

community catalyst



Oklahoma City

Community
Foundation

June 1996

Helping Donors
Help the Community

Is the Community Foundation just another charity?

The Oklahoma City Community Foundation has been a keeper of the community's endowment for over 25 years. Steady growth has afforded the Community Foundation respect as a resource to other non-profits, as an expert on community needs, and as a builder of endowments.

Most assets and a majority of donors have come in the past decade. But in the past two years, we have experienced major growth as a result of certain events. We have since taken a long look at the way we do things, and have realized that we possess a unique capacity for responding to the community's needs. Therefore, as the community has changed, we too have made some changes.

Over the past two years we have responded to events like the Kirkpatrick Challenge to Designated Funds and the tragic loss at the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building. The first was an exciting occasion which grew our funds at an unprecedented rate; the second a tragedy after which the community entrusted us with its generosity toward the bombing victims.

With a variety of new funds and new responsibilities, we added staff to help manage funds and to help develop programs to meet community needs. We replaced the grants application process with a proactive approach by the Foundation to

encourage cooperative efforts between agencies. This approach allows us to build the community's capacity to respond to ever-changing needs.

Two important projects illustrate our flexibility and leadership.

The first is After School Options (ASO), a program designed to support positive activities for children in the after school hours.

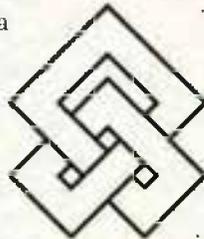
The Community Foundation staff identified a need for structured activities after school for children who may be latchkey kids or might otherwise need special attention. Once the need was identified, the ASO staff convened service providers and other interested groups to direct community resources to after school programs. The resulting successes are highlighted in the special insert in this newsletter.

Another community program, the Margaret Annis Boys Trust, exemplifies the Community Foundation's ability to support the charitable interests of our donors. Margaret Boys left her entire estate to the Community Foundation in 1990. Her specific instructions were that the income from her trust be used for the beautification of public parks and medians in Oklahoma City. Because the Foundation works hard to add value to its endowments, her gift will perpetually add

beauty to our city.

Our new logo embodies these unique attributes of the Community Foundation. The logo was designed to be visually consistent with the Foundation's mission, symbolizing perpetuity, flexibility and synergy within the community.

The Community Foundation is unique among charities because of its multifaceted nature. The Foundation not only strives to honor the donors wishes, but to add value to their gifts; in addition, discretionary funds are used to proactively identify needs and to build the capacity of our community.



Inside
this
issue:



- *After School Options: Community Foundation Special Report*
- *La Boheme: Grants in action*
- *New Designated Funds*



Nancy B. Anthony

...from the Executive Director

What is it that you do at the Community Foundation?

Very simply, we manage the community's endowment—those resources given by thousands of donors over the past twenty-five years which provide a stable income stream to support non-profit organizations and charitable needs in the Oklahoma City area.

Managing an endowment involves three major tasks. First, we encourage donors to establish permanent endowments for charitable purposes which interest them. We help the community preserve its resources by providing easy and efficient ways for donors to make contributions.

Second, we add value to these endowments through good investment performance, continual oversight of resources, and low administrative costs. By pooling funds for investment and management, charities receive a much greater return than individual funds could achieve separately.

Third, we help build the capacity of the community by encouraging cooperative projects and improving and expanding existing services. Financial resources are coupled with extensive efforts to encourage collaboration and to facilitate effective solutions to problems and opportunities.

This newsletter launches a renewed effort to educate our donors about what we do. Over the next few issues, you will read about how we accomplish the three tasks of endowment management. You will read about investment performance and about successful community programs. You will read about people in the community who have established funds and how the Community Foundation has helped further their charitable interests. You might be interested in doing something like this yourself.

What is it that we do?

We help donors help the community.

Oklahoma City experiences opera

Production of *La Boheme* a huge success

In February, Oklahoma City experienced a cultural phenomenon. A fully-staged opera was performed here for the first time in a decade, and for the first time ever by the Oklahoma City Philharmonic Orchestra.

The Oklahoma City Community Foundation helped fund this major event through a grant from the Oklahoma City Opera Association Fund, an organization which went out of business more than twenty years ago. These funds were made possible because of the special nature of the Community Foundation.

The Community Foundation assists other non-profit organizations in building permanent endowments. Each year, the earnings from the initial sum of money given in the 1970s to the Foundation by the Opera Association is distributed to programs that fit the special-interest guidelines set up when the fund was created. In the past two decades, earnings have funded operatic productions at the Lyric Theatre, and by the Canterbury Choral Society and Ballet Oklahoma.

