

Donor Connection

Premier Issue

Helping Donors Help the Community

April 2000

Dear Friends:

Welcome to the premier issue of *The Donor Connection*, a donor service of the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. This quarterly publication is a service to donors seeking to connect with causes or non-profit organizations with charitable or program needs. Our intention is to provide you with a variety of charitable giving opportunities and to inform you about the activities of specific agencies.

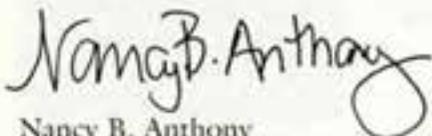
The agencies listed in the publication have submitted requests to the Community Foundation that staff have carefully reviewed. Site visits and in-depth research may not have been conducted on each proposal. However, staff are willing to do this on a particular program or agency at your request. Please contact Susan Elkins at the Community Foundation, 405/235-5603, if you wish to obtain additional information, or you may wish to contact the agencies directly. You may also contact Susan with your comments and suggestions on our first *Donor Connection*.

Future editions of *The Donor Connection* will be issued in July and October. All agencies with Designated Endowment Funds at the Community Foundation will have the opportunity to participate. You can look forward to reading about a wide variety of organizations and needs in the months to come.

If you would like to learn more about other charitable giving opportunities or would like further information about these and other Designated Endowment Funds at the Community Foundation, you can contact Penny Voss at 405/235-5603. There also is a wealth of information at the Foundation's web site, www.occf.org.

Thank you for your generosity in making the community a better place to live.

Sincerely,



Nancy B. Anthony
Community Foundation Executive Director

Dream With Us

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Oklahoma City
**Community
Foundation**

The Jacobson Foundation — Scandinavian-Indian Holiday Celebration

The Jacobson Foundation operates the Jacobson House Native Art Center in the former residence of Swedish-born Oscar Jacobson. He was the first director of the School of Art at Oklahoma University and first director of the Fred Jones, Jr., Museum of Art.

In 1926, Jacobson started the first art program for Indians. His students became internationally famous as the "Kiowa Five" and were recognized by *Oklahoma Today* among the most influential Oklahomans of the past century.

The center holds art exhibits and educational programs which showcase American

Indian fine art. The house is on the National Register of Historic Places. In honor of the legacy of Jacobson and Native American painters, the Jacobson House holds an annual Scandinavian-Indian Holiday Celebration. This unique event exhibits the artwork of Scandinavian and Indian artists surrounded by educational displays of both cultures. Speakers and programs are offered explaining both cultures' history and contributions to society. All events are free and open to the public. Contributions are required to mount art exhibits, install displays and schedule programs. Contributions of any size are appreciated with a goal of \$5,000.

Contact:

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Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma — Interpreters for the Hearing Impaired

The Lyric Theatre is Oklahoma's only professional musical theatre, producing a five-show season each summer along with other appearances throughout the year.

Starting with its 1998 Summer Season, Lyric began providing an interpreter for the hearing impaired at each matinee performance. Two interpreters sign during each

matinee. Working with the Oklahoma Service to the Deaf, Unlimited, Lyric Theatre is seeking to fund 10 signers during the season (two for the five matinees). Each signer receives \$150, and the entire program would be funded by a \$1,500 gift. Lyric Theatre also would consider volunteer signers with a signing level of III or above.

Contact:

Ben J. Williams,
Box Office Manager
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Oklahoma City, OK 73118
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lyricOKC@aol.com

Oklahoma Youth Symphonies, Inc.— Scholarship Assistance

Oklahoma Youth Symphonies (OYS) provides young musicians with the opportunity to study and perform great works of orchestral literature while developing their leadership potential and building responsible citizens. Approximately 150 students in grades 6 to 12 comprise three ensembles that rehearse weekly and perform 5 or 6 concerts each season. OYS membership is by audition and is open to public, private and home school students. The organization also sponsors a Special Guest Conductor Con-

cert, which features a nationally recognized music educator as conductor and instructor for a weekend workshop.

OYS is seeking scholarships for students unable to pay the member participation fee. A contribution of \$150 will underwrite the fee for one student musician.

Contributions are also needed for purchasing or renting sheet music and to cover the rental of concert venues. In-kind contributions, such as advertising space and office supplies, are welcome.

Contact:

Ann M. Isenegger
Executive Director
1000 W. Wilshire Blvd.
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Oklahoma City, OK 73116
405/842-4090

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program of Oklahoma County — Telephone Buddies

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) links retired people with meaningful volunteer opportunities in 175 local non-profit and government agencies throughout Oklahoma County. In addition, RSVP Telephone Buddies program is a telephone reassurance program reaching out to isolated home-bound elderly people and disabled adults. Senior volunteers make daily phone calls to those utilizing the service to socialize, check on their well being and/or remind

them to take their medication.

