500 to the EMS department. For many years the EMS department has used one bay of the fire departments building. This year we have a new building for EMS! Now that the building is up and we've moved into it, there is a long list of needs. The list of needs covers everything from cleaning supplies to bed linens to living room furniture. The \$500 would make a good size dent in purchasing these items.
		Our EMS department consists of 13 volunteer members that dedicate their time outside of their work and family life. We rely on donations to purchase anything extra outside of supplies needed for the ambulances.

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Citizens State Bank of Marysville	KS	Our bank would purchase energy/breakfast/snack bars for children in elementary schools in the Marysville, Hanover and Valley Heights School Districts. These snacks would be available through the teaching staff to children that have hunger and nutritional needs.
Elk State Bank	KS	If we had \$500 to help our community, we would like to donate it to the Clyde in Action group to help complete the Village Green Project. This project so far has eliminated two dilapidated buildings in our downtown and are currently working to develop a fun outdoor venue that can be used by people of all ages for socializing and provide a chance for small businesses to utilize vendor space to share their products with the public. It will also add much needed public restrooms to our downtown. They are so close to their goal but are in need of additional funds to bring this project to completion.
Farmers Bank of Kansas City	KS	If I had \$500 to give to my community I would give it to Cancer Action. Cancer Action helps those going through cancer treatments get the outside help they need. They have a fuel card program to give their clients to go back and forth to treatments. When clients live at or below poverty level, they often must choose putting food on the table for their family or driving 100 miles to get treatment. And they typically choose food on the table. Fuel cards are given to those families so they don't have to make that choice.
First Bank	KS	If our group had \$500 to help our community, we would use it for the "Wish Wednesday" project with our area long-term care facilities Sterling Village & Country Living of Lyons. The facilities report several residents do not have any visitors come to see them, let alone bring small gifts or items they may need. Research findings suggest that visits to nursing home residents are important for countering depression, increasing residents' well-being and quality of life, maintaining physical function and improving general health. Inspired by a video of an 11-year-old girl who grants wishes to nursing home residents, the facility will partner with local students to visit and deliver "Wish Wednesday" items to facility residents.
First Commerce Bank	KS	Marysville Rotary Club has an old one-room school located in our city park. The Club recently painted the outside along with the doors and trim. Now, our local Chamber and Main Street are wanting to use the facility to actually have a re-enactment of how teachers taught and students learned in a one- room school years ago. The inside of this school needs cleaning along with new shades for the windows and some new light fixtures. I would use the \$500 to help purchase cleaning supplies for cleaning the school, purchase new shades for the windows and to help with the painting of the inside of the old rural one-room school house.
First National Bank of Dighton	KS	I would like to donate \$500 to our Lane County Amusement Association. This is a local nonprofit organization that provides locally owed entertainment for

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		carnival rides and games for our community. The labor it takes to run these is all done on a volunteer basis. They are currently looking to purchase another ride that older kids and adults would be able to enjoy. This would be a wonderful way to give back to our community.
First Option Bank	KS	If I had \$500, I would donate it to the local library in Osawatomie. Due to recent budget cuts, after school programing for the Trojan Nation Fast Lane Program was not renewed. This leaves a huge hole in students' options for after school care/activities in our small community. Community leaders have been searching for ways to engage these students. After a record high attendance at the Summer Reading program, library volunteers have stepped up to try to fill this need by offering a Winter Reading program.
Garden Plain State Bank	KS	The City of Garden Plain would like to request help with the purchase of two pieces of playground equipment for Ternes Park through the use of Garden Plain State Bank's Community Reinvestment funds.
		Ternes Park has long been a greenfield area sporting a t-ball practice field. In 2022, the City Council approved a project to rehabilitate the players dugout benches, the backstop fencing and the addition of several pieces of toddler-sized play equipment and shade structures.
		As you know, public funds are very precious and limited, especially for a community the size of Garden Plain. We are continually seeking partnerships and alternative funding sources to help offset the costs of the improvements that our citizens request. The Community Reinvestment funding will be of great assistance to the improvements at Ternes Park.
GNBank	KS	The Girard E-Community, housed in the Girard Area Chamber of Commerce, is dedicated to revitalizing businesses and creating opportunity for growth. This year, we are beginning a new initiative called Pitch Your Porch. As an active organization, we are striving to create an impact by assisting business owners in their quest to create a positive visual impact throughout the community. PYP is a way for Girard E-Community to complement community development efforts.
		If we had \$500 to help our community, we would seek a match to make a larger impact then request the winner of the competition provide a 50% total match.
Grant County Bank	KS	Southwest Health Transport is a bus service transporting local residents to medical appointments in Garden City. This service has been operating for over one year and is still building clientele. The service is looking to expand to five days a week and to other destinations as needed by our residents.
Hanston State Bank	Ks	We live in a very small community. In 2006, we had to close our school. Our township inherited our local school building and weight room. This weight room is used by our community for the youth and the community for fitness

