

OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

WINTER

1992

Oklahoma's Foster Children Go For Higher Education

"We don't do giveaways. We just open doors and get out of their way," said George Harper, Executive Director of Citizens Concerned for Children.

The door that Harper opens is for Oklahoma's children in foster care, who "age out" of the foster care system at 18 or when they graduate from high school. Many of them have no other support system and nowhere to go — except into trouble. The ones with dreams might not know how to get there without someone to show them the way.

Citizens Concerned for Children contacts young people in foster care when they are sixteen, helps them plan for their future and obtain financial assistance for education and training past high school.

The organization has made a difference. Last year, 91 percent of Oklahoma's foster children graduated from high school before they left the foster care system; nationwide, the figure is 40 per cent. In Oklahoma, 60 per cent of the youth in foster care enroll in college; national figures are 17 per cent.

George Harper knew something about foster care because he and his wife Rose had cared for 24 foster children in addition to their four



George Harper

natural and two adopted children. In 1984, after 35 years in business, Harper decided he wanted a new career. He incorporated Citizens Concerned for Children.

The Oklahoma City Community Foundation has provided approximately \$40,000 in scholarship assistance to the foster children in CCC's programs. These initial scholarships allowed Harper to get the program started and to insure that support for the students was available.

During the first three years, initial contact with the children was made through the Department of Human Services; those who responded participated in the program offered by Citizens Concerned for Children, mostly through letters and telephone calls. The first year of the program, Harper worked with eight young people; the second year, twelve more. The third year, 31 children came into the program, and Harper's wife Rose started working full-time with no salary. "We decided we could take care of more children with Rose here," Harper said.

By then, the Harpers recognized

the need to know the children face to face, and they wanted to get in touch with them at a younger age. Because the outcome of the children they had worked with was so good, the Department of Human Services loosened its confidentiality restrictions, gave them a list of children age 16 and over in foster care and a stipend for each child. The fourth year, 400 more children were added to the program. Only three of those 400 have since been lost to prison.

Citizens Concerned for Children sends newsletters, birthday and

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Next Grant Deadline January 31, 1992

Contact the Oklahoma City Community Foundation to discuss your proposal and receive forms and guidelines. The telephone number is 235-5603.

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Oklahoma City Community Foundation, Inc.
Post Office Box 1146
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73101-1146

Fall Grants Total \$174,440

First Grants Awarded from Boys Trust

The first four grants from the Margaret Annis Boys Trust Fund were awarded by the fund's Advisory Committee. Boys was a teacher and principal in the Oklahoma City School System whose legacy is the beautification of the city's parks and medians. The grants are:

Belle Isle Neighborhood Association: \$7,840 to landscape the south-west corner of North Western and I-44 at Lombardy Road.

City of Oklahoma City: \$8,000 to landscape the center median between Myriad Gardens and Myriad Convention Center between Sheridan and Reno.

Tree Bank Foundation: \$8,000 to help create a "public lands park" between N.E. 36th, Martin Luther King Avenue, and Grand Boulevard.

Myriad Gardens Foundation: \$8,000 to help complete planting on east side of Myriad Gardens.

Other Grants

Other grants were awarded from the Fund for Oklahoma City and other funds designated for specific areas of interest. The Fund for Oklahoma City is an unrestricted fund used for grants to non-profit organizations seeking to expand existing services in the community or provide new ones.

Oklahoma Historical Society: \$12,000 to catalog and print a portion of over 50,000 negatives of pictures of Oklahoma City from 1930 to 1970.

National Cowboy Hall of Fame: \$3,500 to fund a living history project which will recreate a typical fur trade rendezvous encampment.

Oklahoma Children's Theatre: \$12,000 for help with salary of an administrative assistant who would provide help with fundraising and coordination of programs.

Oklahoma City Philharmonic: \$12,000 to fund again the Family Series of Concerts, which provides educational materials and lower ticket prices to families with children.

Special Care: \$5,000 to help repair roof of building.

Healing Hands Health Care Services: \$3,500 for pharmaceutical and medical supplies for this clinic for homeless and others without access to medical care.

Variety Health Center: \$12,500 contribution toward a capital campaign to renovate a building that will be used as a maternal-child health clinic.

Eldercare Access Center/Mobile Meals: \$1,500 to reprint promotional brochure for Mobile Meals program.

Citizens Concerned for Children: \$5,800 to support administrative costs of Foster Children's Scholarship program.

Rainbow Fleet: \$5,000 to continue a series of workshops to train caregivers. Agency provides training programs for workers in licensed day care facilities.

