**SIOUX FALLS COSMOPOLITAN CLUB AND COSMOPOLITAN INTERNATIONAL**

Founded in 1925, the Sioux Falls Cosmopolitan Club (SFCC) has members, both men and women, representing a wide spectrum of businesses, trades, professions and occupations.

Cosmopolitan International (CI) was founded in 1918 by Patrick J. Hodgins and the first club was chartered in Kansas City, Mo in 1919.

Broadly, CI and the SFCC aspire to “Unity, Action and Service”:

* To develop good citizenship and fellowship through *Unity;*
* To accomplish definite objectives through *Action;* and
* To contribute to community welfare through *Service.*

Since 1973, CI has adopted diabetes as its international focus and has branded itself as “*the club that fights diabetes”.*

The SFCC is and has been involved in many projects over the years. To name a few:

* The band shell at McKennan Park
* American Legion Boys and Girls State
* Crimestoppers
* Great Plains Zoo
* Cosmopolitan Fund for Children (South Dakota 501c3)
* LifeScape and its predecessor organizations
* EmBe (formerly YWCA)
* YMCA Camp Teepeetonka
* Camp Gilbert at NeSoDak Camp near Waubay, SD

Since 1929, the SFCC has presented a Distinguished Service Award to recognize a person in the Sioux Empire for extraordinary community service. The award is based on the philosophy that Cosmopolitan cares not for a person’s wealth, but for their character and values a person’s desire to serve their community and country.

The SFCC raises funds primarily through:

* Sioux Empire Fair: held in early August, we usher for the entertainment in the grandstands;
* Sportsmen’s Show: in late February or early March, we partner with Cenaiko Productions to support ticket sales and provide staff to take tickets and serve as door guards.
* Sweetest Day of Golf: our largest fund-raiser, this one day event is held in September.

The SFCC has had seven members serve as President of CI: Vance Galvin, Harold O. Chapman, W.B. “Bram” McKenzie, Dr. J.B. Aschoff, Derry Anderson, Melvina Newman, and Sheila Anderson.