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		classes. The building needs updated with new windows. We sure would love the help with the new windows! We are working very hard to keep our small western Kansas community alive!
K-State Credit Union	KS	On April 30, Westmoreland experienced a tornado that destroyed 22 homes and damaged multiple other properties. The first responders in the community answered the call of duty and immediately went into action. The surrounding communities also mobilized to provide immediate support. The disaster is now four months old and homes are being rebuilt or repaired. However, we need to keep up the continued appreciation of the first responder's ongoing dedication to their community. We would like to purchase lunch for the first responders in the community to express our gratitude for their dedication to serving their friends, neighbors and community. Please help us say thank you and recognize those that put their community above their own needs.
Ninnescah Valley Bank	KS	I would donate it to the Cunningham Community Recreation department. They are striving to build a "Wellness Center" in town that could be utilized by individuals of all ages as well as groups/organizations. This would open up the door to many opportunities for individuals and groups in Cunningham. This is a "booming" small-town community that could really benefit from a center like this.
Tampa State Bank	KS	The Marion Elementary is creating calm/safe rooms. We will have at least two of them in each wing of the building. These will be safe places that students can go when they are angry or frustrated or just overwhelmed. We will be trying to equip these rooms with sensory toys, fidgets, puzzles and things that may help them to calm down.
The Valley State Bank	KS	If I had \$500 to benefit my community, I would ask for financial support for our Belle Plaine Senior Citizen group in continuing to provide nutritious meals for our elderly members. This funding will be used to purchase essential kitchen utensils, stainless steel pans for food delivery and other supplies including fatigue mats for the cooks. In the Belle Plaine community, 20-30 meals are prepared each day for local senior citizens. Some are in person, and others are delivered to those that cannot travel. Local volunteers in the community help to deliver the meals to those that cannot attend in person. With your help, we can ensure that our seniors receive the healthy meals they need, fostering their well-being and sense of community.
Union State Bank	KS	I would like to serve the community a lunch on a Sunday in December when a lot of families are together. Having a lunch for families would help people make time to visit with neighbors, especially when people are lonely during the holidays. The biggest building in town to hold this event is the McLouth Fire Depart, which are willing to allow this. I am guessing around 150 to 200 people will come. Thank you, FHLBank, for considering this opportunity for my McLouth community.