Thus, with the help of the Community Foundation, members of the disbanded Opera Association have been able to play a role in perpetuating opera in Oklahoma City.

The production of *La Boheme*, perhaps the most famous opera, truly was a major cultural event like no other in this city.

"Compared to other Philharmonic performances, opera production has had a slightly higher profile in the community. This may be due to the fact that opera is not performed in Oklahoma City on a regular basis and therefore, the production became a major 'event' in our community," said Alan Valentine, executive director of the Philharmonic. "It's been the talk of the town ever since."

The opera was a collaborative effort between many different arts organizations. Students from Oklahoma City University were involved in the production, and several world-class opera singers were brought in for the lead parts. The Oklahoma City Art Museum held an exhibit related to the opera, called *The Paris of La Boheme*.



It was a city-wide event, as well. The opera was accessible to all segments of the community because the Philharmonic offered diverse ticket pricing. Around 6,400 Oklahoma Citizens attended the performance. "The opera was presented to two sold-out houses, which demonstrates a very positive community response and desire for access to opera," said Valentine.

Due to the overwhelming response, Valentine and orchestra conductor Joel Levine are considering performing an opera every two years.

"Performance of a wide range of music is central to the mission of the Philharmonic," said Valentine. "The performance and production of a fully staged opera extended the orchestra further into the classical repertoire and exposed the audience to the operatic art form."

Valentine said the cultural impact on the city was twofold. First, the opera attracted a new audience to the Philharmonic. Subscription rates are dramatically increasing for next season.

Second, it filled a void within the community and within arts circles. There were no existing models here for this particular art form, and the production efforts strengthened the experience of all who collaborated on the project.

"The Oklahoma City Philharmonic is very grateful to the Oklahoma City Community Foundation for the grant which helped to make the production of *La Boheme* a successful reality," said Valentine. "We believe it has had a very positive impact on everyone who attended and participated, and we look forward to continuing to provide Oklahoma City with a variety of quality performances in the future."

Designated Funds allow non-profits to build a perpetual source of income

Designated Funds are an excellent way for an organization to start an endowment fund or for a donor to earmark funds for a particular purpose or agency. All funds, regardless of size, benefit from professional investment oversight and an administrative cost which is extremely low.

The purpose of the Designated Endowment Fund programs is to help non-profit organizations attract and manage permanent endowment fund support for a steady yearly income. With a Designated Fund at the Community Foundation, organizations do not need to set up their own foundations, process gifts, or manage the investments of an endowment. Donors who designate their gifts for a particular agency can be confident that their contribution will continue to be directed toward that purpose.

Designated Endowment Funds can be started with a \$5,000 contribution from one or several sources and can be added to in any amount at any time. The beneficiary can be any non-profit organization or charitable purpose serving the Oklahoma City community. The principle is invested in a pool with other Community Foundation funds and distributions of income to the beneficiary organization are made once each year. In addition to the investment income generated, the Designated Fund is credited with appreciation which the investment portfolio generates. This appreciation is added to the value of the fund and helps the income stream increase each year to keep up with inflation.

The Community Foundation currently has Designated Endowment Funds for more than 200 non-profit organizations. The largest fund is more than \$1 million and the average fund is about \$70,000.

New Designated Funds in 1995-96:

Kimberly Kay Clark Scholarship:

This fund was established by the Naval Reserve Association in memory of Kimberly, who was a Navy Reserve Petty Officer killed in the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building bombing.

Central High School Alumni:

Though Central High School is no longer open, its memory will live on.

This fund was established by Central High alumni to perpetuate a scholarship fund.

University of Central Oklahoma Kirkpatrick Service Awards: UCO president George Nigh established these scholarships to be awarded each year to outstanding UCO students who participate in community or university service.

Valerie Koelsch Memorial Scholarship: This fund was established by the Sheet Metal Workers' International Association as a memorial to Valerie Koelsch, the daughter of a local sheet metal union member. Valerie was killed in the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building. Scholarship recipients will be dependents of local union members.

OKC All Sports Association Scholarship Relief Fund: This fund was established by the All Sports Association to endow a scholarship in memory of the victims of the Murrah Building tragedy. Contributors included the NCAA and the Big Twelve Conference.

Oklahoma City Beautiful Morrison Tucker Award: This award is given annually by Oklahoma City Beautiful to honor volunteers who have given outstanding service to the organization. It is presented to the Volunteer Director of the Year.

Oklahoma County Bar Foundation: The Board of Directors of the Oklahoma County Bar Foundation transferred its assets to establish this fund for a permanent source of support for their charitable activities.

