

Jo Zakas

Legacy Foundation

2025 GRANT APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

THE LEGACY

The primary purpose of The Jo Zakas Legacy Foundation is to assist organizations that provide “training and support of individuals and groups who would help produce more effective citizens and entrepreneurs.”

Since Jo S. Zakas established the Foundation in 2003, our mission has been “Changing People’s Lives.” Entrepreneur, artist, and civic leader, Zakas helped people improve their personal and professional lives. She helped others throughout her life until her untimely death in 2016.

A RUNAWAY

Because she left home at the age of 12, Jo Zakas would be called an “at-risk” child today. Her determination to grow from that scared, 12-year-old runaway into the driving force she became in the Wichita community – led her to believe that other people can change their lives also.

In 1972, Zakas developed Clifton Square Shopping Village, a shopping center of vintage College Hill houses for office and retail use. The Square served as an incubator for small businesses during her 45 years of ownership and continues today under new ownership.

A MENTOR

Her business and personal success forged a life-long mission to help at-risk populations improve their lives. She understood the impact of the choices she made—in business and life—on her success. Zakas spent her lifetime mentoring others to make good choices. Her legacy of helping others become better citizens and entrepreneurs by making better choices continues through the Jo Zakas Legacy Foundation.

THE FOUNDATION

Annually, the Jo Zakas Legacy Foundation awards grants to area non-profit organizations that serve at-risk populations in Wichita, Kansas, and surrounding communities. A Board of Directors manages the Foundation. We first awarded grants in 2019.

Most grants awarded range between \$500 and \$5,000. Grants can cover a project or program in full or be combined with other donors to help cover funding. Past grants have funded basic-need items like toothbrushes and toothpaste for underserved school children, art therapy classes for youth in crisis, neighborhood gardens for teen employment, and transportation to development classes for domestic violence survivors.

The Jo Zakas Legacy Foundation is a 501(c)3 Nonprofit organization.

Jo Zakas Legacy Foundation

6446 E. Central, Box 115, Wichita, KS 67206 | jozakas.foundation@gmail.com

2025 Jo Zakas Legacy Foundation
Grant Application Instructions
Deadline: The last Friday in April | April 25, 2025

THE PROCESS AND INSTRUCTIONS

APPLICATION DUE DATE: FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2025 | THE LAST FRIDAY IN APRIL

Anticipated Award Month: August

1. Fill out the application **and After Action Survey**; answer the questions in order.
2. Use a Word document with 12pt type and one-inch margins.
3. Be clear and brief in your responses. Prefer less than 75-words in your answers.
4. Once completed, send your application pages and supporting documents on or before the due date:
 - a. By email: jozakas.foundation@gmail.com | PLEASE name the file with your organization's name and "JZLF app" OR
 - b. By mail: **6446 E. Central**, Box 115, Wichita, KS 67206 **NEW ADDRESS**
 - c. It must be received or postmarked by the due date for consideration.
5. The Jo Zakas Legacy Foundation Board of Directors will review all applications received on time and ensure that your program/project supports the foundation's purpose.
6. Those who pass the review stage will be paired with a Board Member as their contact person. The board member will present your program/project during the foundation's selection process.
7. If your organization is a finalist, The Board of Directors will contact you to schedule a visit or a virtual interview.
8. After the interview process, the Jo Zakas Legacy Foundation Board of Directors will meet to review the finalists and decide on funding.
9. A phone call will be made to the selected organizations approved for funding.
10. Funding checks will be mailed shortly after approval notification.

Questions? Contact a Foundation Board member at jozakas.foundation@gmail.com:

Ipek Born

Janice Brown

Jan Bush

Cathy Feemster

Krista Peterson

Kent Wilson