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Bank of Mead	NE	Our small community has begun fund raising for a park improvement project, which includes a pickleball/basketball court to be constructed in our community park.
Bank of the Valley	NE	If I had \$500, I would donate to the Backpack Program at our local school in David City. The Backpack Program's mission is to alleviate child hunger by providing hungry children with nutritious and easy to prepare food at times when other resources are not available such as weekends and school vacations. The cost to supply one family with a backpack of food for one entire school year is \$275, Like everything else, this amount increased this year by \$25. If they were to receive the \$500, it would almost supply two families with a backpack of food all school year. The goal is to raise \$10,000 annually in order to sustain the Backpack Program from year to year. Currently they have 30 families on the Backpack Program, and they anticipate more to enroll as the school year progresses. They typically have 35-36 families enrolled each year.
Boone County Bank	NE	Our old school got shut down due to consolidation. A community nonprofit was started, Petersburg Community Foundation, with the goal of reutilizing the existing property for the community. A big project of theirs is getting a daycare going as that is very needed. There are many requirements for that to become a possibility. Funds are needed for plumbing for new sinks and a washer and any electrical cost for getting things to code.
Cedar Security Bank	NE	If we had \$500 to help our community, we would donate it to the Wynot Expos baseball team towards a speaker system, field goal post and upkeep on the field, fences, grass and trees. The Wynot Expos are a loan team who are part of the South Central League. Baseball brings a lot of people to town and is great for the community. The local high school also uses the outfield for football practices and games. So this will benefit the community in many ways. Everyone who comes to a football game or baseball game in the town of Wynot will benefit from these additions.
Farmers and Merchants Bank	NE	The small town of Milligan (population 241) has one daycare facility, Little Explorers, which is in need of an awning to provide shade to the exterior playground area. The daycare provides childcare services to 16 children between the ages of 0-5. The facility changed ownership in May 2022, and the new owner has made several improvements to the site in order to accommodate more children. The facility is still in need of a sun shade on the south side of the building and is looking at a 24'x24' reinforcement sun shade sail that will screw into the building and connect to concreted poles. The shade, poles and concrete can be purchased for \$500.
First Bank & Trust of Fullerton	NE	I would give my \$500 to the new local daycare/preschool Fullerton's Future. Nance County is massively underserved for daycare and preschool access. Additionally, the cost of daycare is prohibitive. Any additional funds to help pay for finishing up our construction or help reduce tuition goes a long way.
First National Bank in Ord	NE	I would donate the funds to the Ord Township Library. During the school year the library provides kids various after school activities. These activities include such things as Lego Club, STEM, Art 101 and cooking classes. Also,

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		they schedule homework hour and story time with retired teachers throughout the week. They organize a summer reading program (Over 170 kids participate in this program), adult classes and multiple other activities throughout the year. In addition to these activities, the library has seven computers, 12 Kid's Kindle Fires, puzzles, blocks, Legos, coloring and many games. Our library has a wonderful staff who are always looking to new ways to connect with the community.
FirstBank of Nebraska	NE	The village of Sterling has long sought out the hope of having a community building to gather for various events. This had been talked about for a long time with even some partial fundraising, which had started several years ago where funds were set aside. In early 2018, a group finally got some momentum to get this project started. We fundraised in the community and were able to receive a matching grant to help us get the new building started. Everyone was so generous. Outside of monetary donations, many local patrons donated their time and skills in making this dream become a reality. By spring 2021, the building was open and ready for use. A dream come true! While we did have to borrow a little money to finish the project, we continue to fundraise and hope to have it paid off soon. This \$500 would help our project in that it would allow us to buy additional items needed to stock our new community building for everyday use.
Great Plains State Bank	NE	I would donate it to the Petersburg Community Foundation, which runs our village campus. They have done a great job of turning our former school into a village campus that now houses our village office, community library and fitness center. They are trying to house a daycare in the former school library area and are in need of funds to help finish the project. It has been a great addition to our community. When most towns lose their school, the community has a downfall and the building typically goes to disrepair. Now the building and area is a sense of pride for the community in what it has accomplished. The \$500 would go to further develop the building and what they offer the community.
Lincoln Federal Savings Bank of Nebraska	NE	The money would go toward buying new clothes for the Foster Care Closet. The closet only purchases new clothes for kids to "shop" in their store. The kids don't actually shop but rather get to pick out five new outfits each season. The closet has volunteer shoppers and connections where they can buy new clothes in bulk and heavily discounted prices. They know how to wisely spend the money. Their goal is to restore dignity to the foster care youth.
Nebraska Bank	NE	CardinalCAM Industries is a small-town metal fabrication company located at Randolph Public Schools in Northeast Nebraska. This school-based enterprise focuses on customer service and value through the use of state-of-the-art technology. No project is too big or too small with contracts ranging from a single personalized sign or a new trailer to help you get the job done or repeatable machine parts and large-scale manufacturing. Randolph Public School students pride themselves on productivity and creativity while gaining valuable manufacturing and business skills along the way.

