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NU Foundation has raised \$5.5 million for 4 projects

By Jen Deselms
 Staff Reporter

The NU Foundation has raised more than \$5.5 million in the past four months for projects other than the Lied Center for Performing Arts.

Foundation Executive Vice President Edward Hirsch said the foundation has received money to finance four major projects.

An ETV Challenge Grant is one of those fund-raisers. The foundation must raise \$1.5 million to reach a 3-to-1 ratio of the \$500,000 Challenge Grant awarded to KUON-TV, the originating station of the Nebraska ETV network. The foundation must raise the money by Dec. 31, 1986, to receive the grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Hirsch said the foundation already has raised \$1.37 million.

The money will be used to replace

equipment and fund programs and production, he said.

The foundation also has a long-term fund-raiser for the agriculture department. Hirsch said the foundation has raised more than \$5 million of the \$25 million goal. He said fund raising for the agriculture department is difficult now because of the declining farm economy. Hirsch said the fund-raising effort will continue for the next 10 to 15 years.

Hirsch said the foundation has raised \$5.5 million for a \$30 million project at UNO to build a parking garage and help build a new life science building.

The foundation also is raising money for the Centennial professorship program at the NU Medical Center, he said. Money has been raised for 15 professorships, he said.

Hirsch said that from July 1 to Oct. 1, more than \$5.57 million was donated to

the foundation. During the same time last year, more than \$1.98 million was donated.

The increase is due to large donations the foundation has received for the parking garage and science building at UNO, he said.

Of the \$5.57 million in gifts this year only \$10,842 can be used for any purpose, Hirsch said.

When the foundation has unrestricted funds, NU President Ronald Roskens and the academic chancellors are asked to identify needs in order of priority. The funds are allocated by the foundation's Awards and Grants Committee and then approved by the foundation's Executive Committee.

The foundation has more than 3,000 active funds.

In the 1984-85 academic year, the foundation raised \$13.5 million.

Students find job not what they expected

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"My day was never nine-to-five and I lived with these people, so on my days off I didn't get away from the work environment unless I left," she said.

Livingston said she spent her days off with a friend or took the bus to New York or Philadelphia.

She said she wanted to be a nanny because she could see another part of the country and get paid for it. She said Helping Hands, Inc., emphasized the great opportunity to travel, but failed to explain the difficulty faced by a Midwestern woman going to live with a wealthy East Coast family.

"It was great that I got to see so much about the country," she said. "But it didn't make up for having to deal with the family."

Midtown Manhattan

UNL freshman Peggy Keller experienced a similar situation in midtown Manhattan last January. Keller said she spoke to the family three times before she moved into their apartment. She said the family told her she would take care of their month-old baby. The mother stressed being her friend and offered to show her around New York. However, Keller said her responsibilities changed completely when she arrived.

"I became a housekeeper," she said. "I did the laundry, and on my days off I still had to get up with the baby at night."

However, Keller said, the family bought her a lot of clothes and paid for everything she needed. They also took her with them on a Florida vacation, she said.

The couple's son became sick in Florida and Keller said she was blamed. She said she called her parents in Lincoln from Florida and asked them for a plane ticket home. She worked for the family for one month.

"It was a learning experience," she said. "I always thought a nanny was a live-in babysitter, but they should call it a housekeeper."

She'd do it again

Despite her experience in Manhattan, Keller said she would be a nanny again if the right family came along. She said she would like to meet the family in person before she accepted a job.

"And it would've been a lot easier if we would have had a contract," she said.

But not every nanny has a bad experience.

UNL sophomore Deborah Peterson spent seven weeks last summer in New Canaan, Conn., and she said she enjoyed every minute of it.

"Basically all I did was take care of the girl, get meals ready and pick up after her," Peterson said. "I didn't have to do much."

She said the family made her feel like part of their family. They paid for her trips and gave her a large bonus at the end of the summer.

Although Livingston had a bad experience as a nanny, she said, she thinks the nanny program has potential.

"The program could be great," Livingston said. "But it seems so blind from this end (as a nanny)." She said nannies need to know what kind of family situation they are getting into.

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