



**Hutto Education Foundation
2025 Endowment Update and Annual Request**

Claudia Cardwell, Director



Endowment Update – December 2025

- Hutto Education Foundation was established in 2006. Our mission is to partner with Hutto ISD to enrich, enhance, and maximize the quality of education by providing grants & scholarships to teachers, staff and students.
- The Solid Waste Funding Agreement with WILCO was established in 2011.
- Commissioner Ron Morrison was a passionate supporter of higher education. His vision was to see our organization grow our endowment to \$1 million to provide a forever fund for students in Hutto ISD.
- After the initial establishment of the endowment, the team of Wilco Commissioners have engaged in a collaborative effort, demonstrating their dedicated support for the Hutto Education Foundation and for that we are deeply appreciative and truly grateful.

Scholarships for HHS Seniors

Endowment: The objective of this endowment is to utilize the earnings on invested funds to create scholarships, enabling our students to pursue education at either a 2-year or 4-year college, university, or an accredited technical school. We established the endowment in 2011 and have seen significant advancement thanks to the consistent deposits from YOU over the years!

2024-2025 School Year

HEF awarded:

- 20 Hutto High School graduating senior scholarships at \$35,000
- 14 returning scholarship recipients at \$15,000
- 1 Mikie Ackerman Memorial Scholarship - \$500
- 1 Wayne Gonzalez Memorial Scholarship - \$500
- 2 Hutto Rotary Scholarship @ \$500 each

**an overall increase in \$20,000 from previous year.*

Looking ahead to 2026 Graduating Class

For the 2025-2026 scholarship presentations, HEF plans on:

- Opening the returning recipient application to anyone who applied as a Senior at Hutto HS as opposed to only those who received scholarships
- Distributing \$50,000 to graduates and returning recipients
- Adding the Rykker Bradley Memorial Scholarship to our portfolio of managed assets
- If approved and supported by the Court, we propose establishing **Commissioner Ron Morrison Memorial Scholarship**, a \$1,000 scholarship to be awarded annually to a student who exemplifies high moral standards
- If approved and supported by the Court, we propose establishing the **Williamson County Commissioners Court Investing in Tomorrow Scholarship**, a \$2,500 scholarship to be awarded annually to a student who exemplifies academic excellence to honor and appreciate the dedication of the Wilco team

Chris Gaidstick



Junior, Industrial Distribution Engineering Major, Texas A&M

- Graduated from Hutto High School in the Spring of 2023
 - Baseball player – 4 years
- THE loudest and THE proudest member of the Fightin' Texas Aggie Class of 2027!
 - Member of Fish Camp
 - Club Baseball
 - Freshman Leadership Organization
 - PAID – Professional Association for Industrial Distribution





Sydney Stewart



Junior, Calvin University, Grand Rapids, MI

- Graduated from Hutto High School in the Spring of 2023
- Studying Biochemistry and Biology (*Neuroscience Concentration*)
- Vice President of Women in STEM Club
- Teacher Assistant Organic Chemistry Lab
- Sustainability Fellow

"Williamson County Commissioners & Judge Snell, thank you is an understatement. I relish my time as a Hippo, and I want you to know what an honor it is to represent Hutto Nation at a University. I hope that each one of you is inspired by the acts of students you support, as we sincerely appreciate all of the work you put into creating scholarships for students. Once a Hippo, always a Hippo. Thank you."





Madison Palmer



HEF Endowment Management

- Endowment Committee Members: Caleb Steed, Claudia Cardwell, Grant Seabourne, First Texas Trust, Jeffri Orosco, Ryan Robison, Jeffrey Leth, Kolbi Andresen, Jill Rydell, Heather Merz & Kelly Teakell
- HEF Endowment Committee created an Agency Fund to hold the earnings that are pulled from the Endowment each year.
- For security in an ever-changing market, HEF has 5 years worth of scholarships (*\$50,000 for each year*) in the Agency Fund.
 - Provides a safety net for when there are major downturns in markets
- Endowment Committee meets once a month to review statements and compliance.
- First Financial Trust (Portfolio Manager) joins Endowment Committee quarterly and HEF Board annually.
- \$3,500 is being used for the audit every 2 years.
- Up to 10% of the funds collected in excess of the Minimum Annual Investment Amount will be put towards any partnerships with East Williamson County Higher Education Center (EWCHEC)



