

Donor hopes to ‘touch the year 2025’ with her \$25,000 donation to Greene County

Greene County’s initial efforts to establish and build an endowment for county betterment received a major boost when board members of the Greene County Community Foundation received word of a \$25,000 donation.

When making the donation, long-time resident, Alice Walters, emphasized that, “Clearly, this gift is not about me, but about what we can all do for our county and community. This is all about getting others to think what they might do for Greene County,” she said, adding “donations of any amount will help.”

Walters is a former Greene County Home Economist. A retirement account from her years with Greene County Extension Service, then a federal agency, made the gift possible. “Most of this money was earned in Greene County and I’d like it to be invested back into Greene County,” she said.

The Greene County Community Foundation’s mission is, “to educate the citizens about opportunities for philanthropy and to create partnerships to provide a better quality of life for Greene County individuals and families.” Formation of the foundation was made possible by the Iowa legislature when it approved a bill in 2005 that provides for a percentage of the profits from Iowa’s gambling revenues to be distributed to qualified community foundations. A portion of the state money is intended to be added to money from private sources to build a permanent endowment. Greene County was one of only six successful applicants for a \$25,000 Endow Iowa grant. With the Walters donation, the non-profit foundation’s endowment now has a total of \$89,500 to earn income for investments in Greene County’s future.

“I think you can touch the year of 2025 with this donation made in 2005,” said Walters. “Greene County, Iowa, has been very good to me. I’ve had a very enjoyable life here and I feel it

is important to support this group that has a goal to make the county a better place to live in the future.”

Born In Glidden, Walters, 89, has been an active participant in community life for 47 years after moving to Jefferson in 1958. She continues to work in the Methodist Church office in the mornings and tutor kindergarteners in reading and math skills in the afternoons.

She is convinced that, “small communities are the backbone of our society, nation and world” and hopes her gift will help others see the value of giving to the Greene County Community Foundation.

The broad focus of the foundation is to reach all parts of Greene County with grants for projects and activities that will improve the quality of life. Annual grants to organizations will be made from the earnings of the endowment. Donations will be used to enlarge the endowment, which will then earn more interest money to use for projects.

For more information about the Greene County Community Endowment Foundation, call Craig Hertel 515-386-2138