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**South Central KS Community Foundation Awards Grant to Smoky Hills PBS**

BUNKER HILL, KS – The South Central Kansas Community Foundation has awarded Smoky Hills PBS with a grant for \$1,900 to support the station's Literacy Leadership Program.

The Literacy Leadership Program of Smoky Hills PBS is an effort to engage and inspire children to be ready and eager to learn. One component of this program is the First Book Club, in which Smoky Hills PBS gives free books to children enrolled in Head Start programs.

These funds from the SCCF will support the literacy initiative program of Smoky Hills PBS, which will provide books for children in public preschools in Rice and Stafford Counties. For some, these books will be the only ones that they own.

"We want to thank the South Central Community Foundation for believing in our mission and their show of support for Smoky Hills PBS," said Kelli King, Director of Finance for Smoky Hills PBS, "Educating the youth within our viewing area is just one of the many important things we do for the communities we serve."

The South Central Community Foundation was founded on September 26, 1994, to work toward the mission of "Assuring a Bright Future for South Central Kansas." The Foundation is a permanent source of charitable assets to meet both emerging and existing needs of the local communities in Barber, Comanche, Kingman, Kiowa, Pratt, and Stafford counties. In 1998, Rice County joined the organization.

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Smoky Hills PBS serves 71 counties in central and western Kansas and has been named the KS Association of Broadcasters Non-Metro Station of the Year. Smoky Hills PBS is available on many cable systems, DirecTV, and Dish Network. It is also available to stream by clicking here:

[video.smokyhillstv.org/livestream](https://video.smokyhillstv.org/livestream). More information on Smoky Hills PBS and its programs and projects are available at [www.SmokyHillsPBS.org](http://www.SmokyHillsPBS.org) or by calling 1-800-337-4788.