Donna Nigh Foundation: The Foundation honors Donna Nigh and supports her work for mentally retarded citizens of Oklahoma.

Oklahoma Visual Arts Coalition: The Oklahoma Visual Artists Coalition assists professional artists with career development and sponsors high quality exhibitions.

For more information on starting a Designated Fund, contact Nancy Anthony at 405/235-5603.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Oklahoma City Community Foundation, a non-profit public charity, is to serve the charitable needs of the Oklahoma City area through the development and administration of endowment funds with the goal of preserving capital and enhancing its value for the benefit of the Oklahoma City area.

The mission will be fulfilled by pursuit of these goals:

- Provide convenient, efficient, and effective ways through which donors can contribute assets to charitable purposes.
- Encourage donors to create funds which will benefit the community both now and in the future.
- Advocate for the development of endowment funds and provide appropriate means by which permanent endowment funds can be built and wisely managed to provide long-term support.
- Develop the Funds for Oklahoma City, restricted and unrestricted community endowments, which can be used by the Trustees and the community to develop, coordinate, and enhance services and programs which meet the changing needs of the community.

Staff

Nancy B. Anthony, *Executive Director*
Sam Bowman, *After School Options*
Tammy Davis, *Assistant Comptroller*
Susan Elkins, *Grants Administrator*
Leslie Griffith, *Accountant*
Laura Lang, *Communications Coordinator and CATALYST editor*
Dale Levy, *Dir. of Community Programs*
Carla Pickrell, *Comptroller*
Frances L. Robinson, *Office Manager*
Linda Rodriguez, *Development Coordinator*
Anna-Faye Rose, *Survivors' Education Fund*
Geren Steiner, *Building Manager*

Board of Trustees

J. Edward Barth, *President*
Nancy P. Ellis
Jeanette L. Gamba
Raymond Hefner, Jr.
James H. Holloman, Jr.
William O. Johnstone
Linda P. Lambert
Frank McPherson
Anne Hodges Morgan
George Records
Richard Sias
James Young

Founding Trustee

John E. Kirkpatrick

Officers

John L. Belt, *Secretary*
Eleanor J. Maurer, *Treasurer*
Marilyn B. Myers, *Assistant Secretary*
Nancy B. Anthony, *Executive Director and Assistant Secretary*
Carla S. Pickrell, *Comptroller and Assistant Treasurer*

Community Program Proposal Deadlines

After School Options
July 15

Margaret Annis
Boys Trust
July 15

Fund for Oklahoma City
August 15

*Groups interested in these programs
should contact **Susan Elkins** for
guidelines, or **Dale Levy** to discuss
proposals, at **235-5603**.*

Term ends for long-time Trustee, Influence lasts a lifetime

Nancy Payne Ellis has been an important part of the Community Foundation for close to a decade. Her nine-year term as a Trustee ended last month, but her impact on the Foundation and the community will last a lifetime.

Ellis, a native Oklahoman, graduated from Harding High School in Oklahoma City and attended Oklahoma State University.

She was first introduced to the Community Foundation through her father-in-law, W.T. Payne, a successful oil man and benefactor to the Foundation.

After his death, she wanted to ensure that his interests were honored in the disbursement of the earnings from his fund. It was this association with the Community Foundation that ultimately resulted in her election as a Trustee.

Her personal interests include the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, where she sits on the national board, and the Payne Education Center,

which works with dyslexic children and was named for her mother-in-law.

During her tenure, she has served on the Grants, Investment and Development Committees. She is the only Trustee ever to serve on all three committees.

Ellis was instrumental in the creation of the Foundation's Asset Development Plan, which was implemented this year.

"Nancy has been a significant advocate for us in the community," said Nancy Anthony, executive director of the Community Foundation. "She has always been proud of the Community Foundation and willing to talk to other people about it."

Nancy's dedication will be missed at the Foundation. Her years of service are greatly appreciated.



Oklahoma City

**Community
Foundation**

P.O. Box 1146 / 73101-1146
1300 N. Broadway Drive
Oklahoma City, OK 73103
405/235-5603

ADDRESS
CORRECTION
REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
OKLA. CITY, OK
PERMIT NO. 255

Community Foundation 'Special Report' inside!

After School Options

Building Capacity, Changing Lives

The Oklahoma City Community Foundation believes that through the cooperation of organizations consisting of caring adults, real progress can be made in the encouragement and development of our children. After School Options (ASO) is an effort to encourage a variety of programs that allow adults to share their values with the next generation, enabling young children to become citizens who realize their own potential and in turn have a positive impact on others.



