

Celebrating 10 years of giving back to the community

For the past 10 years, the Lawton Community Foundation has been giving back to the community. Thanks to the foresight of a group of Lawton business and civic leaders, more than \$743,000 has been re-invested back into the community through grants, scholarships and annual distributions to charitable organizations. All grants have been a result of investment income without depletion of the core assets.

In 1999, with the financial support of the Lawton Retail Merchants Association, the Lawton Community Foundation was established as an affiliate of the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. Under this structure, the Oklahoma

10 Year Numbers

Year One assets	\$400,000
Year 10 assets	\$3.1 million
1999-2008	
Distributions to charitable organization endowments:	\$289,078
98 Community Grants:	\$341,649
96 Scholarships for Lawton area students:	\$112,846

City Community Foundation provides all of the investment and administrative support that

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Join in the Anniversary Match Challenge

The 21 charitable organizations with endowment funds at the Lawton Community Foundation are doing great things for the citizens they serve and, as a result, the entire community benefits. To celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Lawton Community Foundation, the Trustees are pleased to announce the Anniversary Match Challenge through which these organizations will have an opportunity to increase their endowments by \$10,000.

"We want these organizations to continue their success and by building their endowment, we will help to ensure they are able to continue their good work well into the future," says Gene Love, board president.

Effective November 1st, 2008 through December 31st, 2009, individual donor gifts to the endowment funds will be matched, dollar for dollar, up to \$5,000. That's a potential increase to each endowment of \$10,000. The Trustees are committing to provide a total of \$105,000 to meet the match. One of the primary purposes of the challenge is to encourage donors to support the organizations' endowments.

The conditions for participating are:

- Contributions must be made between November 1st, 2008 and December 31st 2009.
- Gifts must come from individuals, foundations or corporations unrelated to the beneficiary organization.



The Great Plains AMBUCS is one of 21 nonprofit organizations in the Lawton area who have established an endowment fund at the Lawton Community Foundation. AMBUCS, a service group whose mission is "creating independence for people with disabilities," started the endowment in 2000. During fiscal year 2008, a Community Grant from the Lawton Community Foundation helped the organization purchase 10 custom-built therapeutic tricycles. The tricycles can be hand or foot operated and are designed to accommodate riders of all ages, sizes and varying degrees of physical limitations. The tricycles help improve motor skills, strength development and self-esteem.

How to give

- Complete the contribution form on the back and mail it in with a check.
- Make a gift using a major credit card via a secure online giving service at www.LawtonCF.org.
- Make a noncash gift with real estate, appreciated stocks and bonds, or oil and gas interests.

For more information on the Anniversary Match Challenge, please call 580/353-7800 or visit www.LawtonCF.org.

Dear Donors and Friends:

It is exciting to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Lawton Community Foundation. In 10 short years, we've already witnessed what a benefit the endowment is to the community and surrounding area. And the best is yet to come.



"The Lawton Community Foundation is an important resource for our community and the surrounding area."

To ensure that the next 10 years are as successful as the first, we are committed to encouraging more Lawton area charitable organizations to establish endowment funds that will provide them with a steady stream of income each year. Currently, we have 21 endowments for charitable organizations who received a total of \$56,502 in distributions for fiscal year 2008. In addition, we awarded \$61,379 in community grants to 14 deserving organizations.

Our scholarship program continues to provide support and, more importantly, encouragement to high school students pursuing a higher education. In May, we awarded 12 \$1,200 scholarships. We are also promoting the idea of advised funds to potential donors and their professional advisors. Advised funds are a simple and powerful form of charitable giving and can create a family legacy.

The Lawton Community Foundation is an important resource for our community and the surrounding area. It provides an easy and efficient way for us to meet current and future needs. It's been an honor to serve as president of the board for the past two years and I am pleased to inform you that Gene Love now holds the position, effective September 16, 2008.

For more information on how you can work with us to build our community's endowment, please contact us at 580/353-7800 or visit www.LawtonCF.org.



Kenneth Easton

High quality diversification reduces total portfolio risk

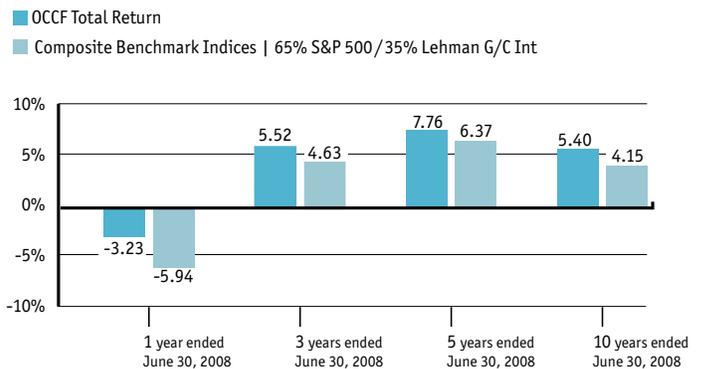
As an affiliate organization, the Lawton Community Foundation adheres to the investment and distribution policies of the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. Below is an article from the fiscal year 2008 Investment Report of the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. To view the entire report visit www.occf.org/aboutus.

