

Caring Van Program

Childhood vaccinations are critical in preventing diseases, disability and death but too often children in low-income families don't have the proper access to these lifesaving immunizations. As a result, these children face serious health risks. Thanks to a recent Great Grant from the Oklahoma City Community Foundation, more than 1,100 children in Oklahoma County have received free immunizations through the Oklahoma Caring Foundation and its Caring Van Program.



A young boy receives a vaccination from a registered nurse aboard a Caring Van.

Health guidelines state that 75 percent of immunizations are required by the age of two but reality is that too many children don't receive these vital vaccinations until they reach school age. And the Oklahoma Department of Health confirms that one in four of our state's children under the age of two is not fully protected against vaccine-preventable diseases.

With Great Grant funding, the Caring Van Program is improving the low rate of immunizations for young children in child care homes throughout Oklahoma County. Child care centers based in homes were targeted because data has shown that these children are more likely to be under immunized. Two Caring Vans, mobile units staffed by registered nurses, traveled to these homes administering free immunizations to children below the age of six.

The Oklahoma Caring Foundation, a non profit organization, was formed by Blue Cross Blue Shield in 1994 to benefit economically disadvantaged Oklahoma children through preventive programs addressing their access to health care. Its Caring Van Program is doing just that and the Oklahoma City Community Foundation is pleased that a Great Grant was able to help more than 1,100 children in Oklahoma County lead healthier lives.



The Caring Van Program provides critical vaccinations to children in Oklahoma County.

Improving the well being of people is an issue the Oklahoma City Community Foundation is able to address thanks to individuals who have made Great Grants possible by contributing to the Fund for Oklahoma City. For more information on giving to the Fund for Oklahoma City, contact Jennifer Stewart at 405/235-5603 or jstewart@occf.org or visit www.occf.org.

Great Grants

Helping Our Community

The Oklahoma City Community Foundation is the metropolitan area's non-profit public charity that works with individuals and non-profit organizations to attract and manage endowment funds for the community's benefit.



A Great Grant from the Oklahoma City Community Foundation provided funding for the Caring Van Program in Oklahoma County.

As part of its mission, the Oklahoma City Community Foundation seeks opportunities to partner with organizations such as The Oklahoma Caring Foundation and its Caring Van Program to address specific needs within our community. The Oklahoma City Community Foundation makes charitable giving easy, flexible and effective by connecting people to the issues they care about and to the needs of the community.

How would you like to help the community? Let the Oklahoma City Community Foundation help you help the community. For additional information, contact us at 405/235-5603 or visit www.occf.org.



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