HEF Investments Monthly Summary

Oct-25	Initial Investment	Beg Balance	Interest/Dividend	M/V Change	Fees	Cont/With	Ending Balance	% Monthly Change
FFT	\$ 2,438,599.05	\$ 2,651,317.78	\$ 4,261.11	\$32,508.60	(\$1,631.41)	\$10,040.00	\$ 2,696,496.08	1.31%
HEF Endowment	\$ 1,851,750.00	\$ 1,901,543.18	\$ 3,040.48	\$22,190.24	(\$1,205.88)	\$0.00	\$ 1,925,568.02	1.25%
HEF Agency	\$ 398,809.05	\$ 535,836.31	\$ 968.39	\$7,826.38	(\$279.34)	\$0.00	\$ 544,351.74	1.56%
HEF LTS	\$ 127,000.00	\$ 155,631.14	\$ 248.15	\$1,505.46	(\$102.13)	\$0.00	\$ 157,282.62	1.05%
Gonzalez Scholarship	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 13,120.97	\$ 1.39	\$219.60	(\$8.02)	\$0.00	\$ 13,333.94	1.60%
Ackerman Scholarship	\$ 20,040.00	\$ 10,895.53	\$ 1.31	\$ 182.14	(\$15.02)	\$10,040.00	\$ 21,103.96	93.69%
Rotary Foundation	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 34,290.65	\$ 1.39	\$584.78	(\$21.02)	\$0.00	\$ 34,855.80	1.62%

Sep-25	Initial Investment	Beg Balance	Interest/Dividend	M/V Change	Fees	Cont/With	Ending Balance	% Monthly Change
FFT	\$ 2,428,559.05	\$ 2,592,895.88	\$ 7,667.57	\$57,359.68	(\$1,605.35)	(\$5,000.00)	\$ 2,651,317.78	2.39%
HEF Endowment	\$ 1,851,750.00	\$ 2,012,000.34	\$ 5,909.09	\$44,856.34	(\$1,222.59)	(\$160,000.00)	\$ 1,901,543.18	2.40%
HEF Agency	\$ 398,809.05	\$ 363,670.75	\$ 1,118.91	\$8,781.61	(\$234.96)	\$162,500.00	\$ 535,836.31	2.59%
HEF LTS	\$ 127,000.00	\$ 157,980.89	\$ 477.64	\$2,276.40	(\$103.79)	(\$5,000.00)	\$ 155,631.14	1.65%
Gonzalez Scholarship	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 13,270.34	\$ 36.65	\$321.97	(\$7.99)	(\$500.00)	\$ 13,120.97	2.57%
Ackerman Scholarship	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 11,112.92	\$ 30.30	\$ 267.34	(\$15.03)	(\$500.00)	\$ 10,895.53	-1.96%
Rotary Foundation	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 34,860.64	\$ 94.98	\$ 856.02	(\$20.99)	(\$1,500.00)	\$ 34,290.65	2.60%

Aug-25	Initial Investment	Beg Balance	Interest/Dividend	M/V Change	Fees	Cont/With	Ending Balance	% Monthly Change
FFT	\$ 2,266,059.05	\$ 2,602,406.26	\$ 3,451.02	\$ 40,645.45	(\$1,606.85)	(\$52,000.00)	\$ 2,592,895.88	1.61%
HEF Endowment	\$ 1,851,750.00	\$ 1,979,352.27	\$ 2,538.30	\$31,314.32	(\$1,204.55)	\$0.00	\$ 2,012,000.34	1.62%
HEF Agency	\$ 236,309.05	\$ 409,603.02	\$ 651.34	\$5,672.47	(\$256.08)	(\$52,000.00)	\$ 363,670.75	1.46%
HEF LTS	\$ 127,000.00	\$ 155,441.93	\$ 256.22	\$2,385.43	(\$102.69)	\$0.00	\$ 157,980.89	1.61%
Gonzalez Scholarship	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 12,994.91	\$ 1.67	\$281.65	(\$7.89)	\$0.00	\$ 13,270.34	2.08%
Ackerman Scholarship	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,891.03	\$ 1.53	\$235.30	(\$14.94)	\$0.00	\$ 11,112.92	2.04%
Rotary Foundation	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 34,123.10	\$ 1.96	\$756.28	(\$20.70)	\$0.00	\$ 34,860.64	2.12%

HEF Endowment Fund Overview

Initial Contribution	\$20,000
November 2011	\$22,500
December 2012	\$26,250
June 2014	\$87,000
October 2015	\$86,500
October 2016	\$91,500
December 2017	\$146,500
December 2018	\$146,500
December 2019	\$166,500
October 2020	\$175,000
November 2021	\$200,000
November 2022	\$225,000
April 2024	\$250,000
December 2024	\$250,000

TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS

\$1,893,250

Other HEF Programs

Along with our Annual Corporate Partners, Employee Giving Campaign and support from Friends, Family and Community members, HEF's programs are thriving and supporting the innovation that makes Hippo Nation a leading district.

Excellence In Education Teacher and Faculty Grants:

This year, HEF awarded 39 innovative grants totaling \$133,000.

SPARK Mini Grants:

In January 2025, HEF was able to fund 13 Spark Grants totaling \$5,400. The SPARK Mini Grant application is currently accepting applications for Jan 2026 delivery. We plan on awarding \$5,000.

Student IMPACT Grants:

This year, HEF awarded 11 Student IMPACT Grants totaling \$5,000.

HEF Fund Request

- For December 2025 Hutto Education Foundation is requesting \$250,000.

HEF's GOAL

- To have perpetual scholarship funds that will impact Hutto ISD students forever
- To have the ability to continue providing opportunities to students & faculty members at the same rate our community is growing

Thank you!