Diversification is a cornerstone of modern portfolio theory and allows better management of the risk involved with higher return assets. In fiscal year 2008, the Oklahoma City Community Foundation maintained its diversification between equity and fixed income investments and added to international stocks to broaden its asset allocation. While fixed income investments are often viewed as having little potential for much return over inflation, in a volatile market, the safe harbor was very welcoming.

David Swenson, the well-regarded manager of the Yale Endowment, recently wrote, "Long-term bonds play a diversifying role in institutional portfolios, providing steady, reliable streams of income to investors. The security provided by bond investments becomes particularly significant in time of financial crises, when investors embark on a flight to quality, seeking to hold only the most secure, most liquid assets." Swenson would recommend that high quality is essential to diversify equity risk.

For the Oklahoma City Community Foundation's General Investment Pool, fiscal year 2008 was a year where the diversification of a very high quality bond portfolio accomplished both the goal of continuing a steady source of investment performance and providing significant out-performance at a time when the overall national financial markets were under significant stress. The Investment Committee revised and strengthened the fixed income policy during the year, allowing the managers a broader range of fixed-income options but maintaining quality criteria that proved to be very rewarding.

Annualized Total Return of the General Investment Pool



Our allocation of 32-35 percent to fixed income probably has dampened long-term total returns in some of the past years, but in each year with a negative equity return, the fixed income return was between 7.8 and 10.8 percent. While equity returns have varied between -14.4 and +29.8 since 1999, the fixed income portfolio has a positive return during each of the past ten years.

Swenson sums up the case for diversification, "By creating portfolios of a variety of asset types, investors diminish the risk that an undiversified exposure to a single market will cause significant damage. If the strategy succeeds, portfolios generate high expected returns with low levels of risk."

Deserving students receive scholarships

In conjunction with the Lawton Noon Lions Club, the Lawton Community Foundation awarded 12 scholarships to Lawton area high school seniors during a special breakfast event on May 7, 2008. Each student received a \$1,200 award. The event featured special guest speaker Lauren Nelson, Miss America 2007. Miss Nelson, a graduate of Lawton MacArthur High School, received a scholarship from the Lawton Community Foundation in 2005.

Scholarship recipients are considered good students who are also good citizens. The students must have maintained a grade point average between 3.0 and 3.79 and have been active in at least one extracurricular activity or community service program. Two scholarships are available for each of the three Lawton high schools and one scholarship each is provided to Altus, Cache, Duncan, Elgin and Frederick high schools. For more information on the scholarships, please visit www.LawtonCF.org.

2008 Lawton Community Foundation Scholars:

Kaitlan Brown – Lawton High School
Kelsi Colvin – Lawton High School
Savannah Dayhoff – Duncan High School
Stacie Freeman – Eisenhower High School
Lorren Jackson – Eisenhower High School
Michael John – Altus High School
Jenna Shorter – MacArthur High School
Jason Stewart – Cache High School
Douglas Terranova – Elgin High School
Taylor Thorne – MacArthur High School
Jessica Wambolt – Frederick High School

2008 Lawton Noon Lions Club Scholarship Recipient:

Eric Weidenmaier - MacArthur High School



Kelsi Colvin with Lauren Nelson, Miss America 2007, at the scholarship breakfast.

Fiscal Year 2008 Community Grants

During fiscal year 2008, the Lawton Community Foundation awarded 14 community grants to the following organizations. The Community Grants Program allows the Lawton Community Foundation to enhance the quality of life and provide opportunities for Lawton area organizations and the citizens they serve. Grants are awarded one time a year. For more information on our Community Grants Program, please visit www.LawtonCF.org.

Cache School Education Foundation – a dollar-for-dollar matching grant of up to \$5,000 for new contributions to their Charitable Organization Endowment with the Lawton Community Foundation.

Boys and Girls Club of Lawton/Salvation Army – \$4,537.36 to purchase new athletic equipment for boys and girls participating in the club.

First United Methodist Church Foundation of Lawton – a dollar-for-dollar matching grant of up to \$5,000 for new contributions to their Charitable Organization Endowment with the Lawton Community Foundation.

Giddy Up ‘N Go – \$5,000 to make needed repairs to the office space and to purchase office equipment and first aid supplies and assist with veterinarian costs.

Goodwill Industries of Southwest Oklahoma and North Texas – \$2,500 for the 2008 Summer Camp for Teens with Disabilities.

Great Plains AMBUCS – \$2,500 to purchase 10 custom built Amtryke Therapeutic Tricycles.

