

# OKFD Faces

A Publication of Oklahoma Foundation for the Disabled

Winter 2010

## Director's Welcome

**"We've had a Good Year, and There's More to Come"**

As we near the end of our 50th anniversary year, we feel emboldened by all that we have accomplished as a social services organization in 2010. We have enjoyed reconnecting with former volunteer leaders and clients, welcoming several new board members and starting construction on our recreation center.



What lies ahead in 2011?

What we do for developmentally disabled adults and their caregivers is unduplicated in this area, so it is very important for us that when our new recreation center is officially opened in January we will be qualified to add an additional 24 clients. Two-dozen individuals may not sound like a lot, but for clients and caregivers alike, it is a huge relief...a ray of hope!

I hope you will think of our clients this holiday season, who benefit so much from our programs and services, and Oklahoma Foundation for the Disabled as one of the charities you can support.

Your gift can be directed to assist with

client scholarships, made in support of our building program or for general operating purposes.

We would value your financial investment at any level, so please let us hear from you this month.

You can use one of our handy gift remittance envelopes, or go online to make your credit card gift. To access our website: [www.okfd.org](http://www.okfd.org). Thank you for your consideration.

Happy Holidays,

Sincerely,  
*Georgia Devening*  
Executive Director

Did you know that more than 5,000 developmentally disabled adults are on Oklahoma's waiting list of individuals seeking to qualify for state assistance so they can participate in an adult day health services program like ours?

Our Thursday night dinner dance is attended by 140 or more developmentally disabled adults each week. It is the only event of its kind in central Oklahoma. We provide a safe place to go where friendships are nurtured and physical exercise is encouraged.

## Client / Caregiver Testimonials

### A Parent Talks About Her Sons and OKFD

Teresa Pickle has two sons with developmental disabilities, both of whom participate in OKFD activities. In this interview, she talks about her sons and how they feel about the organization.

**OKFD:** How and when did you first learn about OKFD?

**Mrs. Pickle:** Some years ago someone suggested we attend the Thursday evening event. Then, during the summer, we joined the Foundation for its bowling outings.

**OKFD:** How long have your children been coming to OKFD?

**Mrs. Pickle:** Jared, age 31, actually became a member of the Foundation in 2004, and has been happily involved since then. Steve, age 39, comes on Thursday nights, which he looks forward to.

**OKFD:** Do they ride the bus to and from home? Does that help you with your other daily obligations?

**Mrs. Pickle:** Jared rides the bus Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and on Thursday evenings. Steve rides on Thursday evenings only. Jared leaves at approximately 7:30 a.m., which gives me time then to get Steve ready to go to his program.

**OKFD:** Why do your sons need OKFD's services?

**Mrs. Pickle:** They both enjoy social settings, being with friends and activities. Jared needs something to do during the days and Foundation activities fit him nicely.

**OKFD:** What positive changes have you seen since in your sons since they started coming to OKFD?

**Mrs. Pickle:** Jared is much happier at the Foundation than he was previously. He gets up with a good attitude. Steve looks forward to Thursday nights.

**OKFD:** What do your sons think about OKFD? Why is it important to them?

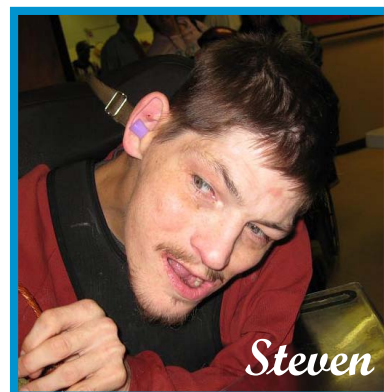
**Mrs. Pickle:** Jared says "I have friends there. There are people at the Foundation to help me." Steve says "I have friends."

**OKFD:** What are your children's favorite activities at OKFD?

**Mrs. Pickle:** Jared enjoys bowling, picking on Todd and visiting with Bill. Steve enjoys the raffle and visiting with friends.



Jared



Steven

# You are Cordially Invited

## Impact Oklahoma

Recreation Center  
Building Dedication & Light Lunch

Tuesday, January 18, 2011

Noon

Oklahoma Foundation for the Disabled  
8421 N. Walker Ave.

Oklahoma City, OK 73114

RSVP 842-6636 or [info@okfd.org](mailto:info@okfd.org)

Most of our clients qualify for state aid, which amounts to \$45 per day; however, our actual per-person operating cost is \$56.11, thus the reason we ask for donations to help us operate.

## Board of Directors

Connie Weber, *President*

Judge Charles L. Owens (Ret.),  
*Vice President*

Tom Lefmann, *Treasurer*

Cathy Blackburn,  
*Board Secretary*

Mel Bloss

Rosetta J. Culpepper

Billy Thomas

## Senior Staff

Georgia Devening,  
*Executive Director*

Mary Haddad,  
*Program Manager*

Vivian Atwood,  
*Human Relations*

Gwen Williams,  
*Administrative Assistant*

Yancy Cook,  
*Social Services Coordinator*

Leone Stepney,  
*Activities Director*

Linda Edenstrom, *Dietary*

Frank Nichols, *Transportation*

## Contact Us

Oklahoma Foundation

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United Way Partner Agency (#7025)  
Combined Federal Campaign (#83541)

## Corporate Volunteers Make a Big Difference

Volunteers from American Fidelity and EOG participated in United Way of Central Oklahoma's "Day of Caring" in October by volunteering at OKFD. Their interaction with clients and efforts to spruce up our grounds is greatly appreciated.



## OKFD Starts Teen Board

Oklahoma Foundation for the Disabled is starting a teen board, under the leadership of Cathy Blackburn, who sits on our board of directors.

The teen board will participate in volunteer activities that allow its members to learn about the organization through interaction with clients, and to provide leadership that will aid OKFD with its community outreach efforts.

Interested individuals in grades 9 through 12 can contact the Foundation for an application or contact Cathy Blackburn directly at 405-630-8641.

Our client transport vehicles log 14,000 miles each month, covering multiple cities and several counties each day!