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		We would submit the \$500 as a program donation or could assist in the purchasing of additional equipment and material needs.
Premier Bank N.A.	NE	If I had \$500 to help my community, I would continue supporting IronHawk Juniors (IHJ). IHJ encourages young people in the community to become more physically active by training for triathlons. This includes providing equipment for kids who are underprivileged or come from families who cannot afford to purchase bicycles and other triathlon gear. The kids train for a period of approximately eight weeks and have a triathlon race at the end of the training.
Security Bank	NE	If I had \$500 to help our community I would donate it to a new project Laurel is working on, Building Blocks Daycare. This is a pilot program for the state of Nebraska. This new building is funded on donations and grants. The group is building a new daycare facility with a partnership with the school. The school will hire the employees at the center and offer these employees benefits. Our community has a major need for new daycare, our enrollment at our school is down and working professionals are having to quit their jobs because of the lack of daycare availability. Building Blocks has not met their financial goals yet, but the board has decided to start the building process. Construction is underway!
Security First Insurance	NE	If I had \$500 to help my community I would donate it to The Rushville Volunteer Rescue Department. The \$500 would go towards upgraded radio and required antennas/booster for the ambulance rig. Last year the RVRD had 122 runs.
Security National Bank of Omaha	NE	I would donate the \$500 to the Nebraska Humane Society to be used for their "Vets Get Pets" program. The Nebraska Humane Society has a special program where they help to cover the pet adoption fees for veterans, and they also have a special time reserved once a month that is set aside specifically for veterans to come in and look at the dogs available for adoption. With the tornadoes earlier in the summer and the recent windstorm that impacted much of the Omaha area (many of whom are still without power and will potentially go for a full week before their power is back), many pet
		owners are being challenged to continue caring for their pets, increasing the number of animals being cared for and the need to help with animal adoptions. This project helps to get animals adopted and out of the shelter while also supporting our veterans that have served our country for us.
State Bank of Table Rock	NE	The youth sports program in Pawnee City has many variables. Most sports are not a part of the school, and they rely heavily on parents and fundraisers in the community to provide facilities, equipment, gear and transportation. The Pawnee City Youth Football Program needs new helmets for the students. They are working in the community to raise funds and provide safe gear for the youth who play each season. Children are our future and need gear to protect them and keep them safe. I would donate the funds toward this goal.

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Town & Country Bank	NE	I would donate this \$500 to our local Litchfield Community Club to be used in their effort to build a multipurpose court, which is in the middle of our small town with a population of 260. The park has nice grass and playground equipment, but residents would like a court for older children and adults to utilize for fun, fitness and community bonding! The funds could be used to add basketball hoops or a pickleball net to the court in the hopes that more community members could enjoy the addition! Thanks for your consideration!
ACB Bank	ОК	If I had \$500 to help the community of Cherokee I would donate to the Faith Center Building Fund. The Faith Center church located here in Cherokee is in desperate need of a new place to hold services due to capacity limitations. They were able to purchase a building in 2020, however, the building needs to be completely gutted and renovated. The church members and community members have been slowly doing the renovations themselves. Their goal is to complete this project debt free, purely by volunteer work and donations. A \$500 donation would get them one step closer to completing their new building and would be greatly appreciated! Thank you for taking the time to read my submission. This project means a lot to me and many other community members.
Armstrong Bank	ОК	There is a wonderful lady in the Muldrow community, Ms. Karen Smith, that runs a nonprofit called Barking for a Cause. She does animal control for the town, takes in strays, neuter/spays them, gets them healthy and adopted into a loving home. I would love for Barking for a Cause to have this money to go towards the ever-growing number of strays that need her help in our community.
Blue Sky Bank	ОК	I would set up a hygiene station at the middle school filled with feminine hygiene products, deodorants and other personal items. Middle school is a rough time for any kid. If they are from a low-income home, these items might not be in the budget. There are sources available for food, but there are other needs as well. Period poverty is a real issue, and no girl should be forced to face that especially in middle school where any girl could be caught off guard. A small station set up where a kid could go grab something privately could do wonders for self-esteem. Bullying is a real issue; this could prevent some of that.
First National Bank of Oklahoma	ОК	I would donate it to a local nonprofit called Nana's Closet. Their mission is "to empower and lift the spirits of grandparents raising grandkids while inspiring grandparents to protect their grandkids future." They take in donations like gently used or new clothing, shoes, beds, toys and other essentials (as well as monetary donations) that help grandparents be able to provide for the grandkids they are now raising.
		My mother is a volunteer with them, and I've seen first hand, volunteering beside her, how much they truly do for families in our community. As far as I know, they are the only place that provides this service specifically for kids in grandparent or relative care.

