



Open Letter to the Nonprofit Community

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

The Biblical story of the mustard seed reminds us that great things often have humble beginnings. The evolution of The Deaconess Home into the Butterfield Memorial Foundation of today was brought about by a very special group of Deaconesses whose faith was rooted in serving others. At Butterfield, we are privileged to work with talented and dedicated Christian nonprofit organizations. Through their service to others, they bring about great things in their communities. The promise of these organizations to effect positive change is very near and dear to our heart.

The Butterfield Memorial Foundation remains focused on goals and initiatives we share with our grantees- specifically, health and medical needs of the underserved. Our Board and staff remain committed to responding to these urgent issues especially during these uncertain financial times. Internally, we have trimmed administrative costs and have embraced an attitude of prudence. Recognizing that significant social needs will be with us always, the Board of Directors has re-affirmed their commitment to provide stewardship for the assets and income of the Foundation so it will live on in perpetuity. Consequently, we have reduced our current granting funds available as compared with historical grant cycles. By limiting distributions now, we hope to experience the greatest funding impact over the long-term.

What are we doing?

Most recently, the Foundation provided Sustaining Grants to organizations whose programs have impacted our local community. These organizations provide treatment to individuals who have suffered a devastating illness or injury as well as provide medications and medical supplies to Christian free clinics. We also supported a nursing program that addresses the shortage of qualified healthcare professionals.

At the same time, we recognized the need to support the maturation of small, grassroots organizations with exceptional potential and launched Organizational Development Training. By consulting with and training emerging Christian organizations, we hope to expand their capacity as well as the potential for long term growth and sustainability. The first "class" consisting of five organizations graduated in December, 2008. In addition to the training, the organizations received an Implementation Grant from the Foundation. These grants will allow the organizations to put into action the best plan for them as identified during the course. Our second class completed the course in May, 2009.

We continue to provide active support to the two ministries under our operational umbrella, Open Arms Clinic and Deaconess Pregnancy and Adoption Services. The clinic serves and ministers to the medically uninsured/disadvantaged residents of Oklahoma County with appropriate free, clinic-based healthcare, education and spiritual encouragement. Deaconess Pregnancy & Adoption Services transforms the lives of children by embracing women in crisis pregnancies, creating families through adoption and reflecting God's redeeming love to all.

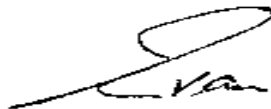
Over the summer, we made small grants totaling \$98,500 to Oklahoma based Christian free clinics. By shortening our grant cycle, we were able to expedite the funds reaching those clinics whose staff and volunteers are unselfishly serving the needs of others.

Tough times demand an even greater focus on shared undertakings, so we are working to identify and facilitate innovative collaborations. We are co-sponsoring a local fundraising workshop that will help empower nonprofits to make use of process proven principles. In addition, we are partnering with Deaconess Pregnancy & Adoption Services to bring together grassroots crisis pregnancy nonprofits for the purpose of identifying areas where collaboration can be utilized to maximize their efforts and impact. We are co-sponsoring an event with The Oklahoma Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives called *Intentional Influence* with the goal in mind to match leaders and service oriented professionals with faith-based nonprofit organizations who are in need of board members. We are humbled that we are able to participate with others who are like-minded and are eager to assist our community in bringing the right people together to maximize resources such as our great "Oklahoma Spirit" of volunteerism.

It is our deep desire to maintain open dialogue with you during this time when there seem to be more questions than answers. Please do not hesitate to contact anyone on the Foundation's staff, as we welcome your partnership, concerns or input.

Whatever the circumstances of the moment, opportunities for impact abound.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Evan Collins', with a large, stylized initial 'E'.

Evan Collins
President