Holy City of the Wichitas – \$3,850 for tables and chairs, and the installation of heating and air conditioning in the new reception room.

Lawton Beautiful – \$5,000 for the beautification of Lawton.

Lawton Community Theatre – \$3,080 to provide second semester funding for the Introduction to Theatre program being implemented at Whittier Elementary.

Lawton-Fort Sill Armed Services YMCA – a dollar-for-dollar matching grant of up to \$5,000 for new contributions to their Charitable Organization Endowment with the Lawton Community Foundation.

Lawton Noon Lions Club – a dollar-for-dollar matching grant of up to \$5,000 for new contributions to their Scholarship Endowment Fund with the Lawton Community Foundation.

Museum of the Great Plains – \$4,911.90 to fund a month-long bike program including an exhibition entitled Wheels in Motion and a weekend festival.

Specialized Alternatives for Families & Youth of Oklahoma (Lawton Division) – \$5,000 for the recruitment and training of 10-15 prospective foster parents to provide therapeutic foster homes for abused and neglected youth in the Lawton area.

U.S. Field Artillery Association – a dollar-for-dollar matching grant of up to \$5,000 for new contributions to their Charitable Organization Endowment with the Lawton Community Foundation.

Charitable Organization Endowments

Name	FY 2008 Gifts	Fund Value 6.30.08	Distribution
Arts for All		24,201	1,305
Cache School Scholarship	17,490	78,974	3,402
Comanche County Memorial Hospital Foundation		19,790	1,076
Field Artillery OCS Alumni Chapter	975	23,401	1,217
First United Methodist Church Foundation of Lawton	11,698	99,454	4,923
Giddy Up ‘N Go	2,258	47,197	2,432
Great Plains AMBUCS-Kid’s Zone		20,518	1,107
Robert E. Greiner School for the Handicapped of Comanche County		32,150	1,734
Hackberry Flat Foundation		37,058	1,974
Holiday in the Park		21,168	1,146
Lawton Community Theatre		18,173	981
Lawton - Family YMCA		18,341	990
Lawton-Fort Sill Armed Services YMCA Gene Love Endowment	29,738	176,202	8,117
Lawton Noon Lions Club Scholarship	10,000	90,060	1,000
Lawton Philharmonic Orchestra		18,123	992
Lawton Public School Foundation	11,250	306,404	15,945
Museum of the Great Plains	978	27,176	1,428
Oklahoma Arts Institute Scholarship		26,052	1,300
On the Chisholm Trail Association Heritage Center	1,107	23,154	1,192
Southwest Oklahoma Genealogical Society		20,014	1,080
United States Field Artillery Association Foundation	12,500	43,956	1,650
United Way of Lawton/Ft. Sill	1,405	29,867	1,511
Total	\$99,399	\$1,201,434	\$56,502

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allows the trustees of the Lawton Community Foundation to concentrate on providing community grant programs, building an endowment program for Lawton area charitable organizations and encouraging local donors to establish advised funds.

“Over the past 10 years, the Lawton Community Foundation has added so much to our community,” says Kenneth Easton, board president. “This is our community’s endowment and it’s reassuring to know that it will continue to benefit all of us as well as future generations.”

Dr. Gilbert Gibson led the efforts to create the Lawton Community Foundation and he served as its board president for seven years.

“A very special thanks goes to the Lawton Retail Merchants Association who provided the initial and ongoing support,” he says. “We are also fortunate to have partnered with the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. We greatly benefit from their expertise and administrative support.

“I’m pleased to have played a role in helping start the Lawton Community Foundation and know that it will continue to be a valued resource for the community forever,” Dr. Gibson adds.

The Lawton

Community Foundation

The Lawton Community Foundation
is an affiliate of the Oklahoma City
Community Foundation

P.O. Box 6033 • Lawton, OK 73506

Contribution Card

THE LAWTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

To benefit the following charitable organization endowment:

In the amount of \$ _____

Your contribution is fully tax deductible.

Please make checks payable to: *The Lawton Community Foundation*

This gift is in memory of _____

in honor of _____

Please send an acknowledgement of this gift (without reference to amount) to:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please detach and include in envelope with your contribution and mail to:

The Lawton Community Foundation, P.O. Box 6033 • Lawton, OK 73506

In accepting a contribution to any fund, the Oklahoma City Community Foundation trustees commit to the donor that the contribution will be protected for the charitable purpose originally intended. The variance power, as described in the governing documents of the Oklahoma City Community Foundation, assures donors that if the charitable purpose of their contributions becomes impractical or impossible, the distributions will be directed to similar purposes in the community.


Anniversary Match Challenge
Gifts made to a charitable
organization endowment
between November 1, 2008
and December 31, 2009 will
be matched dollar for dollar
up to \$5,000. See page 3 for
a list of organizations.

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