

ANNUAL REPORT

For Calendar Year 2009

Endeavor Foundation formerly known as
Northwest Arkansas Community Foundation

“Without a
sense of caring,
there can be
no sense of
community.”

Anthony
D'Angelo







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A Letter from our President

In 2009, Northwest Arkansas Community Foundation celebrated its 10th year of service to this beautiful region we call Northwest Arkansas, which includes the four counties of Benton, Carroll, Madison, and Washington. We, along with our supporting organization, Care Foundation, are very proud to have been able to invest more than \$55 million in our region during those short 10 years! Learn more about some of our 2009 programs in the following pages.

While 2009 was a year of celebration, it was also a year of retrospection for our Board of Directors and staff. Read more about the monumental progress we accomplished during our anniversary year.

Northwest Arkansas Community Foundation's board has intentionally spent time over the past several months "dreaming" of the Northwest Arkansas we want our children and grandchildren to inherit. We've drafted a new mission statement and look forward to revealing it and our goals to you and the community by the end of 2010. At this juncture we most want to convey to you our commitment to have a significant and sustained impact in Northwest Arkansas, now and forever, addressing the greatest needs of this place we call home.

One of the larger goals in our new strategic plan is to tangibly and positively affect Northwest Arkansas by identifying compelling community issues, engaging key stakeholders around those issues, and then leveraging resources to address those issues. We realize this is an enormous undertaking and our success will require a great deal of collaborative work. We are ready, committed, and eager to share more with you. Your input is valuable and your involvement paramount as we continue on this incredible journey.

As we celebrate our past and dream of a bright future for Northwest Arkansas, I appreciate your continued support. It is an honor to partner with you, and I look forward to our future together.

Sincerely,



Anita Scism
President/CEO

Reflection

The history of Northwest Arkansas Community Foundation

Northwest Arkansas Community Foundation is a public charity dedicated to enhancing the quality of life in Northwest Arkansas. Founded in 1999, the Community Foundation serves the people living in Benton, Carroll, Madison, and Washington counties.

The Community Foundation is home to more than 100 donor and non-profit funds and one supporting organization, Care Foundation. Northwest Arkansas Community Foundation helps the community build permanent

philanthropic endowments to benefit the changing needs of Northwest Arkansas. Over the past ten years, the Foundation and its funds have invested more than \$55 million dollars in the region.



Board of Directors

Fadil Bayyari
Don Blakeman
Jack Butt
Ed Clifford, Chairman
Julie Davis
Terry England
David Evans
Mauricio Herrera
Betsy Phillips
Charles Rateliff
Julie Roblee
DeAnne Witherspoon

NWACF Staff

Anita Scism,
Executive Director
Jan Huneycutt Lightner,
Program Officer
Lisa McCullough,
Chief Financial Officer
Pearl McElfish,
Development Officer
Regina Mitchell,
Program Associate
Chris Stecklein,
Program Officer



2009 Programs



Positive early childhood experiences are critical to educational success and attainment.

With this in mind, Care Foundation established an initiative to ensure quality pre-K programs to several Northwest Arkansas communities: Decatur, Gravette, Siloam Springs, and Springdale. This initiative addressed specific challenges communities face in providing early childhood education. It also addressed the very specific challenges our region has encountered through an ever-increasing immigrant population. Much of the initiative’s success stems from leveraging grant dollars with Arkansas Better Chances for School Success funding.

Goals of the initiative were to make sure children were academically, physically, and socially ready for kindergarten. Secondary goals were to engage parents at this early level and to help children successfully transition into kindergarten. Third-party evaluation provided a neutral assessment of the programs. Evaluation measured general knowledge, oral communication, written language, math concepts, work habits, attentive behavior, and the acquisition language levels of students who are English as a Second Language learners. All of these help establish a strong foundation for happy, achieving students in higher grades as well as throughout life. Education was also a priority

for many of the Foundation’s donor funds that funded local schools, college and university capital campaigns and scholarships.

Excellent language and culturally-appropriate health care services are vital components in making a specific place one’s home.

No one wants to seek medical attention for acute or chronic ailments and not find it. Everyone deserves to access care that is among the best and delivered by folks that speak your native language. The Community Foundation, led by its supporting organization, Care Foundation, and assisted by its donor funds has partnered with several strong cohorts to help ensure Northwest Arkansas is such a home to our oldest and newest neighbors.

- Grants were awarded for:**
Prenatal services,
Mental health services for children,
Renovation of space for an acute mental health care unit,
Access to primary care for the un- or under-insured
Scholarships for bilingual nursing

Additionally, grants were provided that served as lead gifts to University of Arkansas Medical Science for its expansion to Northwest Arkansas.

Restructuring the operations of Northwest Arkansas Community Foundation and Care Foundation was a high priority during 2009.

Each foundation had just completed their previous strategic plans and new IRS Regulations for supporting organizations (Care Foundation) encouraged the two foundations to have one common board of directors. Both entities will continue as separate 501(c)(3) organizations.

As work progressed on the restructure, the Board desired greater organizational efficiencies and greater effectiveness in strategically meeting the needs of their geographic focus areas. Community Foundation engaged the consulting firm of Sutherland-Edwards, experienced professionals in the community foundation field, who led the Board through extensive education on foundations across the nation.

It was a monumental year of retrospection, rethinking, learning, modeling, and finally coming together as one common Board of Directors seeking to make the greatest impact possible. We look forward to sharing our vision for Northwest Arkansas.

Investment Performance

The Foundation's calendar year 2009 investment return of 27.95% outpaced both the fund benchmark and the S&P 500 return for the year, ranking in the top 13th percentile among other endowments and foundations with similar asset allocation.

Although the Foundation is pleased with the upward trend in the equity markets, it is primarily focused on a long term strategy for investing the community's philanthropic dollars in order to serve not only the current generation but many generations to come. The Foundation's Finance Committee works with a team of investment consultants from Rogerscasey to develop investment strategies aimed at sustaining real purchasing power after accounting for endowment spending.

Representatives from the consulting team highlighted the 2009 investment performance in an annual workshop for fund holders held on February 25, 2010, and explained the benefits of the Foundation's investment approach. The PowerPoint presentation from this meeting is available from the download center at www.nwacf.org.

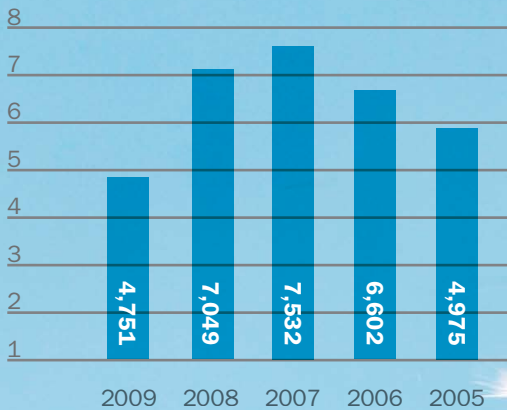
Audit

The Foundation's Audit Committee, adhering to the best practices of the industry, annually engages the services of an independent accounting firm to perform an audit of the Foundation's Financial Statements. Frazer Frost, LLP, has issued an unqualified opinion on the Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2009.

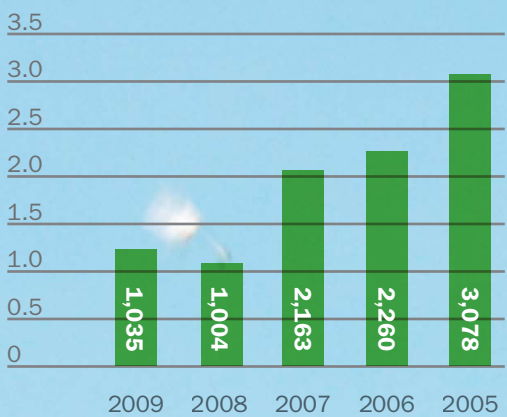
Copies of the 2009 Audited Financial Statements, including the firm's opinion and the 2009 Form 990 are available from the download center at www.nwacf.org or may be obtained by calling 479-361-4624.

Financial Summary

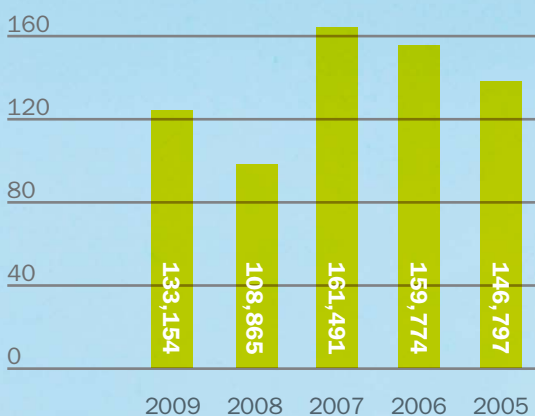
Grants (in millions)



Contributions (in millions)



Assets (in millions)



2009 Funds

9 Foundation
ADC Legacy Foundation Fund
Applegate Educational Scholarship Fund
Marjorie Rood Applegate Scholarship Fund
Arts Center of the Ozarks Fund
Bates Nursing Scholarship Fund
Bayyari Fund
Bentonville/Bella Vista Trailblazers Association Fund
Benton County Sunshine School Fund
Beau Foundation Fund
Barbara Mashburn Scholarship Foundation Fund
Bentonville Library Foundation Fund
Botanical Garden Society of the Ozarks Fund
Maurice Box Memorial Scholarship
Boys & Girls Club of Benton County Fund
Hester Brown Memorial Fund
Jack & Anne Butt Fund
Bella Vista Courtesy Van Fund
Bella Vista Public Library Foundation Fund
Care Foundation Fund
Court Appointed Special Advocates of NWA Fund
Community Access Television Endowment
Community Christmas Card Fund
Children's Christmas Train Fund
Circle of Life Fund
Clear Spring School Fund
Community Clinic at St. Francis House Fund
Roscoe and Laura Cox Memorial Scholarship Fund
Crisis Center Foundation Fund
Cypert Family Endowment for FUMC, Springdale
Les and Julie Davis Family Fund
Drummonds Family Fund for Health & Human Services
Economic Opportunity Agency Endowment Fund
Pete & Shirley Esch Family Fund
David and Cathy Evans Charitable Fund
Farris Insurance Agency Fund
Fellowship Endowment Fund
Bill Fleeman Memorial Scholarship Fund
Ethel Angus Fox Scholarship Fund
Harrison & Rhonda French Family Fund
Fulbright Concerto Competition Fund
Gravette Building Improvement Fund
Gravette Community Improvement Fund
Gravette Library Book Endowment
Gravette Library Maintenance Fund
Gravette Library New Building Fund
Willie George Scholarship Fund
Haas Hall Academy Fund
Margie L. Hall Nursing Scholarship Fund
Gerald Harp Charitable Fund
Debbie Hoffarth/Harps Scholarship Fund
Cheryl Harrop Foundation Fund
Harold E. Henson Sr. Scholarship Fund
Elmer & Dot Johnson Scholarship Fund
Johnson Trails, Parks and Land Preservation Fund
Harvey & Bernice Jones Community Fund
Russell D Jones Elementary School Grant Fund
Kappa Delta House Improvement Fund
Life Styles Endowment Fund
Luttrell Family Fund
Madison County Communities Fund
Richard & Mickey Mahan Family Fund
Carl McKinney Charitable Remainder Trust Scholarship Fund
William Nelson Scholarship Fund
Victor Dale Newlin Fund
The New School Endowment Fund
Northwest Arkansas Community Development Fund
Northwest Arkansas Children's Shelter Fund
Northwest Arkansas Diversity Council Fund
Northwest Arkansas Land Trust Fund
Northwest Medical Center Auxiliary Fund
Northwest Technical Institute Fund
Oak Foundation Fund
OMNI Center for Peace Justice & Ecology Fund
Ozark Guidance Endowment Fund
Ozark Guidance Children's and/or Medication Fund
Ozark Natural Science Center Fund
J C Passmore Memorial Scholarship Fund
Merry Lee and Jim Phillips Fund
Planned Parenthood of Ark & Eastern Okla Fund
Radius Fund
Charles and Brenda Rateliff Fund
Reed Family Fund
Cecil McKay "Doc" Rood Scholarship Fund
Rotary Foundation of Bentonville Endowment Fund
Ryan Gibson Memorial Scholarship Fund
Sara Schroer Memorial Fund
Michael Shassere Memorial Fund
Bob and Diane Shaw Charitable Fund
Dennis and Evelyn Shaw Charitable Fund
Willis and Lorene Shaw Charitable Fund
Shiloh Museum of Ozark History Fund
Mark and Diane Simmons Charitable Fund
Single Parent Scholarship of Benton County Fund
Single Parent Scholarship of Northwest Arkansas, Inc. Fund
Springdale Kiwanis Charitable Fund
Springdale Kiwanis Scholarship Fund
Springdale Memorial Hospital Foundation Fund
Dr. Austin Smith Memorial Scholarship Fund
Springdale Public Library Foundation
Siloam Springs Community Improvement Fund
Siloam Springs Community Endowment Fund
Joe M Steele & Hardy W Croxton Memorial Scholarship Fund
Pearce - Stockland Family Fund
Titus Task Fund
Rebecca Graves Trammel Memorial Scholarship Fund
Sandy Turner Memorial Nursing Scholarship Fund
United Way of Washington County Endowment Fund
Village Art Club Scholarship Fund
Village Art Club Property Management Fund
James and Susan von Grep Fund
Willard Walker Rotary Scholarship Fund
Suzanne Ward Family Fund
Weiser Family Scholarship Fund
Youth Leadership Development Fund
Youth Bridge Endowment Fund

Contact Us

Northwest Arkansas Community Foundation

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(479) 361-4624 Phone

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www.nwacf.org