An emergency system is in place should the home bound person need immediate medical or social service attention. Any amount would be welcome to help RSVP maintain the Telephone Buddies program. Additional in kind needs include printing; volunteer recognition gifts such as a dinner for two or a fruit basket; copy paper and folding chairs. Other needs include press release and feature story writing.

Contact:

Beth Patterson
3208 Belaire Drive
Midwest City, OK
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rsvpokc@flash.net

The Tree Bank — May 3rd Aftermath Plantings

The primary mission of the Tree Bank is to build a stronger sense of community as it enhances the health and beauty of Oklahoma. The Tree Bank does this by coordinating cooperative landscape projects and distributing trees to public and non-profit agency lands. As a result of the tornadoes on May 3, 1999, the Tree Bank needs to establish a renewed sense of community in affected neighborhoods and commercial

areas through extensive tree plantings. Also the organization plans to inform the public on proper tree selection, care and planting to insure the minimization of damage in future disasters. It costs approximately \$200 to purchase, plant and maintain two trees. Other needs include supplying meeting facilities and food for coalition planning session, copying services and plant delivery services.

Contact:

Mary Gilmore Caffrey
2601 N.W. Expressway,
Suite 906-E
Oklahoma City, OK 73112
405/842-3320

Langston University — Pre-Engineering Scholarships

Langston University's urban mission is to provide excellence in instruction that will place students in a favorable position to enter graduate and professional schools.

The Technology Department at Langston educates students in technologies employed in aviation science, construction, electronics, drafting design and pre-engineering. The department also offers associate certification in electronics and drafting design.

The department is seeking funding that will provide scholarships for students' junior and senior years. The scholarships would cover fees and tuition. A \$1,000 donation would provide 2" scholarships.

The technology department also is seeking speakers that will encourage technology students to remain at Langston for the last two years of the degree program.

Contact:

Dr. Clarence Hedge,
Department Head
Langston University
P.O. Box 907
Langston, OK
73050-0907
405/466-3303

St. Anthony Foundation — Free Prescription Medication

The St. Anthony Foundation is affiliated with St. Anthony Hospital in Oklahoma City. The foundation provides financial resources vital to the hospital's mission through programs like the Sisters Fund.

Each year, the Sisters Fund provides free prescription medication to hundreds of needy people who receive health care through St. Anthony Hospital. The Sisters Fund focuses on helping people who live on fixed incomes,

children whose families cannot afford medicine, the homeless and others who need medicines to return to good health and prevent costly future illnesses.

More than 1,500 patients receive prescription assistance through the fund annually. Many other needs are not met. The average cost of a Sisters' Fund prescription is under \$20, yet it makes all the difference for someone struggling to meet basic health needs.

Contact:

Joanna Ehlers
Executive Director
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Oklahoma City, OK 73106
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jehlers@ssmhc.com

Variety Health Center — Prenatal Care

Since 1941, Variety has provided maternal and child care to low-income families in the Oklahoma City metropolitan area. Professional volunteers and a paid staff provide a full range of services.

One such service is Prenatal Care. Early,

adequate prenatal care is the single most important factor contributing to healthy birth outcomes for both mothers and children.

Each gift of \$413 will ensure early prenatal care for one mom.

Contact:

Michael Dover
420 N.W. 6th
Oklahoma City, OK 73102
405/235-6466

Visiting Nurse Association — Influenza Clinics

The Visiting Nurse Association provides a wide range of services in many parts of the community. Agency personnel provide skilled and high-tech nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, medical social services, home health aides and Wellness Clinics.

The agency is seeking support for medical and nursing supplies to be used in the influenza clinics. A \$2,000 contribution buys supplies to provide 400 injections. The agency also can utilize volunteers to help with clerical and clinical support at clinic sites.

Contact:

Thomesia Duncan,
Chief Executive Officer
2224 N.W. 50th, Ste. 195
Oklahoma City, OK 73112
405/848-0125

Coffee Creek Riding Center — Horse Feed

Coffee Creek Riding Center for the Handicapped has provided free therapeutic riding for the past 22 years. Children with severe physical limitations receive tremendous physical and mental stimulation in learning to ride and control a horse. Volunteers provide the manpower to maintain the

free program along with a dedicated staff. The horses need to be fed, however. Your gift of \$100 will help buy a month's supply of feed and hay for one horse. Gifts of any amount will help keep the program serving children.

