



Oklahoma City

Community
Foundation

August 2001

The Story of Esther Bloom: Faith and Family

Behind every donation there's a donor, and behind every donor is a story. Esther Bloom's (shown on the right) story is one of giving generously of her time and other assets to the Emanuel Synagogue; which was the spiritual home to the Bloom family for more than 80 years.

Esther, the youngest of the family, continued the tradition of service began by her parents, Issac and Annie Bloom. Initially, she worked with the junior congregation. After graduation from the University of Oklahoma with a degree in education, Esther used her teaching skills in Sunday school and vacation Bible school.

She also served as a devoted caretaker for her family, caring for her ailing mother for 20 years and several years making a home for her brother, Moses. At the same time, she was making generous, anonymous gifts to the synagogue's endowment fund.

After a lifetime of giving, Esther passed away in 1997, leaving her estate to benefit the Emanuel Synagogue in memory of her parents. Proceeds from the endowment funds educational activities for children in the congregation.

The Oklahoma City Community Foundation was chosen to manage the endowment that will continue to



Esther Bloom in 1994 photo.

provide for the educational needs of the synagogue. Many factors contributed to the decision to entrust the Community ...continued on page 5

Parental Involvement Pilot Program Fires Up Principals

Many studies and teachers have concluded that parental involvement is key in a student's success in a classroom. While that point has been clearly made, it is less obvious how to encourage parents to participate in their child's non-school-hours learning experiences.

The Community Foundation recently committed to a new program under its After School Options initiative to help schools reach out to parents and guardians and involve them in specially designed learning and fun activities.

The results have been extraordinary and convincing enough to continue the program for another two

years. Here's what the principals had to say:

"I am writing to tell you about the awesome evening we experienced during the 'Roadrunner Read and Eat Celebration.' Pizza, books and kids created a cheerful concoction of fun for the entire family. Over three hundred people showed up for this event... Because of your generous grant, many families participated in an activity that benefited each person that showed up..." Kevin C. Hill, Ridgecrest Elementary.

"I want to thank everyone at the Community Foundation for giving us the opportunity to extend a 'Family Fun ...continued on page 4

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Board Expansion Marks A New Era in Services to Donors

The Board of Trustees unanimously voted to approve changes in the organization's certificate of incorporation and bylaws to increase the number of trustees to 15. The change reflects the growth of the Community Foundation and the need for additional trustees to provide the historically strong personal involvement in the management of the organization.

Several adjustments were made in the terms to avoid the loss of multiple trustees in a single year. Four new trustees were added to the board:

Nancy Coats, a district judge and long-time Community Foundation supporter, has joined the board. Judge Coats has been a trustee of the Disaster Relief Fund, an Affiliated Fund formed to handle funds from the 1995 Murrah bombing and currently serves as its President. She was elected district judge in 1994. Prior to that position, Judge Coats



Judge Nancy Coats

served as corporate counsel to Southwestern Bell Telephone Co. from 1972-1982. In 1982, she accepted a position as public affairs attorney with AT&T in Washington, D.C. After five years in Washington, she rejoined the legal department at Southwestern Bell, handling litigation, arbitration and regulatory affairs.

She has served three terms of three years each as a director of the Oklahoma County Bar Association Board

and as a member of the Bench and Bar Committee. She is a Master of the Bar and president of the William J. Holloway, Jr., American Inn of Justice. She has served on the board of numerous non-profit organizations. Judge Coats is serving as an at-large trustee.

Paul Dudman will also serve as a trustee. The England born and educated attorney with Fellers, Snider, Blankenship, Bailey & Tippins of Oklahoma City, Dudman concentrates his practice in estate planning, probate



Paul Dudman

and general business law. He is a former chairman and current member of the board of the Allied Arts Foundation; former chairman and member of the board of the St. Anthony Hospital Foundation; and former president and current member of the board of trustees of the Oklahoma City Philharmonic Foundation. He has served in many other community-service capacities. Dudman is appointed by the Allied Arts Foundation to the Community Foundation board.

Kirkland Hall, vice chairman of The Fred Jones Companies, Inc., has also joined the board. Hall has been with The Fred Jones Companies since 1989. The Oklahoma City native has been very active in the community and has served on the boards of Junior Achievement of Greater Oklahoma City and Christmas in April. He currently serves on the boards of



Kirkland Hall

United Way of Greater Oklahoma City, YMCA, Leadership Oklahoma City and is trustee of the Fred Jones Museum of Art. Hall has been a member of both the Community Foundation Audit and Scholarship committees. Hall is serving as an at-large trustee.

John Green, an attorney that served as an assistant U.S. attorney for 30 years in Oklahoma City, is an additional new trustee on the board. Green's community affiliations include Oklahoma City National Association for Advancement of Colored People, Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation, Youth Services for Oklahoma County, YMCA of the USA, Urban League of Oklahoma City, Southwest Urban Development, OU Foundation and St. Anthony Foundation. Green is also serving as an at-large trustee.