Hospice of Oklahoma County: \$2,800 funding of seven Grief Recovery support groups.

Neighborhood Alliance of Oklahoma City: \$12,000 over a two-year period for general organizational development; contingent on matching funds.

Oklahoma City Redevelopment Housing Corporation: \$20,000 over a two-year period to support a staff position for a pilot project to administer housing redevelopment activity in the Paseo area.

Community Learning Centers: \$25,000 over two years to support basic literacy and English classes for Hispanics and other non-English speaking persons at the South Oklahoma City Center.

Oklahoma City Public School Parents as Teachers Program: \$10,000 to initiate a pilot program in one Oklahoma City neighborhood.

Foster Children

(continued from page 1)

Christmas cards to the children in their program. They have an inbound WATTS line to accept their calls. They conduct workshops for the children throughout the state. If the workshop agenda is to help high school seniors write grant requests for federal scholarships, Harper tells them to fill out the forms whether they want to go to college that day or not. "We've had some kids call us later who have decided to go to college because they have nowhere else to go," Harper said. Citizens Concerned for Children files the scholarship forms for them and coordinates the effort of obtaining federal and state money.

Foster children who go to college receive 100 percent of their tuition, books, dorm room and a meal ticket. They earn their own spending money. Those who don't go to college can get assistance for utility and security deposits and gift certificates for basic necessities like dishes, sheets and towels.

"The secret of this program is believing in the kids," Harper said. "They have to think, I can't change yesterday, but tomorrow I can be anything I want to be. These throw-away children become the finest adults this country has produced.

"We help break these kids of a welfare mentality. We teach them to be responsible for themselves and proud of their accomplishments. We are the good guys, the ones who are allowed to enjoy their fantasies of the parents they don't have. We know their stories."

On the walls of his office and in scrapbooks are pictures of "his" kids — a young blind woman who is about to graduate and become a music teacher; a young man who joined the Navy and called "home" to Citizens Concerned for Children; a young woman who will go on to graduate school in mathematics.

"I've made more money in other jobs than I do at this, but I've never had greater job satisfaction," Harper said.

Designated Fund Distributions For 1991 Listed

Distribution of earnings of more than \$1,840,000 on Designated Endowment Funds at the Oklahoma City Community Foundation were made in October, 1991. The grants represented earnings on contributions to the Community Foundation that have been designated by the donor to benefit specific charitable organizations and activities. One hundred eighty-two organizations received distributions.

In addition to the amounts listed, the Designated Funds received more than \$300,000 in realized capital appreciation which was added to the value of the Designated Fund. The total return for a Designated Endowment Fund for the year ending June 30, 1991 was 9.56 percent.

Allied Arts Foundation, \$23,977
Ambassador Concert Choir, \$138
American Cancer Society, \$5,650
American Diabetes Association, \$1,663
American Red Cross-Oklahoma County Chapter, \$4,297
Arts Council of Oklahoma City, \$3,432
Associated Catholic Charities, \$821
B'nai Brith Hillel Foundation, \$2,832
Ballet Oklahoma, \$3,877
Baptist Burn Center, \$827
Baptist Medical Center of Oklahoma, \$25,058
Baptist Retirement Center, \$1,770
Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Greater Oklahoma City, \$2,858
Bishop McGuinness High School, \$1,560
Boy Scouts of America, Last Frontier Council, \$14,110
Buttram String Awards, \$861
Canterbury Choral Society, \$3,724
Canterbury Living Center, \$425
Casady School, \$6,189
Celebrations! Educational Services, \$1,942
Center of the American Indian, \$2,880
Central Oklahoma Association for Deaf-Hearing Impaired, \$543
Cerebral Palsy and Handicapped of Oklahoma, \$1,282
A Chance to Change, \$1,982
Children's Medical Research Foundation, \$521
Cimarron Circuit Opera Company, \$793
Citizens Concerned for Children, \$354
Citizens Concerned for Children-Scholarship Fund, \$664
City Arts Center, \$6,871
Civic Music Association, \$673
Contact of Metropolitan Oklahoma City, \$593
Crimestoppers, \$1,062
Daily Living Center, \$7,592
Dale Rogers Group Home, \$1,062
Dale Rogers Training Center, \$8,886
Deaconess Home, \$1,318

