



Bank It... Today

2019 A Year in Review

Greetings from your Bank It Team!

2019 was such a great year for Bank It and our Alva CommUNITY! Together we raised over \$34,000 for our local organizations in need. Of that total, the local Alva Banks matched over \$9,000! How awesome is that?

As you can see, Bank It is doing great things and believe it or not, the majority of the donations coming in each month are less than \$20. *This means we have a LOT of people giving a little and making a HUGE DIFFERENCE!* Ready to join our team? It's as easy as stopping by your local bank and holding out \$5 to Bank It each month. Or easier yet- cut off the pledge form on the back of this newsletter and take it to your Alva financial institution to begin your Habit of Helping today! No amount is too small and all donations stay local, and are tax deductible.

Since we began in 2009, we have raised OVER \$390,000 for our Community.

Join Us

We can't help everyone, but everyone can help someone.

~Ronald Reagan

**Alva Public Library
Youth Programs**
\$5,647.85



The Alva Public Library have been using their funding to provide additional after school programs for our youth. One addition to their program is a youth coding class that allows teens to explore computer coding and learn how it works and explore career opportunities.

**Bud Rose Park
Renovation Project**
\$10,425.60



The City of Alva will begin work on the park renovation project within the next year, as they come up with additional funding to complete some other aspects of the park.

**Alva Wesleyan Food Bank
Neighbors in Need**
\$8,280.31



The Foodbank helps provide support to over 200 individuals each year. This donation will help meet the needs of many Woods County Families in 2020.



Bank It... Today

2020 CommUNITY Visions

A Bank It Board meeting was held on November 26, 2019 to review applications from local organizations to become a 2020 CommUNITY Vision. Bank It asks for applicataions for the next year's visions from October to November each year.

The criteria for applying is pretty simple.

Does the organization promote a positive difference in Alva?

This year, Bank It received seven outstanding applications hoping to be picked as a 2020 CommUNITY Vision. Each organization selected as a CommUNITY Vision will have a quarter designated to them in which Bank It and the local financial institutions will raise funds or supplies (depending on the need). Community members can then visit their own Alva Bank and donate towards the Vision. On top of that, each bank in Alva has pledged to match a portion of the funds donated by their customers at their Bank. The Banks believe in Bank It and encourage their customers to support this program. Alva Wesleyan Food Bank will always be the final CommUNITY Vision each year, as their needs continue year after year and they were the founding CommUNITY Vision that helped form Bank It's mission.

Jan-March

Hatfield Park Educational Trail



The AHS Science Club is raising funds to create a community educational trail at Hatfield Park. It will allow members of the community to walk an educational trail with roadmaps and integrated technology with educational markers along the way. These stops would include highlighting natural features and animals commonly found in the park and be linked to a website for more details. They plan on installing solar powered charging benches for community members to utilize while exploring the native wildlife and vegetation. This is step one of their ultimate goal to bring outdoor educational opportunities to our community by connecting with nature through technology. <https://sites.google.com/alvaschools.net/hatfieldparktrail/home>

April-June

Alva School Supplies

Families have enough on their plates



The Goldbug Education Coalition needs our help to raise enough funds and supplies to cover ALL school supplies for Alva school children. This is a newly formed coalition that is dedicated to supporting the Alva students and teachers. School supply costs have continued to rise, adding a heavier financial burden to our local families. This organization understands that all families have a lot on their plate and are hoping to help support families by providing school supplies. This is a big task and they are ready to tackle it!

July-Sept.

Woods County AEDs



The Woods County Emergency Management needs our help to purchase 16 LIFEPAK CR2 AEDs to be put into service at each of our county fire departments. An AED is an Automated External Defibrillator. It is a portable device that detects life-threatening heart issues and can distribute a shock to the heart while CPR is being performed. Many of our community members reside in very rural areas of Woods County and these devices can help First Responders by providing a chance to immediately help those in need.

Oct.-Dec.

Neighbors in Need



The Alva Wesleyan Food Bank supports over 200 families each year by providing food and counsel to our neighbors in need. Bank It has pledged to keep this organization as our 4th Quarter CommUNITY Vision each year due to the continuous needs of our community. The food bank gives out food every Thursday and funding from Bank It helps provide support for the following year. A little giving from a lot of people can create a huge cycle of generosity!