John Green

Two Beautification Programs Receive Statewide Awards for Excellence

A packed house at a downtown Oklahoma City hotel recently congratulated the Community Foundation and 24 other winners of special



An exhibit at the Keep Oklahoma Beautiful meeting featured the Community Foundation's award winning Margaret Annis Boys Trust and Clean and Beautiful Schools program. Brian Dougherty (pictured) is director of the Clean and Beautiful program and Shari Cregan is a consulting designer with the program.

awards presented by Keep Oklahoma Beautiful (KOB), a statewide organization.

Both the Clean and Beautiful Schools program and the Margaret Annis Boys Trust were recognized for contributions to beautification.

The Boys Trust, which was established by a bequest by Miss Boys, has completed more than 100 beautification projects in Oklahoma County during its 10-year history. The initial bequest of approximately \$1.3 million has generated more than \$1 million in grants and more than \$3 million in matching cash or in-kind contributions and donated labor.

The Boys Trust was recognized for "...providing a lasting legacy of beauty for public lands by sparking collaborations among volunteer groups, schools, city and county governments and individuals."

In accepting the award on behalf of the Community Foundation,

Nancy Anthony, executive director, recounted the powerful story of one woman's contribution to the community and environment she loved. The

Boys Trust story is a strong endorsement of the Community Foundation's donor services.

Clean and Beautiful Schools, a program under the Parks and Public Spaces Initiative, was recognized for its thoughtful process of involving the community in improving the appearance of elementary schools. The Community

Foundation has offered to help every public and private elementary school in Oklahoma County develop a plan to improve and beautify its campus. The process created synergy between schools and their neighboring constituencies, such as business owners, homeowners associations, churches and individuals. Although still in its infancy, the Clean and Beautiful Schools program was cited for its potential to "...reap positive aesthetic, economic and educational benefits for years to come."

"The competition in this year's contest was exceptional," said Susie Shields, KOB president. "Our out-of-state judges found the final decisions to be quite challenging."

For information on the Boys Trust, visit www.occf.org, or call Brian Dougherty, program officer. To find out if your school can be part of the Clean and Beautiful program, call Mary Reneau at 405/235-5603.

Community Foundation Makes Donations Easy

The Community Foundation has a wealth of experience handling a wide variety of assets given as gifts for an equally varied number of purposes. A single gift can be used to support several non-profit organizations or charitable causes.

Contributions can be directed into a permanent endowment fund, with distributions made from investment return, or a "pass through" fund, in which the principal is distributed.

The tax benefit is realized in the year of the gift, yet income from the fund can be distributed to specific causes or charities at any time in the future.

A **gift of appreciated stock** is one of the best gifts a donor can make in terms of tax savings. By giving this type of asset, a donor can realize significant tax savings while maximizing the charitable benefit.

Gifts of long-term capital gain assets are deductible at fair market value, subject to a 30-percent adjusted gross income ceiling. In addition, by giving this type of asset, the capital gains tax is avoided.

Giving a gift of appreciated securities is an especially easy way to give to a fund at the Community Foundation. Accounts are maintained at several brokerage firms to facilitate transfers. After the security is in the Community Foundation account, arrangements are made for the stock to be sold so the proceeds can be moved to an investment pool. Transferring appreciated stock can be as easy as picking up the telephone. Call Carla Pickrell at 405/235-5603, or visit our Web site at www.occf.org, to find out more about this tax-savings option. It may just be the easiest charitable gift you've ever given.

Parental Involvement Pilot

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and Food Night' to our patrons. It was an evening of fun and literacy. We were overwhelmed by the response of students and parents....All in all, we felt that the positive relations estab-



John Glenn Elementary hosted an Oklahoma Heritage night, complete with teepee reading circles (above), to draw parents to participate in their children's education. The program also featured a rodeo queen, trick roping and ceremonial Indian dancing.

lished with parents and students made the extra long days prior to the event worth it. Thank you not only for your financial support but also for believing in our students and staff..." Vivi Johnson, Hilldale Elementary.

Each school is given the freedom to develop activities that would attract students and adults to participate. The programs have been as distinctive as the schools themselves, but a common goal, literacy, emerged. Schools used the lures of learning about Oklahoma heritage, carnival-style setting, food and the participation by special characters to add fun. In those relaxed settings, learning came easily.

"We view this program as a strategic opportunity to address a key element in both educational achievement and youth development: parental involvement," said Nancy Anthony, Community Foundation executive director. "We see this program as an

opportunity to learn what works, what is effective and what impact very simple support efforts can have."

By bringing participating principals together to share their experiences, the program accomplishes a second objective: creating a forum for discussing a common problem free from bureaucratic structure or school district boundaries.

