

Phillips University Legacy Foundation Launches Match Challenge

The closing of an institution is difficult. When Phillips University (PU) closed July 31, 1998, alumni and friends went through several stages of grief.

But, unlike many closed colleges, there was life after death. After assets were sold and debts paid, the remaining money funded the Phillips University Legacy Foundation (PULF), which had been given life by the school's alumni association.



Phillips University Alumni Craig & Ruth Moore. The Moores are generous donors to PULF & ODF.

PULF continues the prestigious educational traditions of PU by offering scholarships and leadership development to outstanding undergraduate students pursuing a liberal arts education at colleges and universities currently or historically affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Following graduation, these students (Legacy Scholars) become "alumni" of two colleges: their respective college and as a legacy member of PU.

In addition to scholarships of up to \$5,000 per year, students learn the importance of Christian leadership. Legacy Scholars create a Volunteer Service Project with an increasing leadership component each year. The Scholars present their project results annually at a Leadership Development Conference where they gather to receive leadership development training, plan meaningful worship, spend time with Christian mentors (PULF donors and PU alumni) and learn about the rich traditions of Phillips University.

Over the years, PULF has awarded more than \$1.4 million in scholarships and provided leadership development to 161 students. Fundraising underwrites the program, so the need for a permanent endowment is critical to provide ongoing scholarships for the development of Christian leaders well into the future.

In 2012, PULF established a small endowment fund with the Oklahoma Disciples Foundation (ODF). However, the endowment remains short of being fully funded. Following a generous gift to ODF from the estate of Sam and Mary Howard, ODF established the "Howard Million Dollar Matching" program in 2015 to encourage new endowment funds as well as grow existing endowment funds.

In order to grow their existing endowment, PULF decided to take advantage of the Howard matching program. Therefore, a challenge has been established to raise \$50,000 by September 30, 2017, and PULF is asking for others to support the Phillips University legacy.

Through the "Howard Million Dollar Matching" program, ODF will match 50¢ (up to \$25,000) on every dollar donated to the PULF Endowment Fund.

In addition to being founders and supporters of ODF, the Howards were generous benefactors to Phillips University where Sam dedicated both his time and talents as a trustee during the 1970s. What a fitting way for the Howards to continue their giving to what is now the legacy of Phillips University and ODF as well!

PULF invites your gifts in support of the Legacy Scholars. Gifts may be made online or mailed.



2015-2016 Oklahoma Scholars: Jonathan Hatley, Tulsa, OK (TCU); Madeline Clark, Claremore, OK (Drury University); Anna Stark, Duncan, OK (Drury University); and Peyton Archer, El Reno, OK (TCU).

Making Gifts to the PULF Endowment Match Challenge

Gifts may be made online or mailed to ODF or PULF. In the memo line of your check please note "PULF Endowment Match Challenge."

Oklahoma Disciples Foundation
301 NW 36th St.

Oklahoma City, OK 73118

Online Giving: <https://okdfdn.org/giving-opportunities/donate-now/>

Select Fund: "Phillips University Legacy Endowment"

Phillips University Legacy Foundation
2615 E. Randolph
Enid, OK 73701

Online Giving: <https://donatenow.networkforgood.org/pulf>

Select: "Oklahoma Disciples Foundation Endowment Match"
Or call 580.237.4433

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The Foundation newsletter is published quarterly. Please contact Julie Bowers (jabowers@okdfdn.org) to opt out or advise of any errors, changes, or to update your email and contact information. Every effort was made to ensure the accuracy and completeness of this publication.

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Tulsa's Table Program Provides Life Learning Skills And Hope for a Better Future to At-Risk Tulsa Youth

In 2014, StoneSoup Community Venture established Tulsa's Table, a program to provide opportunities for at-risk youth in the Tulsa community to learn job and life skills through hands-on culinary and gardening experiences while earning a small wage. The ultimate objective of the program is to help break the hunger and poverty cycle and to nourish the community through locally-grown food served for lunch and dinner to the community on a pay-what-you-can basis.

"Our mission is to provide enriching seed-to-table educational experiences as solutions to hunger and poverty for the youth of our city," said Rev. Christy Moore, Founder and CEO of StoneSoup Community Venture, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization

Through the establishment of Community Cafés, Tulsa's Table began offering public dining pop-up cafés. Local chefs work with youth to create nutritional meals from local fare. East Side Christian Church in Tulsa hosts many of these cafés and is the resident kitchen for the program.

Tulsa's Table offers a means for empowering these youth with critical job and life skills to become self-sufficient. Besides teaching the students about food and gardening, they learn the business practices of the culinary and food service industries. They also learn practical everyday job skills such as managing orders, creating healthy meals and serving guests. And, the program gives them an opportunity to earn their own money as well as learn healthy eating habits.

Additionally, the program allows the youth to learn entrepreneurial skills through the development and marketing of unique ways to sell or provide home-grown food to local neighbors.

According to Rev. Moore, about 100,000 Tulsa County residents live below the federal poverty level. In 2012, approximately 36,400 of these residents were children. Additionally, 2013 records indicated 10% of individuals in the county have less than a high school education and only 26% have received a high school diploma or equivalent. And, in 2011, about 11% of residents age 16-19 years old were not enrolled in school or employed.

According to these statistics about one-third of Tulsa's citizens do not have the educational background or job skills to earn a salary that would

to place them squarely within the category of being "self-sufficient" — the ability to meet basic needs without relying on public or private assistance. Another third is at risk.

Tulsa County is not the only struggling area in the state. Food insecurity and poverty are growing concerns in many areas of Oklahoma. Rev. Moore has met with other pastors to discuss the creation of similar programs in their communities.

Rev. Moore is one of many applicants for ODF grant funds this year. As with many non-profits, funding is scarce. Rev. Moore plans to continue Tulsa's Table program; however, pop-up cafés have not been scheduled due to funding needs. In April, Rev. Moore was guest speaker at the NE Area Disciples Women's Meeting at Forest Park Christian Church. For more information or to donate go to <http://tulsastable.org>.

ODF Welcomes New Staff Member Hannah Bingham

Oklahoma Disciples Foundation is pleased to announce Hannah Bingham has joined our staff as Administrative Assistant.

Hannah is originally from Chickasha and graduated in May 2016 from Oklahoma State University with a Bachelor's degree in Accounting. Following graduation, Hannah worked for Kappa Kappa Gamma Fraternity Headquarters.

Over the course of the 2016-2017 academic year she traveled to more than 20 different college campuses to audit, advise, and implement strategies to preserve and strengthen the collegiate chapters.

Hannah also brings accounting experience from past internships at a public accounting firm, an oil and gas company, and a tax preparer's office. Hannah will begin coursework toward a M.S. in Accounting at Oklahoma City University this fall and will sit for the CPA exam immediately following the completion of her degree.

In her free time, Hannah enjoys traveling, running, and spending time with her friends and family.