Deaconess Hospital, \$7,806
Dean A. McGee Eye Institute, \$9,214
Deer Creek Community Enrichment Foundation, \$12,709
Edmond Educational Endowment, \$333
Eldercare Access Center, \$249
Epilepsy Foundation of the Sooner State, \$1,155
Executive Women International, \$2,584
Fellowship of Christian Athletes-Oklahoma Chapter, \$7,502
Fine Arts Institute of Edmond, \$1,350
45th Infantry Division Association Education Fund, \$1,770
Foundation for Senior Citizens, \$2,031
Friends of the Metropolitan Library System, \$3,578
Genesis Project, \$1,465
Greater Oklahoma City Tree Bank Foundation, \$832
Guthrie Public Schools-Sessions Award, \$535
Harn Homestead and Gardens, \$10,422
Heart of Oklahoma Council of Camp Fire, \$7,801
Heritage Hall, \$25,714
Hospital Hospitality House, \$365
Infant Crises Services, \$1,198
Institute for International Education, \$10,297
International Photography Hall of Fame, \$3,743
Jesus House, \$297
Jewish Federation of Greater Oklahoma City, \$7,746
Junior Achievement, \$3,279
Junior Hospitality Club, \$3,634
Junior League, \$6,293
Kerr McGee Swim Club, \$807
Kirkpatrick Center, \$845,548 *
Kirkpatrick Manor-Presbyterian Homes, \$5,208
Krauch Preschool, \$681
Langston University, \$16,915
Leadership Oklahoma City, \$6,019
Lutheran Social Services, \$71
Lyric Theatre, \$11,960
Lyric Theatre-Curt Schwartz Scholarship, \$1,066
Meadows Center for Opportunity, \$1,109
Medical Research, \$886
Medical Research-Allergy, \$2,127
Medical Research-Arthritis, \$4,604
Medical Research-Heart Disease, \$2,398
Medical Research-Hospitals and Health Care, \$1,529
Medical Research-Parkinson's Disease, \$3,720
Mental Health Association in Oklahoma County, \$768
Mercy Health Center, \$6,355
Mount Saint Mary's High School, \$2,196
Myriad Gardens, \$269
National Cowboy Hall of Fame, \$33,299 *
National Society of Colonial Dames in America, \$5,446

Neighbor for Neighbor, \$10,409
 Neighborhood Alliance of Oklahoma City, \$354
 Neighborhood Services Organization, \$1,982
 The Ninety Nines, \$580
 Oklahoma Air Space Museum, \$65,141 *
 Oklahoma Arts Institute, \$5,855
 Oklahoma Baptist University, \$3,872
 Oklahoma Baptist University-Business, \$4,602
 Oklahoma Baptist University-Hobbs Lectureship,
 \$7,329
 Oklahoma Baptist University-Scholarships, \$2,478
 Oklahoma Children's Theatre, \$851
 Oklahoma Christian College, \$25,952
 Oklahoma City Alliance for Safer Cities, \$715
 Oklahoma City Art Museum, \$32,483
 Oklahoma City Beautiful, \$2,744
 Oklahoma City Community College, \$1,770
 Oklahoma City Community Food Bank, \$314
 Oklahoma City Literacy Council, \$354
 Oklahoma City Orchestra League-Wilson Voice
 Awards, \$1,282
 Oklahoma City Philharmonic Orchestra, \$559
 Oklahoma City Public School Foundation, \$5,166
 Oklahoma City University, \$82,968
 Oklahoma City University-Fine Arts Department,
 \$1,239
 Oklahoma City University-Gallery, MardiGras, Opera
 Societies, \$138
 Oklahoma City University-Law School, \$111
 Oklahoma City University-Taft Institute, \$3,821
 Oklahoma Community Theatre Association, \$586
 Oklahoma County Historical Society, \$2,462
 Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence, \$708
 Oklahoma Foundation for the Disabled, \$2,159
 Oklahoma Goodwill Industries, \$7,275
 Oklahoma Halfway House, Inc., \$425
 Oklahoma Heritage Association, \$5,172
 Oklahoma Historical Society, \$1,540
 Oklahoma Horticulture Society, \$766
 Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation, \$9,930
 Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation-Fleming
 Scholars, \$7,930
 Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics, \$994
 Oklahoma Shakespeare in the Park, \$637
 Oklahoma Society for Crippled Children, \$1,897
 Oklahoma State University Oklahoma City, \$5168
 Oklahoma Westerners-Indian Territory Posse, \$1,321
 Oklahoma Zoological Society, \$9,691
 Omniplex, \$80,000 *
 Opportunities Industrialization Center, \$6,868
 Overholser Mansion-American Institute of Architects,
 \$1,619
 Pathways Child Development Corporation, \$4,885
 Payne Education Center, \$361
 Pi Beta Phi Scholarship, \$195
 Planned Parenthood of Central Oklahoma, \$4,155
 Prairie Dance Theatre, \$2,010
 Presbyterian Urban Mission, \$1,137
 Rainbow Fleet, \$1,488
 Redlands Council of Girl Scouts, \$2,609
 The Referral Center, \$304
 Retired Senior Volunteer Program, \$860
 Saint Anthony Hospital, \$10,022
 Saint Anthony Hospital Dental Clinic, \$1,670
 Saint Gregory's Scholarship for Women, \$848
 Saint John's Episcopal School, \$2,191
 Salvation Army, \$9,001
 Salvation Army-Boys Club, \$829
 Scope Ministries International, \$2,832
 South Community Hospital, \$1,274
 Southeast Area Health Center, \$818
 Special Care, \$708
 Speck Homes, \$23,229
 Sugar Creek Camp, \$574
 Sunbeam Home and Family Service, \$7,472
 Tinker Air Force Base General's Fund, \$2,478
 Travelers Aid, \$887
 Trinity Episcopal School, \$603
 U.S. Air Force Academy, \$10,620
 U.S. Military Academy, \$10,620
 U.S. Naval Academy, \$10,620
 U.S.S. Oklahoma City, \$1,416
 U.S.S. Oklahoma City-Sailor of the Year, \$708
 U.S.S. Oklahoma City-Scholarship Fund, \$708
 United Cerebral Palsy, \$354
 United Way of Greater Oklahoma City, \$4,990
 University of Central Oklahoma, \$663
 University of Oklahoma Health Center-Robert Bird
 Library, \$4,248
 University of Oklahoma Medical College-Watson
 Scholarship, \$771
 University of Oklahoma-Bizzell Library, \$5,795
 University of Oklahoma-Naval ROTC, \$1,770
 Urban League, \$708
 Variety Health Center, \$354
 Villa Teresa School, \$3,568
 Visiting Nurses Association, \$4,845
 Westerners International, \$1,355
 Westminster Day School, \$7,541
 Work Activity Center, \$4,088
 World Neighbors, \$17,764
 Young Men's Christian Association-Camp Classen,
 \$3,672
 Young Men's Christian Association-Central Branch,
 \$1,975
 Young Men's Christian Association-Eastside Branch,
 \$1,544
 Young Men's Christian Association-Metropolitan,
 \$12,351
 Young Women's Christian Association, \$1,221
 Youth Services for Oklahoma County, \$2,711