The ten schools chosen for the first level of involvement represent five school districts. At least half of the students at the schools were receiving free or reduced lunch cost programs and represented a diverse demographic mix.

"We will be monitoring what makes a difference in the goal of

involving parents," Anthony said. "It could be as simple as creating the opportunity for principals to share their success and enthusiasm. Grants may be only a minor contributor to a successful program."

Just as Laura Morris, Shields Heights Elementary School principal, said, "The grant money will be wonderful, but the chance to hear what other people are doing in their buildings to promote family involvement is even more rewarding."



Hilldale Elementary created a carnival-like setting for its parental involvement night. Hundreds of participants and educational partners, such as the library and zoo, visited the schools.

For additional information on this program or others supported by the Oklahoma City Community Foundation, call Sam Bowman at 405/235-5603 or visit our Web site at www.occf.org.



Music education attracted both students and their parents at Hilldale. Students learned about different rhythms associated with music styles.

New Endowments at the Community Foundation Support Various Causes

An agency endowment fund is a way for non-profit organizations to accumulate contributions from several donors into a single, permanent fund. The Community Foundation accounts for all the contributions, oversees investments and distributes earnings to the beneficiary organization once a year. Donors who give to a particular agency can be confident that their contribution will continue to be directed toward that purpose. The expertise of the Community Foundation helps facilitate contributions in the form of cash, securities, real estate, oil and gas properties or virtually any other marketable asset. The Community Foundation has funds for 242 separate organizations. The following funds are new to the Community Foundation. For information on starting a fund, contact Penny Voss at 405/235-5603, or visit our Web site www.occf.org.

ASSOCIATION OF FUNDRAISING PROFESSIONALS

Supports a professional association of individuals responsible for generating philanthropic support for a wide variety of nonprofit organizations.

CITY RESCUE MISSION

Supports an urban ministry offering food, shelter, clothing, education and rehabilitation to homeless and destitute men, women and children.

MOORE PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Supports a fund that seeks to secure and distribute contributions from individuals, families and corporations to create additional opportunities for the students of Moore schools.

OKLAHOMA CITY HOUSING SERVICES REDEVELOPMENT CORP.

Supports the redevelopment of residential areas in central Oklahoma

City known as "The Paseo Neighborhood." Also known as Positively Paseo, the group is a proponent of housing redevelopment in the central city.

SOLOMON SCHECHTER ACADEMY OF OKLAHOMA CITY

Supports the Academy, which provides Hebrew education for Jewish children. This fund was established by Barbara G. Feiler in memory of her husband, Don, and son, Jay.

SOUTHERN NAZARENE UNIVERSITY

Supports the four-year university, in Bethany, Okla., which educates students for responsible Christian living.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS OKLAHOMA

Supports the Oklahoma chapter of the Special Olympics which provides year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for all children and adults with mental retardation.

Esther Bloom

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Foundation. Perhaps most important were the Community Foundation's professional money management team and its experience in administering a wide variety of charitable funds. Another consideration was the ability for Esther's gift to continue to support Jewish education if the Emanuel Synagogue was no longer in existence.

Every donor has a reason for giving. If you're considering a gift to a permanent endowment or would like additional information on the full range of options available at the Community Foundation, contact Penny Voss, director of donor services, at 405/235-5603, or visit the Web site at www.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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Swimming Program A Hit On Hot Summer Days

A dozen eager yet anxious faces gathered in the shade of an awning at the new Northeast Community Center swimming pool. They were eager to get into the water to beat another 100+ degree Oklahoma day, but anxious because they were there to learn to swim.

Soon, the anxiety turned to playful splashing and shrill screams of excitement as the kids began participating in one of the Community Foundation's new initiatives.

A collaboration among the Oklahoma City Community Foundation, the Kerr-McGee Swim Club and the Oklahoma City Parks and Recreation Department provided free swimming lessons for area youth for 4 weeks during the summer.

The program, which is in its first year, relied on youth from the Kerr-McGee Swim Club to teach other youth on the basics of swimming and water safety. As a result of this program, more than 60 young people received swimming instruction. The



The helping hands of Kerr-McGee Swim Club member Eric Sullins taught youngsters to swim thanks to a Community Foundation grant. More than 60 students at three sites received swimming instruction this summer.

Community Foundation is currently evaluating the effort and will consider the possibility of broadening the program in coming summers.

By every evaluation, the program successfully provided an alternative to

baking in the heat of hot summer days. For more information on this program, or any other After School Options, contact Sam Bowman at 405/235-5603, or visit our Web site at www.occf.org.

Event/Grant Deadlines

COMMUNITY PROGRAM GRANT DEADLINES

October 15, 2001
January 15, 2002
April 15, 2002

KIRKPATRICK FAMILY FUND GRANT DEADLINES

November 1, 2001
February 1, 2002
May 1, 2002
August 1, 2002

DESIGNATED FUND BREAKFAST

October 2, 2001



Oklahoma City

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