ASO was jointly initiated by the Community Foundation, the Kirkpatrick Foundation and the Kirkpatrick Family Fund. It is a four year commitment of more than half a million dollars to combat the lack of structured activities in the non-school hours for elementary and middle school-aged children.

The ASO staff teams up churches and institutions such as the city Parks & Recreation Department and area museums with schools across the city to form partnerships to help shape children's lives during critical years. The children participating in ASO are not necessarily at-risk or previously delinquent children. ASO targets children at a vulnerable developmental age and seeks to prevent future problems. This focus is based on the belief that children who are given the attention they need at an early age will be less likely to turn to crime or drugs, or to suffer from illiteracy or the burden of teenage pregnancy.

While some grant dollars are committed by the Foundations, the real impact of ASO is leveraging and encouraging programs primarily supported by others and redirecting their focus within the community. Each of the ASO initiatives has been undertaken with a vision and strategy to secure ongoing institutional commitments. Participating programs must show a commitment to continue funding after school activities once the initial grant monies are expended.

The following is a sampling of ASO successes that illustrate the cooperation of various groups to funnel community resources into programs that build the capacity of each child who participates.

Church Consortium



A little over two years ago, churches in the northeast part of the city were fed up with violence in their neighborhoods. A young man had just been killed on NE 23rd Street, and churches in the area decided to do something about it.

Four churches in this area emerged as leaders in an initiative to provide alternatives to violence for children. State Sen. Angela

Monson has been involved with these churches, along with Sam Bowman, director of ASO, almost from the beginning.

Monson said the cooperation of the churches, which are all of different denominations, has been inspirational. While territorialism could have overtaken the project, the churches showed a tremendous spirit of teamwork. "We chuckle about it now," she said. "We thought no one would ever believe we did it."

To date, ASO has been involved in three different cooperative associations with area churches. The programs range from one day a week to five days a week after school. Each of the models is ecumenical, involves four or more churches, and incorporates certain expectations. Most important is a financial commitment from the churches to continue the program with church funds after grant monies are exhausted. Churches must also agree to operate for two to three hours after school, plan for parent involvement and participate in staff training.

Activities range from help with homework to recreation to snacks and cultural presentations. BLAC (Black Liberated Arts Center) presented programs on arts, African drums and storytelling at the northeast area program.

Monson said the four churches in the northeast area were chosen for their commitment, primarily,

and also their proximity to neighborhoods with the greatest number of children in need of after school programs. "We could do one of these programs on every street corner and still have 20-30 kids at each one," Monson said.

Neighborhood children are recruited primarily through the schools. Monson said the schools have been very supportive. "They are aware of how important these partnerships are," she said.

The primary targets for such programs are elementary age children, the average age being nine. Monson said that programs for children this age are vital, and churches especially provide a safe haven. "You start with kids, from six to 13, and they get a good foundation," she said. "It makes kids feel safe coming home from school and it's someplace fun to be."

Participating churches:

Capitol Hill Area: Capitol Hill Christian, Exchange Baptist, Southminster Presbyterian, Lambuth United Methodist.

North Meridian Avenue Area: St. John's United Methodist Church, Calvin Presbyterian, Memorial Christian and Prince of Peace Lutheran.

Northeast Oklahoma City Area: Avery Chapel AME, Mt. Carmel Baptist, East 6th Street Christian, Corpus Christi Catholic and Christ United Methodist.



Institutional Partnerships with Schools

Girls' Softball: Middle Schools + OKC Parks & Recreation Department + Partner Agencies

Traditionally, young girls have not been offered the same opportunities to play organized sports as their male schoolmates. But research indicates that participation in team sports can drastically affect girls' development in areas ranging from self-esteem and responsibility to the prevention of teenage pregnancy.

In the Spring of 1995, girls at all ten middle schools in the Oklahoma City School District got to play organized softball for the first time, thanks to a partnership developed by ASO, the school district, the Oklahoma City Parks & Recreation Department and eight community agencies. Not only was this a groundbreaking program in Oklahoma City because it offered softball to all public middle school girls for the first time, but because it allowed



every girl who signed up a chance to play. This all-inclusive participation encouraged more parents to come out and root for their daughters.

Under the agreement, each school was assigned an agency "partner," who provided volunteers to help coach and to coordinate other after school activities for the players. The school district provided transportation, practice fields at each school, head coaches and payment of game umpires. The City Parks and Recreation Department provided playing fields at Wheeler Park and training for volunteer coaches.

This year the school district incorporated girls' softball as one of its extracurricular activities, demonstrating a commitment to continue offering opportunities for girls to play sports.

Participating Agencies:

YMCA, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Camp Fire Boys and Girls, Red Cross, Community Health Centers, Youth Services, and the Salvation Army.

