



Oklahoma City

Community  
Foundation

June 2001

## D. Allan Harmon: Builder of Dreams

Not many people get to put their hands, heart and soul into a project they love, but that is exactly what D. Allan Harmon (shown on the right), founder and chairman of Harmon Construction Company, has done with the help of the Community Foundation.

The beneficiary has been the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation (OMRF), which has been Harmon's focus since its establishment more than 50 years ago.

At the age of 100, he is the oldest, surviving, founding member of the OMRF.

Harmon and his brother-in-law, the late Roy Lytle, were incorporators for the OMRF. Mr. Lytle served as the foundation's corporate attorney, and Harmon Construction enjoyed a long association with OMRF as

building contractor for several significant projects, including the Wileman Learning Center, the Acree-Woodworth and Massman Buildings and the Milligan Center.

But Harmon's investment in OMRF did not stop at providing the construction expertise to the growing facilities.

This year, Harmon approached the Community Foundation to help him with his dream of offering further assistance. In memory of Dorothy, his wife of 53 years, Harmon and his daughter and son-in-law, Virginia and Roger Gohrband, created the D. Allan and Dorothy B. Harmon Medical Fund at the Community Foundation for the benefit of OMRF.

With this endowment, his desire to



help make a difference in medical research will continue even after he is gone. The Community Foundation helps donors achieve their individual charitable giving goals. Bring us *your* dream.

## Scholarship Initiative Amounts to More than Dollars: It's About Helping More Students Go to College

Most people think scholarship programs are exclusively about providing dollars to students. At the Community Foundation, however, the initiative takes on a larger role. In addition to dollars, scholarship related efforts train guidance counselors on the wide variety of tools useful in directing students toward college, provide information on scholarships via the World Wide Web ([www.occf.org](http://www.occf.org)), provide incentive grants for those seeking to encourage students to attend

college and even supply public recognition for scholars in terms of special, community-wide events.

"We've learned that to address our goal – getting more students to go to college – we have to do more than just provide dollars. We have to provide leadership," said Nancy B. Anthony, executive director.

As a result of the board of trustees' five-year commitment to the scholarship initiative, the New Opportunities Program ...continued on page 4

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- Grants address a variety of community needs
- Beloved former trustee Raymond Hefner dies
- Memorial honors sports-caster killed in plane crash
- Publication helps donors connect with causes

# First Quarter Grants Address Many Community Needs

At the Feb. 27 meeting of the Community Foundation trustees, grants totaling more than \$123,000 were awarded to 14 different organizations. The grants were awarded through the Community Foundation's four community program areas.

Grant requests were submitted to each of the four areas by the Jan. 15 deadline and were evaluated by individual advisory committees for After School Options, Agency Capacity Building, Margaret Annis Boys Trust and the Fund for Oklahoma City.

The advisory committees are chaired by Community Foundation trustees and involve volunteers from the community who are knowledgeable and interested in each focus area.

## After School Options

**Oklahoma City Cooperative Urban Parish, \$1,000** to support a one-week summer arts camp for children who live in neighborhoods around these urban churches.

## Agency Capacity Building

**Trinity School, \$5,000** to assist with the development of a donor database by purchasing a computer and development software.

**Catholic Charities, \$5,000** to assist with the upgrade of the entire administrative computer system by replacing hard drives on 25 computers.

**Camp Fire Boys and Girls, \$2,189** to assist with expansion of program and marketing with the purchase of a computer and printer to support these activities.

**Big Brothers Big Sisters, \$3,595** to assist with monitoring of mentoring



*A grant from the Community Foundation for a computer and database software will help Big Brothers Big Sisters monitor mentoring program participants.*



*A metal sculptor was one of several local artists who opened their studios to the public. A grant from the Community Foundation helped with promotion of the event for the Oklahoma Visual Arts Coalition.*

program data through the purchase of a computer and database software.

**Margaret Annis Boys Trust The Tree Bank and Northeast Park and Community Center, \$6,400** to assist with planting and irrigation of trees at an Oklahoma City park site near N.E. 33rd and Lottie.

**Putnam City West High School, \$7,500** to assist with a student-led campus beautification project through the purchase of plant materials.

**Jarman Junior High, \$6,500** to assist with a campus-wide improvement plan through the purchase of trees and other plant materials.



*Students pitched in to make campus beautification a reality at Jarman Junior High. The Community Foundation plays a leading role in improving the appearance of schools.*

**Fund for Oklahoma City YWCA, \$17,868** to expand the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner program through the purchase of examination equipment that will be owned by the YWCA and used at the hospitals.

**Oklahoma Caring Foundation, \$20,000** to encourage childhood immunizations in Oklahoma County through a program of providing immunizations in day care homes.

**Oklahoma City Philharmonic Society, \$25,000** to celebrate the opening of the Civic Center by providing a free concert of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony on Sunday, Sept. 16.

**Plaza District Main Street Project, \$5,000** for two years to help start revitalization of a square mile bounded by N.W. 23rd and N.W. 10th and Pennsylvania and Classen.

**Oklahoma Visual Arts Coalition, \$3,000** to help provide publicity and promotion of artists' Open Studio Tour for the public.

