By LARRY PHILLIPS

• Leader & Times

The 2014 City of Liberal budget has included assistance funding to 11 local non-profits, according to a statement from Liberal Finance Director Chris Ford.

“It has been the practice of the City of Liberal to allocate funds to contribute to community-based programs and activities conducted by non-profit organizations which provide valuable services to the community of Liberal,” Ford noted Wednesday. “The city commission will consider all requests for funding from community-based non-profit organizations at a specified time during the regular budget process. Due to limited resources, not all requests can be funded. Therefore, it is the city commission’s intention to evaluate each proposal, and based upon available funds and the merits of each proposal, provide money or other forms of assistance to those organizations which most effectively serve the needs and improve the well being of Liberal residents.”

The funding allocated to these 11 agencies or organizations totals $158,8000 and represents .0048 percent of the $32.735 million budget

“The city commission encourages a goal of self-sufficiency for all community-based organizations seeking city funding. City funding is not intended to provide on-going funding to well-established programs or services, except where the city commission finds merit for funding consistent with the community-need philosophy,” Ford added.

The following organizations will be funded in the 2014 City of Liberal Budget.

Organization	Approved Amount
Baker Arts Center	$5,000
Big Brothers Big Sisters	$7,500
Crossroads Center, Inc.	$4,000
Great Plains Angels for Animals	$10,000
JCAPS	$23,600
Liberal Bee Jays	$15,000
Liberal is OZ-SOME Campaign	$30,000
Mosaic	$2,700
SCCC/ATS KS Small Business Development Center	$16,000
SKADAF	$35,000
Stepping Stone Shelter	$10,000
Total:	$158,800