"Play in the Park:" Area Schools + OKC Parks & Recreation Department



For years, many Oklahoma City schools have been offering free breakfast and lunch to children during the summer months under the federal school lunch program. In 1995, for the first time, a program was offered to keep children at the schools, involved in structured recreation, between the meals.

Officials at the Parks & Recreation Department were in the planning stages of a summer recreation program exclusively at park sites, and ASO suggested that they also hold activities at three school sites adjacent to city parks. This solved safety and facility issues which were problems at the more isolated parks.

The Kirkpatrick Foundation paid for the staff costs at the three school sites in the summer of 1995. This summer the Parks Department expanded the program in conjunction with its "Play in the Park" program, as an all-day, five-day-a-week program for 10 weeks at five Oklahoma City school sites and one Putnam City school.

At each site the school principal recommended a school staff person to be one of the team members employed by the Parks Department. The school district makes its school buildings available, resolving liability issues, and provides free breakfast and lunch at each of the six sites.

Other Cooperative Partnerships

Boys & Girls Club of Oklahoma County + OKC Parks & Recreation Department

The revitalization of older areas of the city not only breathes new life into old buildings, but affects the community spirit of the people who live in nearby neighborhoods, as well.

The Community Center at Memorial Park (NW 36th & Western) was reopened last July by the newly incorporated Boys & Girls Club of Oklahoma County. The Center at one time was a central city fixture, but had fallen into disuse, and in more recent years the park had become a hangout for local gangs. "Before, there was a lot of meanness in the park—kids wanting

to beat up on other kids," said Jim Finchum, executive director of the program. Now, he said, troublemakers have moved on. "They find somewhere else to go if they don't want to abide by our rules," he said. The Boys & Girls Club moved in with structured activities for kids, showing neighbors that activity in the park from now on would be nothing but positive.

"Our purpose is to give youth an alternative to drugs, alcohol and gangs," Finchum said. "And to get them off the streets. We give them something positive to shoot for." Activities often are recreational, but involve lessons for the kids, like building self-esteem or learning respect for others.

The Community Center is maintained by the Club and the grounds are kept by the Parks & Recreation Department. A start-up grant of \$25,000 by the Community Foundation through the ASO program served as the catalyst for additional funds that have solidified first year operations.

"SPARK/Kids Cafe": Presbyterian Urban Mission + OKC Food Bank + City Arts

The partnership between SPARK and the Food Bank is a logical one: emotional and intellectual nourishment can only be maximized if a child's basic physical needs are met.

During the school year, Kids Cafe provides a hot, nutritious evening meal for neighborhood kids in grades K-4. In the summer, the program provides breakfast, lunch and afternoon snacks for eight weeks. Food is provided through the OKC Food Bank and meals are prepared by volunteers with help from the kids. Volunteers to the program come from area Presbyterian congregations.

Kids Cafe is implemented in SPARK (Support Program of Arts and Reading for Kids). Along with providing tutoring in math and reading to neighborhood kids, SPARK also provides classes in art with City Arts volunteers, as well as music, recreation and daily-living skills.

The Presbyterian Urban Mission serves children from nearby Eugene Fields Elementary School. Vans pick children up from the school during the school year. During the summer, no transportation is provided, but most children live within walking distance of the Mission.

Seventy percent of the children in the neighborhood surrounding the Mission are Hispanic, so the Mission sends out recruiting materials in both English and Spanish.

Betty Bruce, a PUM board member, said their aim is to reach out to the neighborhood and serve where the needs are strongest, with food and clothing. They found that the best way to fulfill that mission is through the children. "This program has an impact on the whole family rather than just one child," Bruce said.

Sugar Creek Camp

Long-standing youth service organizations have been the traditional providers of summer activities in our community. In recent years, Oklahoma Citians have benefited from a growing number of smaller groups who offer a range of recreation and enrichment



activities during the summer months. It is part of the ASO mission to encourage the emergence and expansion of summer activities for kids ages six to 13.

Sugar Creek Camp is one of these organizations ASO has helped support. Last summer a five-week day camp for kids from Eugene Fields School was held at Olivet Baptist Church. This summer, two six-week day camps will be held, one at Olivet and the other for children in the Mid-Del area at Del City Christian Church. Activities include music, arts, recreation, reading and field trips.

The Sugar Creek Camp mission is to provide opportunities for the achievement of literacy, the improvement of self-esteem and the development of life skills. Parent involvement is intensive at Sugar Creek—staffers contact parents to discuss each child's progress.



For more information on After School Options, call Dale Levy at 235-5603.