Sally Jo Langston

For Sally Jo Langston, a home is the heart of every family. She worked with her late husband, Wendell, a custom homebuilder in Oklahoma City, for more than 25 years. Together they designed and furnished dozens of homes, coining the phrase "A Home Especially for You." Several of their homes were featured in the annual Parade of Homes.

A long-time supporter of the American Red Cross of Central Oklahoma and other charitable organization endowments, Sally Jo focuses her charitable gifts on organizations that give a "help up instead of a hand out," and those that provide assistance during unexpected crisis.

The daughter of Oklahoma business pioneer B.C. Clark, she also contributes regularly to the B.C. Clark Family Fund at the Oklahoma City Community Foundation, ensuring that her and her family's legacy of giving continues for generations.

More than 1,200 people spent eight days at the Cox Convention Center following the 2007 Ice Storm.

A desire to help others

Great Gifts

Sally Jo Langston has been giving to the American Red Cross of Central Oklahoma endowment fund at the Oklahoma City Community Foundation for many years. Because of her support and the support of others like her, the organization is able to help when natural disasters strike.

Most recently, hundreds of thousands of Oklahoma City residents were left without power during the ice storm of December 2007 as power lines toppled across the state.

The American Red Cross of Central Oklahoma quickly mobilized and responded to the emergency by opening a shelter at the Cox Convention Center in downtown Oklahoma City. Staffed by nearly 130 volunteers, more than 1,200 people sought refuge at the shelter during the eight nights it was open, each receiving a cot, blanket, comfort kit with hygiene items, access to showers, snacks and hot meals. A medical area was set up for residents with health problems.

It was a true community effort, with the Salvation Army providing toys for children and the Southern Baptist Relief Crew cooking meals and setting up a play area with trained staff. One little girl even celebrated her sixth birthday at the shelter, complete with presents and a "birthday muffin."

"Without our donors we would have no hope of fulfilling our mission. It is only through the generosity of our donors and volunteers that we are able to serve others," says Vince Hernandez, chief executive officer of the American Red Cross of Central Oklahoma.

The American Red Cross and other charitable organizations are able to respond quickly and effectively in times of crisis because the ongoing support for their endowment funds from donors like Sally Jo Langston.

The Oklahoma City Community Foundation makes charitable giving simple, flexible and forever. For more information on how you can support the organizations you care about through a Great Gift, contact us at 405/235-5603.

03/08

Helping Our Community

Through a Great Gift

With the Great Gift of consistent donations to the American Red Cross of Central Oklahoma's endowment fund, Sally Jo Langston and many donors like her enabled the organization to respond rapidly and efficiently during Oklahoma's devastating ice storm of December 2007. A lifetime love of homes and family motivates her to make gifts to an organization that dedicates itself to providing Oklahomans with a safe place in an emergency.

The Oklahoma City Community Foundation works with donors like Sally Jo Langston who want to help organizations that help others. If you are interested in making a Great Gift to help your community, please contact us at 405/235-5603.

Thanks to American Red Cross volunteers, this little girl celebrated her sixth birthday with gifts and a "birthday muffin" while staying at the shelter.

cf NATIONAL STANDARDS

Confirmed in Compliance with National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations