



Have an Impact on the Future of Your Community

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As the COVID 19 crisis took its toll on Oklahoma, we watched as local communities stepped up to help their neighbors during times of hardship. At Communities Foundation of Oklahoma, we are fortunate to work with local community foundations across the state as they provide aid in their communities and to their neighbors. One of our partners took goodwill and collaboration to the next level during the last few months; the Stillwater Community Foundation made it their mission to rally around those organizations in their community that were serving the most vulnerable during COVID 19. Through strategic partnerships, local advertising and old-fashioned hard work, they were able to secure financial aid and multiple in-kind donations for the Stillwater community.

This story—along with the countless others like it—demonstrates the importance of community foundations in this country, which are uniquely situated to improve their regions through supporting innovative solutions and creating powerful partnerships. From November 12 to 18, we celebrate Community Foundation Week, a time when we can share and reflect on the stories of impact over the last year. Though you may not yet know your local community foundation, you've likely felt its impact.

That's because Communities Foundation of Oklahoma and 900+ other community foundations across the country help to bring donors and residents together. Community foundations work to support the efforts that will help the places we call home become stronger, better communities.

As we enter the giving season, millions of people from every background will be looking to give back to the communities that have supported them. They'll also look to ensure that their heartfelt giving—however they choose to give—will have the most impact. That's why so many of them will choose to give to a community foundation.

A gift to your local community foundation is an investment in the future of your community. We like to say that community foundations are "here for good." At Communities Foundation of Oklahoma, we don't think about the next election or business cycle, we think about the next generation and the generation after that.

That can seem a daunting task, but it's one that we all share. During Community Foundation Week, I hope you'll join us in recognizing our collective impact and the difference we can make together.

For more information on Community Foundation Week visit <u>www.cof.org/cfweek</u> and follow #CommunityFNDWeek on Twitter.

For more information about Communities Foundation of Oklahoma, visit www.cfok.org.