A Habit of Helping Foundation

Bank It... For Tomorrow

Thinking Big and Planning for the Future

Bank It Growth Fund

The Board members of Bank It have a big vision. They don't want to just help those who need it now. They want to help those organizations that will need help in the future. Bank It supports any project that will help create more community involvement. With this in mind, after all donations come in, 20% is allocated to the Bank It Growth Fund. These funds are used to help GROW Bank It and save for other projects. This fund will continue to grow for the life of Bank It until some day it can be as giving as Share Trust has been to the Alva Community. This program has grown enough to now be able to offer Bank It Growth Fund Mini-Grants. These grants vary in amounts, up to \$2500 and are meant for smaller organizations, or smaller projects that need additional support to continue making our community even better. Eventually, Bank It hopes to help fund larger projects, but for now, it will continue to grow with your help and support. Applications are available at www.ahabitofhelping.com

Bank It Rainy Day Fund

The Vision didn't stop at the Growth Fund. Bank It aimed even higher, creating the Bank It Rainy Day Fund for families in crisis. Like the Growth Fund, this fund will continue to grow for the life of Bank It. The Rainy Day Fund is allocated 15% of all incoming donations and is available to help families who are suffering from unexpected loss. It could be a fire, cancer expenses, accidental death of a family member, travel expenses for treatments, unexpected loss of a job/insurance coverage, eye glasses, hospital stays, medical bills and even funeral expenses. We believe everyone should save for a rainy day, and Bank It wants to be able to help when someone needs it. Due to Bank It's 501(c)3 Non-Profit Status, all grants from the Rainy Day Fund must have appropriate documentation, like receipts or medical bills, and in most cases, funds must be made payable to the entity receiving the check on behalf of the person. For more information, feel free to email Magen at nwbankit@gmail.com.

GROWTH FUND MINI-GRANTS

This year, due to the quality of applications that came in, each organization that was not selected to be as a CommUNITY Vision, received a mini-grant from the Bank It Growth Fund. As stated above, the Growth Fund grows throughout the life of Bank It by receiving 20% of all incoming donations and provides assistance to organizations and projects in need that fall outside the CommUNITY Vision selection.



Northwest Family Services- \$2500

Amber Maier with NWFS Foster Care Program accepted the mini-grant to help support their foster care families with programming and training options, parents night out and recruitment opportunities.



Alva Community Garden- \$2500

Susan Holliday accepted the grant to the Alva Community Garden to help support fencing for the new facility. They are hoping to start work on the garden this spring.

OSU Extension- Life Skills Boot Camp- \$1000

Susan Holliday also accepted this grant to support the free community training classes provided by the OSU Extension office. These classes range from budgeting, cooking, general car maintenance and many more.



Woods Co. 4-H \$2500

Amy Erikson, Austin Rankin and Greg Highfill accept the grant to support our county 4-H with fees, scholarships, camps, programs and special events.





Contact us at 580-716-1198 www.ahabitofhelping.com

Email: nwbankit@gmail.com Facebook @Bank It: a Habit of Helping Foundation

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Bank It...@ Your Bank

And now a word about our Partners... Bank It would not be nearly as safe, secure and successful as it has been without the incredible support of our local financial institutions. Each bank believes in Bank It and encourages their customers to support the program by donating at your own financial institution. Since 2009, the local banks in Alva have matched over \$108,000 towards the 39 visions Bank It has supported. Together with the Banks and Community Members, Bank It has been able to put over \$296,000 back into community projects, organizations and families in need. Through this partnership, Bank It has granted \$26,000 in mini-grants from the Growth Fund to other local organizations and projects and has given almost \$28,000 from the Rainy Day Fund to help families in crisis.

This is a one of a kind, local, home grown, pay it forward program, and we invite you to join our team.

To those already donating and supporting Bank It, thank you so much.



Members FDIC | Equal Housing Lenders

AMAZON SMILE We have new and exciting news! Do you shop at Amazon? Now you can now shop at smile.amazon.com and purchase your normal items, but **amazon will donate 0.05% of your purchase to Bank It!** Simply go to the website above and once you've selected Bank It as the charity you wish to support, simply make your normal purchases and they will handle the rest! All donations from AmazonSmile will go to the Bank It Growth Fund. Here is our personal link that automatically selects Bank It as your Charitable Organization. <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/45-3141550>

Bank It Pledge Form



\$1 ___ \$10 ___ \$25 ___ \$50 ___ \$100 ___ Other\$ ___

The draft should be drawn Monthly ___ or Quarterly ___

Financial Institution Name: _____

Routing Number: _____ Account Number: _____

Printed Name: _____

Authorizing Signature: _____ Date: _____

I wish to begin my Habit of Helping by authorizing Bank It to draft my account in support of their CommUNITY Visions. I will inform Bank It, in writing, should I choose to discontinue my pledge.

*All donations are tax deductible, as Bank it is a 501C-3 Non-profit foundation.