



# News from the Executive Director

OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

November 2004

Dear Friends and Supporters:

**Advised Fund Program.** We have enclosed a recent post card mailing which summarizes the Oklahoma City Community Foundation's Advised Fund Program. For anyone who gives to charity on a regular basis, an advised fund can offer an efficient, simple and effective way to make contributions to charities or churches, not only at year-end but also throughout the year. Our advised funds provide online access for both record-keeping and distribution requests, participation in the Community Foundation's general investment pool, and access to our program staff for additional information or assistance with making contributions. We are able to receive cash, marketable securities and even credit card contributions into advised funds. Please contact Jennifer Stewart at the Community Foundation office if we can provide more information or help you establish or add to a fund. Please contact Carla Pickrell if you would like to make a year-end stock gift.

**2004 Annual Report celebrates 35th anniversary.** The Community Foundation's 2004 Annual Report was recently mailed to you. In celebration of the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our 1969 founding, we included interesting highlights and events from our history throughout the book. A local accountant recently commented that when John Kirkpatrick and Don Ellison had that first series of meetings to explain the Community Foundation, "I really didn't have any idea that it would ever amount to much." Roy Chandler made that comment, somewhat apologetically, and admitted that he was certainly pleased that the Community Foundation idea had become an important community asset. As you go through the annual report, you will be reminded of a number of significant events during the past 35 years that have created the Community Foundation's history.

**35 Years, 35 Stories.** Another 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary publication will be mailed about December 10. "35 Years/35 Stories" will relate donor and fund stories which span the range of Community Foundation activities. From the initial fund established by John and Eleanor Kirkpatrick to the W.H. Crocus Fund to support seeing-eye dogs to Guyton Anderson's gift of his house to benefit the Putnam Heights neighborhood, these stories will relate how the Community Foundation has helped individuals and groups meet their charitable goals. It will be a distinctive publication with stories that will interest many during the holiday season.

**Scholarship Program update.** Our scholarship programs continue to expand. Four new funds have been added since July 1. One of these funds was a bequest from the estate of H.W. Almen to create the H.W. Almen-West OKC Rotary Scholarship Fund, a scholarship fund of more than \$1 million that will award 10 scholarships annually. We are working with the West OKC Rotary Club to develop the criteria and awards process and will administer the program for the Rotary Club.

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During the 2004-2005 academic year, more than 500 students will receive scholarships through the Community Foundation and its 42 different award programs. Our newest scholarship program for nursing education is in conjunction with five area non-profit hospitals. In the first year, 49 students were enrolled to complete their R.N. certification or B.S.N. degrees.

The Oklahoma Youth with Promise Fund, our program that provides scholarships for children in foster care, is seeking to increase the endowment of that program so that more assistance can be provided to these students. Currently 28 former foster care children receive these scholarships.

The Scholarship Committee has committed more resources to non-traditional students and students who are the first in their family to attend college. Dr. Mary Ann Bauman, Scholarship Committee member, commented "these are the students that we need to help if we really want to make a difference in this community." If you would like to know more about any of the Community Foundation's scholarship programs or funds, please contact Anna-Faye Rose at the Community Foundation office.

**Year end reporting.** Many of you have received reports from us during the past few months in addition to the publications and other mailings. We are anxious to be accountable for our stewardship of your gifts and the funds that have been entrusted to us. Our web site, [www.occf.org](http://www.occf.org), has a great deal of information about how we work with donors, make grants, invest assets, and provide services to the community. If we can answer any questions or help you in any way please feel free to contact our office.

On behalf of our Trustees and staff, we appreciate all of your interest and support. Best wishes for the coming year.

Sincerely,

Nancy B. Anthony