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LAKIN FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES SUPPORT OF REGIONAL CENTER FOR CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION WITH EAST MILLS SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Charles E. Lakin Foundation announces its support of the proposed vision of the East Mills Community School District to create a Regional Center for Career Technical Education located at the current East Mills Elementary campus. A partnership between PreK-12 school districts across the region, non-profit organizations, community colleges and trade programs, and local businesses would be required to plan and execute the vision for this unique facility.

The mission of the Charles E. Lakin Foundation, Inc. is to fund programs and organizations in Southwest Iowa and Greater Omaha that help people in need overcome adversity, restore dignity and ultimately transform their lives. The Foundation empowers adults, children, and families to become productive and contributing citizens by providing funding within three core focus areas: Children and Families; Education and Training; and Economic Resiliency. Steve Wild, President of the Charles E Lakin Foundation, Inc. stated that “the proposed facility strategically aligns with the three core focus areas of the Foundation. The Foundation will look very favorably at future grant requests for this project.”

A number of benefits would come to Mills County and surrounding areas through a Regional Center for Career Technical Education. PreK-12 students in the region would have access to more advanced educational programs and training that could lead directly to career opportunities. Local employers would see an increase in the number of qualified young applicants for vacant positions in their companies. A Regional Center for Career Technical Education would encourage retention of young people in their local communities and contribute to the continued economic growth and development of Southwest Iowa.

Charles E. Lakin was a philanthropist dedicated to improving the well-being of others through his charitable donations and a focus on civic engagement. Originally from Emerson, IA, Charles married Florence Swoboda of Malvern. Charles and Florence raised their four children in Emerson. This campus is of significance to the family as both Charles E. Lakin, III and Deborah (Lakin) Johnson attended school at this location as part of the former Nishna Valley School District.

Mission Statement

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