*** Affiliated Fund Earnings for FYE 6-30-91**

Foundation Receives Award, Ranks in Top 50

The Oklahoma City Community Foundation received the 1991 award from the Oklahoma Chapter of the National Society of Fund Raising Executives. The nomination, submitted by Oklahoma City Beautiful, documented specific projects that had received support from the Community Foundation and described their impact on the community. Projects include the Tree Bank, the Recycling Program, cleanup campaigns, a booklet about trees that grow well in Oklahoma City, and development of an elementary school curriculum in beautification.

The nomination stated further that the Community Foundation "has established within its structure the opportunity for individuals and organizations which are not able to afford to develop large foundations, to establish charitable funds in their own names to be administered by the Community Foundation following the wishes of the donor."

This emphasis on donor direction has worked well for the Oklahoma City Community Foundation during

its 20 years of existence, particularly when a per capita point of view is applied. Legally, a community foundation is required to make donations a permanent part of its corpus and cannot accept funds that are contingent on donor direction. Some foundations do not accept any funds that a donor wishes to direct, or designate.

Last year The Chronicle of Philanthropy reported the results of an annual survey by the Columbus Foundation that ranked the financial status of the top 50 community foundations. The Oklahoma City Community Foundation ranked 14th, with \$13.2 million gifts received; 25th, with \$67 million market value of assets; and 38th, with \$2.6 million grants paid.

Of the 400 community foundations, the survey included responses from 123 community foundations. Although they number fewer than one-third of all community funds, the article stated, survey respondents held an estimated 97 percent of all assets.

Women's Law Manual Available



Mrs. Cora Chisholm McKeel c. 1915

The second edition of the Oklahoma Women's Law Manual is ready for distribution. The 110-page manual contains 17 chapters on topics such as starting a business, domestic relations, public assistance, and employment law. At the conclusion of each chapter is a section on relevant community resources and legal citations for federal and state laws.

The Manual is not intended to take the place of an attorney, but to provide a starting place so that women can educate themselves and know where to go for help. It was written and updated by a group of volunteer lawyers in Oklahoma City, funded by the Oklahoma City Community Foundation and the Kirkpatrick Foundation.

Copies can be obtained by calling the Oklahoma City Community Foundation at 235-5603.