Contact:

Joy Milligan
17 E. Coffee Creek Road
Edmond, OK
405/340-8377

Genesis Project — Little Sprouts

The Genesis Project is a therapeutic residential facility serving boys age 6 to 12 who have been traumatically abused — either physically or sexually — throughout their childhood. At Genesis, the boys learn what childhood should be like. Genesis is looking for help with its Little Sprouts program, which will provide an opportunity for the children to learn and appreciate the value of gardening. The children will cultivate and produce vegetables and flowers in a garden setting on campus. The children will be

involved in all stages of production — tilling the soil, sowing the seeds, weeding, watering, harvesting and eating vegetables. The project will begin with the study of plant germination, growth and nurturing. Some of the plants that are produced will be used for beautification on campus. Primary costs will be gardening equipment and supplies and other materials such as top soil and railroad ties. The Genesis Project is looking for initial funding of \$2,000, but any size contribution is welcomed.

Contact:

Todd Madland,
Executive Director
Rt. 2, Box 237W
Jones, OK 73049
405/396-2942

Infant Crisis Services — Baby Car Seat Distribution

At Infant Crisis Services, the goal is to bridge the gap for families who are unable to provide the most basic of their babies' needs. The reasons precipitating the crisis vary, but the bottom line remains the same: a need is not being met for a baby during a critical stage of his/her development.

It is their mission to help provide goods such as formula, food, diapers, clothing and other essential items. In addition, on the first visit, a new handmade quilt, receiving blanket, two baby bottles, a new sleeper, a

toy and a book are provided.

The parent can return up to four times for food and diapers and six times for clothing during the baby's first 48 months. Also, car seats are provided to families who cannot afford to purchase a car seat.

In 1999, Infant Crisis Services distributed more than 300 car seats even though car seats are not included in the program's budget and are provided only through gifts and grants. Your gift of \$35 will give one car seat to a family in need.

Contact:

Miki Farris,
Executive Director
1933 N.W. 39th St.
Oklahoma City, OK 73118
405/528-3663
info@infantcrisis.org

The Meadows — Expansion of Jobs and Customer Services

The Meadows Center for Opportunity is a non-profit 501(c)(3) sheltered workshop employing 49 developmentally disabled men and women who reside in the Oklahoma City area. Full-time employees package between two and three million items each year. In addition, employees perform document destruction for members of the business and financial community.

Meadows' employees earn salaries, pay taxes and through their work reduce their

dependence on federal and state assistance. This allows them to feel confident in their ability to earn a salary and live on their own. The Meadows is beginning to hire and train even more employees.

As part of this expansion, the Meadows needs to purchase 444 96-gallon bins which will be issued to customers to hold sensitive documents until the Meadows staff can pick them up for destruction. Cost for one document destruction storage bin is \$80.

Contact:

Melvin Gourd
President
1000 S. Kelly
Edmond, OK 73003-6081
405/348-4470
meadows@ionet.net

Oklahoma League for the Blind — Creating Employment Opportunities

The mission of the Oklahoma League for the Blind is to improve the quality of life for the blind and visually impaired through the creation of employment opportunities. Job opportunities for this segment of our community are limited, resulting in the loss of independence. The League currently employs 60 blind persons who are responsible for producing goods and providing services that generate 95 percent of the agency's budget. League employees produce items such as foam cups, ladders and aircraft wheel chocks for the federal government and

the state of Oklahoma. They also provide warehousing and switchboard operations for Tinker Air Force Base. The League is currently adding jobs at Tinker. Adaptive equipment such as devices that magnify documents so a legally blind individual can read them and computer devices that allow individuals to save and access information in a Braille format are needed. These devices range in cost from \$2,200 to \$3,500. Your gift can restore for a blind Oklahoman the sense of independence that comes with employment.

Contact:

Lauren White
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Oklahoma Goodwill Industries — Business Training Scholarships

Oklahoma Goodwill helps the vocationally disadvantaged expand their opportunities by offering a full range of vocational rehabilitation services and supportive programs. These efforts include providing skills evaluations, job training and job placement. The agency provides many opportunities that help people return to meaningful employment. Most affected are those with physical and mental disabilities, the economically disadvantaged, students at risk, public assistance recipients and displaced workers.

Oklahoma Goodwill Industries is seeking funding for scholarships for the Business

Office and Communications Training (BOCT) program. This program teaches computer skills, interview skills, telephone and other communication skills and active job searches. The tuition cost per student is \$2,285 and includes ten weeks of training eight hours per day.

Other ways you can help include submitting your name for the agency's mailing list to receive the monthly newsletter, or contributing to the purchase of capital equipment, such as an upgrade to Goodwill Industries' current computer system.

Contact:

Keri Parks
Director of Development
410 S.W. 3rd St.
Oklahoma City, OK 73109
405/236-4451
keri@okgoodwill.org

Fine Arts Institute of Edmond — Art Scholarships

The Fine Arts Institute of Edmond was formed in 1985 to offer education and cultural opportunities for children and adults in the visual and performing arts. Last year, more than 1,800 adults and children enjoyed art classes and workshops at the Institute.

