



Osteopathic Heritage Foundation  
Osteopathic Heritage Foundation of Nelsonville

1500 Lake Shore Drive, Suite 230  
Columbus, Ohio 43204-3800

P. (614) 737-4370 Toll-free (866) 737-4370  
F. (614) 737-4371

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heritage@ohf-ohio.org  
www.osteopathicheritage.org

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Contact: Terri Donlin Huesman, Director of Programs, (614) 737-4359, [tDonlin@ohf-ohio.org](mailto:tDonlin@ohf-ohio.org)

### **Osteopathic Heritage Foundations Commemorate 10 Years of Direct Grantmaking**

Columbus, OH—The Osteopathic Heritage Foundations, the nation’s largest foundations committed to community health and quality of life in the osteopathic tradition of caring, commemorated 10 years of grant making at an October 16 event in Columbus, Ohio. Since 1999, the Foundations have approved \$110 million in grantmaking investments designed to improve the health and quality of life for families and communities in central and southeastern Ohio and to advance osteopathic medical care, medical education and biomedical research, nationally.

While serving statewide and national interests, the Foundations’ health and quality of life philanthropic activities are concentrated primarily in the following eighteen Ohio counties: Athens, Delaware, Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin, Hocking, Jackson, Knox, Licking, Madison, Meigs, Morgan, Perry, Pickaway, Ross, Union, Vinton and Washington.

The largest benefactor of the Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine, the Foundations donated \$17.8 million to the college since 1999. “The Osteopathic Heritage Foundations has had a profound affect on the college, not only by donating funding, but helping us determine a direction for our research and having a strong influence on our curriculum,” said OU-COM Dean Jack Brose, D.O.

The Foundations’ support includes a \$10 million gift for the construction of the new Ohio University Academic & Research Center – the largest gift in the history of OU-COM – and \$1.5 million for the J.O. Watson, D.O., Endowed Diabetes Research Chair. The Foundations also funded the research office for the Centers for Osteopathic Research and Education, OU-COM’s Diabetes Fellowship Program, physician training programs and interdisciplinary neuromusculoskeletal research. Most recently, the Foundations donated \$2.3 million to unite OU-COM’s clinical skills training lab with the college’s Community Health Programs’ Free Clinic in one newly renovated space in Grosvenor Hall at Ohio University.

“Since 1999, the Foundations have committed \$110 million to over 250 organizations and 600 programs, measurably improving the health and systems of our communities and positively impacting the lives of tens of thousands of individuals and families,” said Richard Vincent, president and CEO of the Foundations. “As the Foundations observe this 10 year milestone, we remain committed to perpetuating our osteopathic heritage, looking to and planning for the future

of strategic stewardship, grantmaking and collaborations with those who share a common vision to improve health and quality of life.”

Working cooperatively with other agencies and organizations, the Foundations serve as catalyst, collaborator and funder, identifying community health needs that can be positively impacted by investing financial and other resources. The grantmaking practices align with the tenets of osteopathic medicine, including the comprehensive approach to diagnosis and treatment, while focusing on wellness and disease prevention.

“Over the past ten years, the Foundations’ grantmaking has indirectly benefited vulnerable populations in central and southeastern Ohio through homeless prevention, obesity prevention, access to dental care services, targeted community health needs, osteopathic medical education and bio-medical research,” Vincent continued. Direct grantmaking approvals, since 1999, are as follows: \$52 million to support clinics and train osteopathic physicians to serve the community-at-large, \$31 million for Biomedical Research to advance medical care and \$27 million to agencies to improve community health and quality of life.



The Osteopathic Heritage Foundations commemorated ten years of grantmaking on October 16 in Columbus. Since 1999, the Foundations have approved \$110 million in grantmaking investments designed to improve the health and quality of life of vulnerable individuals, families and communities in central and southeastern Ohio and to advance osteopathic medical care, medical education and biomedical research, nationally. Pictured left to right are: Jack Brose, D.O., dean, Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine; Mark Seckinger, president/CEO, Hardin Memorial Hospital and Osteopathic Heritage Foundation of Nelsonville Board of Director and Terri Donlin Huesman, director of programs, Osteopathic Heritage Foundations.

**About The Osteopathic Heritage Foundations**

The Osteopathic Heritage Foundation and the Osteopathic Heritage Foundation of Nelsonville (the Foundations) are pre-eminent in supporting community health and quality of life programs in central and southeastern Ohio as well as advancing, on a national scope, osteopathic medical care, biomedical research and osteopathic medical education. The mission of the Foundations is to improve the health and quality of life in the community through education, research and service consistent with the principles of its osteopathic heritage and the philosophy of osteopathic medical care. The Foundations advance this mission through a broad spectrum of funding awards, initiatives and funding methods.

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