## 24 Additional Grants Approved by Trustees this Month

On June 5, the trustees of the Community Foundation approved grant recommendations for 24 agencies that total more than \$182,000. These requests were submitted to the Community Foundation's four program areas by the April 16 deadline and were reviewed by each of the program advisory committees before going to the trustees for approval.

Listed below are the grants approved in each of the program areas.

### Agency Capacity Building

**A Chance to Change Foundation, \$4,600** to improve the marketing of the organization through a redesign of its web site and to upgrade two computers to improve service to program areas.

**National Multiple Sclerosis Society, \$5,000** to assist the chapter's Web maintenance program that allows events and information to be more broadly shared through the purchase of supporting equipment.

**Opportunities Industrialization Center of Oklahoma County, \$5,000** to upgrade the software and training materials necessary to assist students preparing to take the 2002 version of the G.E.D. test.

**Children's Center, \$5,000** to upgrade computers at 12 nurses' stations to improve communication and care for patients.

**Lyric Theatre, \$4,276** to assist with the development of new warehouse space for sets and costumes by purchasing shelving, racks and pallets.

**Oklahoma City Art Museum, \$5,000** for consultant costs related to developing a library and resource center in the new downtown art museum.

**Legal Aid of Western Oklahoma, \$4,579** to improve community education and continuing legal education presentations through the purchase of supporting equipment.

**St. John's Christian Heritage Academy, \$4,000** to assist with development and student recruitment efforts through the purchase of a computer, scanner and printer.

**Citizens Caring for Children, \$5,000** to help with the development of a database for client tracking through the upgrade of computers and servers.

**Oklahoma Humanities Council, \$1,000** to train development staff at the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University.

**Oklahoma City Police Athletic League, \$2,500** to provide facilitator fees for a board long-range planning retreat.

**Oklahoma City Metro Alliance for Safer Cities, \$3,000** to assist board with a long-range plan by paying consulting fees.

### After School Options

**Kerr-McGee Swim Club, \$4,200** to support a four-week learn-to-swim program in conjunction with the Oklahoma City Parks Department Play in the Parks program at three city senior pools and one additional site.

**Whiz Kids, \$1,945** to provide training materials and activities for volunteers for new sites for the 2001 school year.

**Tri City Youth & Family Center, \$5,000** to develop a two-day-a-week after school program at four churches in Jones, Harrah, Luther and Spencer.

**OKC Compassion, \$3,000** to support an eight-week summer program for children in the N.W. 10th and N. Pennsylvania area.

**Metropolitan Library System, \$15,000** to support teachers and summer assistants at Reading is Fun sites for summer and the school year.

**Exchange Avenue Baptist Church, \$4,500** to assist with the implementation of a three-day-a-week after school program.

**Margaret Annis Boys Trust Venice Neighborhood Association, \$6,381** to plant flower beds in medians between N.W. 36th and N.W. 30th along Venice Boulevard.

**Edgewater-Lakepointe Neighborhood, \$9,895** to plant trees along N. Portland Avenue between N.W. 63rd and Lake Hefner.

**Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma, \$2,902** to assist with the development of three community gardens.

**Fund for Oklahoma City Automobile Alley, \$21,000** to purchase and install 61 historical markers along the sidewalk in front of historic N. Broadway buildings between N.W. 4th and N.W. 10th.

**Oklahoma County Guidance Counselor Network, \$25,000** to improve outreach to parents with children going to college by placing college and financial aid materials at all 19 branch locations of the Metropolitan Library System.

**City Rescue Mission, \$35,000** to assist with funding the salary of a case manager for two years to work with families to become independent.



Students at the Opportunities Industrialization Center will benefit from upgraded training software.

# Scholarship Initiative Proves a Fast-Growing Program

...continued from page 1

has been the Community Foundation's fastest growing initiative. In 1996, the Community Foundation had 22 permanent funds with a value of about \$3.8 million. In 2001, 47 funds had a combined value of \$8.1 million. Distributions have exceeded \$30 million and by the end of 2001, will have provided direct assistance to nearly 1,000 individuals.

Behind the numbers are young people whose decision to go to college was in some way shaped and supported by the Community Foundation. They include students such as Antonio Reese, who through personal determination overcame the pitfalls of a dysfunctional family and the temptations of gangs and drugs that surrounded him. With a Community Foundation Scholarship in hand, he attended North Carolina Agricultural and Technical University. That served as the launching pad for his college career. The opportunity resulted in Antonio earning one of the first Minorities in Sciences Scholarships from the Bill Gates Foundation, fully funding his four-year education.

Students like Aaliyah El-Amin (shown at right), the daughter of hard-working parents, took advantage of a program that provides scholarships to first-generation college students. The financial assistance was helpful, but more important for Aaliyah and her parents was guidance through the maze of information associated with choosing a college, applying and enrolling.

