

## **CELEBRATING SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY**

### **TULSA COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY FOUNDATION (Formerly TCMS CDF)**

In 2002, with the help of a generous grant from the Hudson Foundation and contributions from many others, the Foundation constructed a building housing the new headquarters of TCMS at 5315 South Lewis. Again, in 2006, the Hudson Foundation issued another challenge grant. The TCMS membership responded generously to these challenge grants and to other fundraising efforts to retire the mortgage. The building has a value of 1.2 million dollars and the remaining mortgage was less than \$64,000.00. The mortgage was retired December 2007 in celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of TCMS. With no mortgage, the Foundation has an increased amount of funds to distribute to local under-funded community health related needs.

**OUR HISTORY**, the TCMS Foundation was established in 1986 by the Tulsa County Medical Society with the goal of supporting the community. For the next 25 years, we provided grants to charitable organizations that supply basic needs to underserved residents (i.e. Day Center for the Homeless, Parent Child Center), we also paid (and continue to pay) the liability insurance premium for retired physicians who volunteer at the primary care safety net clinics. In addition, we provide scholarships to medical students and partner with Tulsa County to provide prescription medication to uninsured low-income residents in Tulsa County. In 2011, the Foundation Board redefined its mission statement to “through the professional expertise and engagement of the Tulsa County Medical Society member physicians and Alliance, utilizing the prudent management of its resources, and with the help of donor funding the Tulsa County Medical Society Foundation will develop, create and maintain programs in the Tulsa area designed for health promotion, health education and disease prevention and treatment”. The Foundation Board decided to utilize all available resources to address a healthcare need with an ongoing program. Project TCMS was initiated to address what was identified by the Lewin Group (national study) as the most significant gap in safety net services in Tulsa County – the lack of access to specialty care for uninsured low income residents.

The Foundation supported legislation to create a new medical license for retired physician’s volunteers in area clinics for the indigent. The Foundation supports malpractice insurance premiums for these retired volunteers. Seminars have been held to educate physicians on how to volunteer their time in the clinics, which has increased the number of physicians volunteering, resulting in more patients being seen. This support of local clinics for the indigent is contributing in a significant way to lessening the patient load in local emergency rooms.

Non-profit groups in Tulsa have had the unique opportunity to have a meeting room available to them at no cost. Members of Tulsa County Medical Society, specialty societies and other health related organizations have found the meeting rooms very valuable to them for both business and personal use.

The TCMS Foundation Scholarship program was established in 1965. Since the program began, over \$1 million in scholarships has been provided to medical students.

Project TCMS, Tulsa Charitable Medical Services, was implemented in 2011 to coordinate elective specialty care for uninsured low-income residents of Tulsa County. Project TCMS is a collaboration of the medical Community with the referrals to the program coming from area safety net primary care clinics. Project TCMS is a great example of physicians leadership and missionary work in our own community.

**We thank our members and community partners for their financial participation on our activities to support the health care needs of our community.**

**Gifts are tax-deductible and can be made in honor or memory of someone of your choosing or may be earmarked for a specific TCMS Foundation project. Donations can be made by going to the online payment link on our home page.**

***You may contact us for further information.***

**Tulsa County Medical Society Foundation**

**5315 South Lewis Avenue**

**Tulsa, Oklahoma 74105-6539**

**918-743-6184 Fax: 918-743-0336**

**[tcms@tcmsok.org](mailto:tcms@tcmsok.org)**