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Frazer Bank - Edmond branch	ОК	Frazer Bank Edmond branch is passionate about the charity Pivot. Pivot works with young people (12-24 years of age) who are often homeless or couch-homeless, disconnected or otherwise at-risk. Pivot provides a wide range of needs for these youth such as clean beds, nutritious meals, counseling, emotional support and the ability to attend school, tutoring, recreational and social activities. Pivot also created a tiny home community to provide stable housing for transitional age youth.
Great Nations Bank	ОК	FosteringFuturesOK.org (aka Fostering Futures, Inc.) is a 35-year nonprofit agency that was started by a dear Norman business woman and resident that is still active in the agency today. Her generosity started/founded Fostering Futures, Inc.
		Fostering Futures' focus is to assist children and their caregivers within the Cleveland County, Oklahoma Child Welfare Unit. Fostering Futures has a very good relationship with this unit itself and work through them to help meet the needs of children they are assisting.
		There are many different needs, some monetary like gas money to take siblings to meet and keep in touch, fees for children to be involved with sports and other extracurricular activities and gift cards to help buy groceries for caregivers while waiting on State DHS funds to arrive. Other needs that are met by Fostering Futures are with items such as cribs & beds, car seats, a duffle bag full of clothes, diapers, socks, underwear (our Luggage with Love program) and toys that the child doesn't have or won't be able to take with them as they are being removed from unhealthy living areas. The list goes on!
		We count on lots and lots of volunteers to help as we only have one Executive Director and just recently added one part-time staff person. For first 30 years, Fostering Futures was ran on volunteers alone!
Patrons Bank	ОК	If I had \$500 to help my community, I would allocate the funds to the Wewoka Senior Citizen Center, which plays a vital role in the lives of our elderly residents. The center recently reopened after being closed due to COVID-19, and it is in need of support to enhance the experience for its visitors.
		I would use the \$500 to purchase a large television or possibly a variety of games, which would provide much-needed entertainment and social interaction for the seniors. These activities are essential for their mental and emotional well-being. Additionally, I would use any remaining funds to improve the center's facilities, ensuring that it remains a welcoming and comfortable environment for all who visit. This could include upgrades to the dining area to make lunchtime more enjoyable or purchasing supplies for activities that promote physical health and community engagement.
		In short, the \$500 would be invested in fostering a supportive and vibrant

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		space where our senior citizens can come together, enjoy each other's company and participate in activities that enrich their lives. This small but meaningful contribution would have a lasting impact on the well-being of our community's elders.
Pauls Valley National Bank	ОК	If we had \$500, we would help a new addition to our community called the Mary Abbott Children's House. The Mary Abbott House is a nonprofit child advocacy center that provides a victim-centered, child-friendly environment to help children tell their stories after an instance of abuse has occurred. This donation would help with food, clothes, medical supplies and so much more. The Mary Abbott House will provide services to children ages 3-18 years old all from Garvin County. In 2021 alone, 723 children were able to begin their healing journey after visiting The Mary Abbott House. Although a standalone nonprofit organization, the Mary Abbott House works closely with law enforcement, the DA'S office, child protective services, mental health care professionals and medical professionals to maintain a child friendly atmosphere.
Security State Bank of Oklahoma	ОК	If we were awarded this \$500, it would be donated entirely to our local school system to support the purchase of needed medical supplies. Wewoka has a poverty rate of 25.92%, significantly higher than the state average of 15.23% and the national average of 12.53%.
		Because of the area's financial situation, many families depend entirely on the school and its nurse for essential medical care and supplies.
		Another prevalent problem is that families struggle to afford or access medical and hygiene products at home. These items are often times seen as a luxury rather than a necessity that many of us view as essential. Unfortunately, they simply have to go without.
		The school tries but struggles to keep an adequate supply of basic first aid items and hygiene products on hand to send home with students and families who do not have the means or ability to purchase these items themselves. These include bandages, antiseptic cream, hydrocortisone cream, cold compresses, and many more. Common hygiene products sent home include toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, and deodorant. Head lice kits are also always in great demand and are consistently sent home with students in need.
		To maximize the benefit of these funds, we would be partnering with a local pharmacy who would be willing to sell these items to the school at their cost.
The Bank of The West	ОК	I would use the funds to help with expenses for the local 4-H Club and FFA Chapter.