Public school principals, counselors and teachers keep the institute's staff well-informed about students who show an interest in art, but are on the school free

lunch program. These students are excellent candidates for scholarships to attend art classes at the Institute. There is always a waiting list for these scholarships. The average cost of a six-week class is \$50. Art supplies also are needed: acrylic paint, watercolors, art brushes, clay, drawing pads, canvases, charcoal, colored pencils and mixed media supplies. Funding from \$25 to \$250 would help with these art materials.

Contact:

Mitzi Hancuff
Executive Director
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Edmond, OK 73083
405/340-4481
finearts@galstar.com

Oklahoma Children's Theatre — Summer Young Performers Series

Oklahoma Children's Theatre provides opportunities for children to develop their creative potential through theatrical productions and interactive educational experiences. During two months of summer, professional artists and educators collaborate to provide the best learning experience available for

young performers in our community. Young people between the ages of 8 and 18 can participate in one of three productions. Scholarships for one child to attend a three-week camp costs \$280; sponsorship for costumes runs \$800 per production.

Contact:

Lyn Adams
3000 Pershing Blvd.
Oklahoma City, OK 73107
405/951-0000

Oklahoma City Police Athletic League — Little League Baseball

The Oklahoma City Police Athletic League (P.A.L.) is a recreation-oriented juvenile crime prevention program that emphasizes athletics. P.A.L. sponsors and operates little league sports programs for under-privileged children age 5 to 14. P.A.L.'s little league baseball season will consist of 20 teams of 12 children each. Specific needs for the season are team uniforms and all baseball equipment. The average cost of participation per

child is \$50. Each gift of \$1,000 allows 20 children from low-income, high-risk neighborhoods to play baseball for an entire season at no cost to them. P.A.L. also encourages volunteers to participate in all its programs as coaches, referees, concession workers or in any other capacity. In-kind contributions of baseball equipment in good condition would also be appreciated and can be collected by P.A.L. personnel.

Contact:

Marshall Helsel
Administrative Director
701 Colcord Dr.
Oklahoma City, OK 73120
405/297-1230
marshall.helsel@ci.okc.ok.us

Positive Tomorrows — Arts Alive

Positive Tomorrows is a transitional center providing education, counseling and support services to children and youth of homeless families and/or children of families in residential crisis. The center offers enrollment to any student, grades pre-kindergarten through 12th, who does not have a regular night time residence and who is living with a parent or guardian. Eligible students include those in area homeless and domestic violence shelters, emergency foster care placement, and those residing in a temporary location. The goal is to help each family stabilize and to transition students into permanent school placement as quickly as

possible. Since 1990, Positive Tomorrows has served more than 2,800 school-aged children who would have otherwise been denied access to public education. Positive Tomorrows has initiated an arts education program. The program is experiential in design and strives to provide professionally guided activities in visual arts, performing arts, photography, dance, ceramics, weaving, painting and drawing. Cost to bring in an artist for a week is \$250. Other ways to assist the program are in-kind donations of art supplies, arranging cultural field trips, or the sharing of an individual's time and talents with the students.

Contact:

Susie Graves, Director
Gael Sloop, Art Educator
P.O. Box 61190
Oklahoma City, OK
73146-1190
405/556-5802
positive@nstar.net

Sugar Creek Camp — Reaching out to More Kids

Sugar Creek Camp provides camping and outdoor recreational and educational experiences at no cost for disadvantaged children ages 7 to 12 in the Oklahoma City metropolitan area.

The agency offers summer residential camping and day camps. There is a tremendous demand for these services, and the agency is seeking to expand its offerings to two Oklahoma Housing Authority locations next year.

This year, Sugar Creek Camp is seeking to include 30 children from these locations in existing camp programs as an interim step in the expansion effort. The average cost to send one child to the five week Summer Day Camp program is \$158. The total cost to include the 30 additional campers is \$4,740.

If you're interested, Sugar Creek Camp also needs volunteers for mentoring, tutoring and as camp assistants. Materials needed include books and games. ●

Contact:

Jeff Codner,
Executive Director
525 N.W. 13th St.
Oklahoma City, OK 73103
405/235-5154

Bookmark Community Foundation Web Site

If you are interested in financial planning, scholarship information, non-profit organizations in central Oklahoma, the Planned Giving Design Center and community

programs and grant guidelines, bookmark the Community Foundation's web site today. It's your entry to the world of philanthropy and charitable gift planning. ●

www.occf.org

Bring us your dream . . . we've made Oklahomans' dreams come true for more than 30 years.

Oklahoma City
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