



CARING CONNECTION

For friends of The Oklahoma Caring Foundation, Inc.
oklahomacaringfoundation.org

Tulsa Caring Vans Win Grant to Serve Cherokee County



The Communities Foundation of Oklahoma (CFO) awarded a \$6,000 grant to support the Tulsa Caring Van program outreach in Cherokee county.

In December, the Oklahoma Caring Foundation was awarded a \$6,000 grant from the Communities Foundation of Oklahoma (CFO) to support Tulsa Caring Van program outreach in Cherokee county, mainly in Tahlequah. This grant was made at the recommendation of the Oklahoma Initiative Fund, a component fund of CFO. The Oklahoma Initiative Fund is a statewide grantmaking initiative that seeks to provide support that will positively impact and strengthen rural communities across our state.

For many years, the Tulsa Caring Vans have served the child care centers, public schools, and community organizations in Tahlequah, providing regular immunizations for children and flu and

COVID-19 vaccines for children and adults. Our 2023 goal is to provide vital immunizations for at least 500 children in the Tahlequah/Cherokee County area, thereby improving health outcomes, protecting those children immunized and strengthening herd immunity for the greater community.

The \$6,000 Oklahoma Initiative Fund Grant through Communities Foundation of Oklahoma will strengthen our rural outreach and allow us to provide access to much needed immunizations, keeping Tahlequah/Cherokee County children and their families healthy and safe.

We are grateful and excited for this new partnership in 2023! 🟡

Staff Spotlight:

The Oklahoma Caring Foundation welcomed two new staff members in 2022.



Kelly Crowder

In March, Kelly Crowder joined our team as our Development Coordinator. Before joining the OCF team, Kelly worked for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Oklahoma for the past 29 years in various roles. She most recently worked as a Coding Investigator Auditor. Kelly brings project management, accounting and customer service experience to her new role. Kelly is a native Oklahoman and when she's not at work she enjoys running, spending time with her grandchildren and volunteering.



Lisa Martin Anderson

In April, the Oklahoma Caring Foundation welcomed Lisa Martin Anderson as our newest Caring Van Specialist in our Tulsa office. Most recently, Lisa worked for the U.S. Department of Commerce, as a Recruiting Manager, for the 2020 Census. Lisa has deep roots in the Tulsa community and she brings customer service and community outreach experience to our team. Outside of work, Lisa enjoys spending time with her family and friends and cooking. ●

Champions Recognized for Keeping Oklahomans Healthy



The Care Center team poses with the Dr. Rodney L. Huey Memorial Champion of Oklahoma Health trophy. The Care Center was named the overall award winner at the 2022 Champions of Health Gala.

The 19th annual Champions of Health gala was held on Tuesday, Sept. 27 at the Cox Business Center in Tulsa. Five deserving Oklahoma organizations were honored, and NFL sideline reporter, television personality, and actress, Erin Andrews, served as the keynote speaker. Andrews spoke about her cervical cancer diagnosis in 2016 and the importance of cancer screenings.

Since 2004, the Champions of Health awards program has honored organizations and individuals who are making a difference in the health of Oklahomans. The annual Champions of Health gala

benefits the Oklahoma Caring Foundation, and over the history of the event, more than \$1.9 million has been raised through sponsorships and ticket sales to benefit the Oklahoma Caring Foundation. ●

SAVE THE DATE: The 20th Annual Champions of Health Gala will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 3, 2023 in Oklahoma City. For more information, visit championsofhealth.org



Champions of Health

Benefiting the  Oklahoma Caring Foundation

PROGRESS REPORT:
OCF's Five-Year Strategic Plan

In March of 2022, the Oklahoma Caring Foundation (OCF) created a five-year strategic plan that will conclude in 2026.

The plan's goals include meeting the needs of those we serve, working collaboratively with community partners, securing diverse funding to further our mission, effectively telling our stories and advocating for access to preventive health services.

As we reflect on our many accomplishments of 2022, one of the most significant achievements was securing a new operating partner for our Oklahoma City Metro Vans. On July 1, 2022,



Variety Care, a Federally Qualified Health Center, began their partnership with the Caring Van program. Through this partnership, Variety Care's nursing staff will provide access to preventive health services—like immunizations—to qualifying children and adults in Oklahoma City and surrounding counties – aboard our Oklahoma City Caring Vans. Since July, this new partnership has served nearly 1,700 individuals with regular, flu and COVID-19 immunizations.

We look forward to sharing more updates on our five-year strategic plan soon. ●

Partner Spotlight:

Salvadorian Consulate



attended our first Salvadorian Consulate health fair where we provided access to children's regular vaccines, as well as flu and COVID-19 immunizations for children and adults! ●

The Oklahoma City Salvadorian Consulate provides resources for El Salvadorian's living in Oklahoma City. One of the resources they provide are health fairs that they host throughout the year. In November of 2022, the Oklahoma City Caring Vans

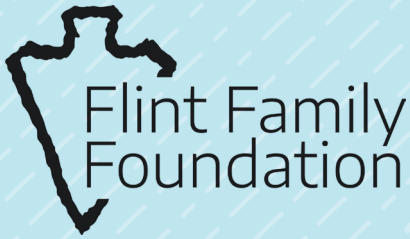


Oasis Fresh Market

Oasis Fresh Market is a grocery store whose mission is to reduce barriers for community residents of North Tulsa to access fresh fruits and vegetables. Frequently, Oasis hosts resource fairs on Saturdays for the community. The Caring Vans participated in two Saturday resource fairs in the fall of 2022 to provide access to influenza and COVID-19 immunizations. ●

Donor Spotlight:

Flint Family Foundation



The Flint Family Foundation's mission is to impact and improve the quality of life in northeastern Oklahoma by funding area non-profits that provide progressive, intentional and innovative programs in Arts, Education, Health, and Human Services. For the second year in a row, the Flint Family Foundation awarded the Caring Van program a \$6,000 grant.

These monies will be used to provide approximately 500 children residing in the Tulsa area with access to much needed immunizations. We appreciate being recognized for the innovative approaches our Caring Van program takes to improve the health of Oklahomans, and we are proud to have partners like Flint Family Foundation who support the belief that every child deserves the chance to grow up healthy and strong!

The Oklahoma Caring Foundation depends on the generous support of individuals, businesses, and charitable foundations to keep the Oklahoma Caring Vans on the road providing immunizations to thousands of children each year. For a complete list of individual, corporate, foundation, and tribute gift donors, please visit our website: oklahomacaringfoundation.org.



Mission Moment

For many years, the Caring Van program has received a grant to purchase a small amount of adult flu vaccine to provide to caregivers. The Women in Recovery (WIR) program in Tulsa, is an intensive outpatient alternative for eligible women facing long prison sentences. In the fall, our Caring Vans visit WIR to provide their clients access to flu vaccines, which keeps them healthy and on the road to success. We recently received this comment from our contact at WIR:

"The Caring Van staff are an amazing, gifted team. We are so grateful for their annual visit. Thank you so very much for what you do for WIR and our community."

Our team is glad to assist, and we look forward to partnering with Women in Recovery again in 2023

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Oklahoma Caring Foundation Value Statement

**Working to improve the health of
Oklahomans one child at a time.**

Mission

**The Oklahoma Caring Foundation
provides Oklahomans access to
preventive health services.**





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