



Great Grants

Helping a neighborhood reclaim its park

The rebirth of Tulsa Park can be credited to the perseverance and pride of a neighborhood combined with assistance from the Oklahoma City Community Foundation.

Located in a working-class neighborhood in south central Oklahoma City, the nearly 10-acre public park had become a haven for gang and drug activity and was defaced by graffiti. That is until 2006 when a group of determined neighbors decided to reclaim the park for its original intent as a safe place for children and families to gather.

The Riverpark Neighborhood Association knew it couldn't revamp Tulsa Park on its own. Working through the Neighborhood Alliance of Central Oklahoma, the group found help. A Neighborhood Partner Program grant through the City of Oklahoma City allowed them to start the cleanup including enhancing the soccer field and adding bleachers. The neighborhood contacted Brian Dougherty, the program director for the Margaret Annis Boys Trust, about a beautification grant. Brian met with the group numerous times during a four-year period to help form a plan. In 2010, the association applied for and received a \$10,000 Margaret Annis Boys Trust grant for the planting of crepe myrtles and trees.

"This group has been such a pleasure to work with," Brian says. "They were determined from the beginning to reclaim their park and that's exactly what they've done. Their efforts and the end result are to be admired by everyone."

Brian also put the group in touch with Oklahoma County Commissioner Brian Maughan and the Oklahoma City Parks Department who both assisted with the cleanup and enhancements. Flintco Construction Co. installed the water line and spigot in the park so neighbors can more easily water the new shrubs and trees.

Jeanna Daniel, a lifelong resident of the neighborhood, says the rebirth of Tulsa Park is a dream realized. "For those of us that have memories of what our park used to be like, we thank you for giving us our park back," she says. "It is the heart of the neighborhood once again, just like when I was a little kid."

Through endowments like the Margaret Annis Boys Trust, the Oklahoma City Community Foundation makes things happen for the benefit of the community. If you are interested in making an impact through a philanthropic gift please contact us at 405/235-5603 or info@occf.org.

A Riverpark Neighborhood resident helps care for the shrubs and trees in Tulsa Park.

Helping Our Community

Through a Great Grant.

At one time, Tulsa Park had been a safe and fun gathering place for residents of the Riverpark Neighborhood located in south central Oklahoma City. But in recent years the public park had been taken over by gangs and drug dealers and defaced by graffiti. That is until the Riverpark neighborhood decided to reclaim its park with assistance from the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. Not only did they receive a Margaret Annis Boys Trust grant to help beautify the park's landscape, but our staff helped the neighborhood association find additional partners who collaborated with the neighborhood to make Tulsa Park safe and fun again.

When she died in 1990, Margaret Annis Boys left a portion of her estate to the Oklahoma City Community Foundation to create an endowment for the beautification of public parks and land in Oklahoma County. A lifelong educator in Oklahoma City public schools, we believe Miss Boys would be pleased to know that her gift has funded more than 260 grants that have made an impact in neighborhoods like Riverpark.

If you're interested in discovering how your charitable goals, simple or grand, can be realized please contact us at 405/235-5603.



Several generations of residents enjoying Tulsa Park.



Scan the above QR code with a smartphone to see a video on Tulsa Park.

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