About the Oklahoma City Community Foundation

Since 1969 the Oklahoma City Community Foundation has helped donors accomplish their personal charitable goals and assisted non-profit organizations through grants and endowment fund support.

The Foundation is governed by nine trustees who represent a broad range of community organizations and interests. A separate fiscal committee composed of officers from four different banks invests and manages the Foundation's assets.

The Foundation's staff works with the Board of Trustees, the Fiscal Committee, donors and charitable organizations. They administer the asset base and seek out ways to fill needs in the community.

For the fiscal year that ended June 30, 1991, the Foundation's assets were valued at \$65 million. During that year, more than 250 charitable organizations received grants and distributions from endowment earnings of \$3 million.

Through the Foundation, donors can provide ongoing support for specific institutions or general causes by advising the staff and Trustees of their wishes. By donating money to the Fund for Oklahoma City, their contributions can be used at the trustees' discretion to support needs in the community as they arise.

A gift to the Oklahoma City Community Foundation is a lasting gift to the community.

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Cowboy Hall of Fame Hosts Frontier Rendezvous



This buckskin-clad mountain man is Jack Reuter, president of the Ben Clark Rifle Club.

In October, 2,000 visitors to the National Cowboy Hall of Fame stepped back in time to experience a mountain man rendezvous, an event supported by a grant from the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. "Frontier Rendezvous" was a reenactment of those reunions for fur trappers held throughout the West in the 1820's and 1830's. Tepees and other authentic fur trade era shelters were manned by living history demonstrators who used authentic gear and skills of the period like cooking, hatchet throwing, and black powder rifle handling. During the two-day event, historians dressed as grizzled mountain men answered questions about their trade and explained the fine points of tepee etiquette.

The fur trade opened up west of the Mississippi River after the Loui-

siana Purchase in 1901. For the next twenty years, traders established trading posts and traded furs with Native Americans. William Henry Ashley, founder of the Rocky Mountain Fur Company, is credited with establishing the rendezvous tradition. As activities spread deeper into the Rocky Mountains, Ashley found that the use of trading posts did not work well. He used hired trappers who stayed in the mountains throughout the year, trapping from autumn until spring. They would meet, or "rendezvous", at a predetermined location in the summer. At the rendezvous, the trappers would trade their winter's catch for supplies for the next year and spend a month or more competing in games and enjoying the camaraderie and companionship of other frontiersmen.

Bush Names Eldercare a Point of Light

Volunteers of Eldercare Access Center Mobile Meals were named the 594th Presidential Point of Light last fall on the 20th anniversary of the program. Mobile Meals prepares and delivers meals to frail, homebound elderly people age 60 or over in Oklahoma County. The Oklahoma City Community Foundation has supported Mobile Meals with two grants as well as earnings from a Designated Fund endowment.

Over the past 20 years, the program has grown from 12 volunteers serving 14 clients one meal each week, to 1,758 volunteers serving 9,000 meals to 550 clients each month. The program is a combined effort of 59 churches and community organizations which are committed to ensuring that elderly men and women receive nutritious meals daily.

Work of Mobile Meals volunteers extends beyond preparing and serving meals. Many also repair homes, provide transportation, and build lasting friendships with the clients. Seventy per cent of the volunteers are over the age of 60, and some clients are themselves former volun-

teers. Although some clients do pay a small donation for their meals, the service is provided free of charge for those who cannot afford to pay.

This is the fifth time the Point of Light award has been presented in Oklahoma. Established in 1990, the Points of Light Foundation recognizes groups and individuals who are engaged in direct service aimed at solving serious social problems.

In establishing the program, President Bush said: "The growth and magnification of Points of Light must now become an American mission... it is increasingly clear to more and more Americans that our greatest social problems — drugs, education reform, the environment, crime — will be solved only by the active engagement of tens of millions of individuals and millions of groups and institutions who have never been involved before in these problems and who will never be compensated one nickel for their work."

Eldercare managers assess an older person's social, economic and physical needs, design an individual service plan with the client's consent, and stay in touch with the

client once resources have been put into place. The objective is to help older people live safely and independently in their own homes.

Seminar Conducted by McAfee and Taft

In November the law firm of McAfee and Taft conducted a three-hour seminar for representatives of 25 designated fund agencies of the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. The seminar focused on tax and other legal issues related to charitable contributions.

"With larger non-cash contributions, donors need to recognize that there are limits to deductibility," Executive Director Nancy Anthony said. "Non-profit agencies, on the other hand, should be careful of accepting certain kinds of property which may involve liability or a potential for loss."

The seminar helped to heighten the agencies' awareness of those situations which might require further research or legal counsel.