Counselors, too, are encouraged

through the Community Foundation's network to achieve their highest potential. The Community Foundation arranges regular workshops featuring

The Community Foundation now administers the state's largest, independent scholarship program. This growth is in part the result of the Community



*A sub-group of the 104 Community Foundation scholars assemble prior to a major special event recognizing the achievements of citizen-students from 39 area high schools.*

Foundation's ability to work with diverse wishes of donors, types of assets, levels of services provided and time frames. The Community Foundation's three-person scholarship management team also adds value through a great deal of hands-on experience. Anna-Faye Rose leads

experts in topics as diverse as minority recruiting, writing letters of recommendation and essays, preparing financial aid packages, virtual campus tours and alternative sources of college funding.

the team and is assisted by Linda Keefe and Mary Reneau.

The program's growth has created new opportunities to promote the foundation's flexibility and array of services that are available to donors seeking to set up permanent scholarship funds. May was designated "Scholarship Month," and special promotional efforts included a luncheon and dinner for some of the Community Foundation scholarship recipients. Through a special brochure, donors were also encouraged to consider establishing or adding to a scholarship fund at the foundation. Those wishing to receive more information about scholarship funds at the Community Foundation are encouraged to call Penny Voss, development director, at 405/235-5603, or visit [www.occf.org](http://www.occf.org).



*Aaliyah El-Amin*

## Donor Connection Educates Donors, Provides Agencies With \$68,000

The Community Foundation has discovered a way to connect donors with non-profit organizations and their program needs. The result is a publication called *Donor Connection*.

*Donor Connection* is a service provided three times a year. The intention is to provide a variety of charitable giving opportunities and to inform donors about the activities of specific agencies.

Since its inception last April the *Donor Connection's* first three issues have provided more than \$68,000 for the sixty programs profiled. The publications also resulted in non-cash donations that benefitted several agencies. The Community Foundation plans to continue the program through the remainder of the year.

Agencies in the publication submit requests to the Community Foundation that staff carefully review. The publication encourages donors to speak directly with the agencies and has provided contact information for that purpose.

Some examples of agency requests that were fulfilled include: St. Anthony Foundation sought donations to help with a free prescription medication program; Oklahoma City Police Athletic League requested and received donations for team uniforms and baseball equipment; Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma requested interpreters for the hearing impaired; and the Literacy Council requested money for books to assist with its tutoring program.

*Donor Connection* promotes activities of non-profit organizations with permanent designated endowment funds at the Community Foundation. If you would like to learn more about other charitable giving opportunities or about these and other endowment funds, contact Penny Voss at 405/235-5603.

There also is a wealth of information at the Community Foundation's web site, [www.occf.org](http://www.occf.org), which includes a listing of charities in central Oklahoma.

## Community Foundation Helps Oklahoma Remember Bill Teegins

When the tragic death of sportscaster Bill Teegins occurred, David F. Griffin, president and general manager of KWTW, thought immediately of the Community Foundation. He was looking for help in administering a memorial fund that could help state residents who were struggling to express their grief over the Jan. 27 plane crash that killed Teegins and nine others associated with



the Oklahoma State University basketball program.

The Community Foundation was chosen for its ability to admin-

ister and distribute funds to interests chosen by the family.

There was an overwhelming response to the Bill Teegins Memorial Fund. The earnings will support the Arthritis Foundation Oklahoma Chapter and a Communications Scholarship at Oklahoma State University.

For more information on memorials, please contact Penny Voss at 405/235-5603 or [p.voss@occf.org](mailto:p.voss@occf.org).

### 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 community.

*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.

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# Raymond Hefner Leaves a Proud Legacy

Raymond Hefner was the classic pillar of the community, the quiet man who led by example and stood strong through all the trials and gusts of Oklahoma's economic winds.

He was a trustee of the Community Foundation from 1994 through the fall of 2000, when he reluctantly resigned because of failing health. He served as the Community Foundation's treasurer, as a member of the Investment Committee and as a trustee of the Kirkpatrick Family Fund.

He and his wife, Bonnie, started the Raymond H. and Bonnie B. Hefner Family Fund to support their philanthropic interests and to involve their children in supporting the Community.

Through all his associations with the Community Foundation, Raymond Hefner brought insightful knowledge of investments, absolute honesty in dealing with people and the basic values of his western Oklahoma upbringing.

A native of Tipton, Okla., Hefner served in the Coast Guard, went to business school and became a Certified

Public Accountant. He joined the Kirkpatrick Oil Company in 1950 as one of its first employees. In 1957, he and Bonnie formed Bonray Drilling and began a lifetime involvement in the oil and gas industry in both Oklahoma and on the national level.



Hefner was president of the Independent Petroleum Association of America and an advisor to Presidents Reagan and Bush. Locally, as a director of Liberty Bank, he served as chairman of the board during a crucial period of recapitalization in the 1980s.

Hefner succeeded in both the oil businesses and in a variety of investments, but a lifelong passion was cattle breeding. Normally a quiet person, he became almost gregarious when talking about limousin cattle and his efforts to bring the breed into the U.S. from France. He often commented that one of the greatest challenges in his life was "figuring out how to make money in the cattle business."

Raymond Hefner contributed greatly to many Oklahoma City institutions. The greatest benefit of his involvement with all groups was the example of integrity and sound and thoughtful judgment that he always brought to the business at hand. His death on June 7 leaves a loss to the community that he served so well.



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