



Giving Our Best

BKD

Foundation Annual Report



From the Executive Board

The BKD Foundation is a conduit for community service that empowers BKD partners and employees to give their best when giving back. And in 2011, BKD's charitable arm helped hundreds of outstanding organizations and commendable causes through sponsorships, grants and volunteerism.

Donations topped \$1.1 million, setting a new annual record and pushing the foundation's total charitable giving to more than \$7 million since its first gift in February 2000. That's a point of pride in a tough economic climate that has not-for-profit groups competing for fewer dollars from fewer donors.

The BKD Foundation remains committed to its mission of enriching communities, or rebuilding them in the case of tornado-ravaged Joplin, Missouri. Joplin received significant financial assistance from the foundation, and employees from several BKD offices helped build a new home for a family whose home was destroyed by the twister.

The foundation sponsored major fundraisers for national organizations dedicated to curing cancer, diabetes and Alzheimer's. Smaller donations went to community-oriented and faith-based agencies that feed the hungry, shelter the homeless and help mend families fractured by addiction and abuse.

Beyond the foundation, BKD partners and employees also contribute generously to United Way.

We cordially invite you to turn the page and experience the passion that drives the BKD Foundation to give its best to those in need.

Harland Ambler, **BKD, LLP**
managing partner, 1976-86

Neal Spencer, **BKD, LLP**
chief executive officer

Frank Evans, attorney with
Lathrop & Gage LLP



About the Foundation

The BKD Foundation is the firm's charitable foundation. Its mission is to enrich the communities BKD serves through financial support and volunteerism. When possible, the foundation supports local charitable organiza-

tions in which our personnel are involved. The BKD Foundation made its first charitable gift in February 2000. Since then, the foundation has given more than \$7.3 million to qualifying 501(c)(3) charitable organizations.

About BKD

BKD is a top 10 U.S. CPA and advisory firm that delivers its experience and service with a deep understanding of your business, your needs and what it takes to improve your business performance. BKD's approximately 2,000 personnel, including approximately 250 partners, serve clients in all 50 states and internationally.

Praxity, AISBL, a global alliance of independent firms, enhances BKD's ability to serve the dynamic needs of multinational clients. Praxity™ provides the gateway to tax, assurance and consulting services delivered by alliance firms committed to the highest standards required in international business.



million in contributions in 2011*

Arkansas \$72,000

Kansas \$63,000

Missouri \$399,000

Oklahoma \$104,000

Colorado \$43,000

Kentucky \$42,000

Nebraska \$49,000

Texas \$139,000

Indiana \$211,000

Mississippi \$5,000

Ohio \$9,000

** Charitable contributions are grouped by states in which grant recipients are based.*

Arkansas

Supporting research aimed at curing diabetes and arthritis



JDRF is working to improve blood sugar monitoring technology



Little Rock's Jingle Bell Run benefits the Arthritis Foundation

Courtesy of ArkansasOutside.com

In 2011, the BKD Foundation reprised its role as presenting sponsor of the annual fundraising gala for the Greater Arkansas Chapter of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF). Partners in BKD's Arkansas offices serve on the JDRF board of directors and have been honored by the organization.

Another perennial event for Arkansas BKDers is the Arthritis Foundation Arkansas Chapter's Jingle Bell Run, which the foundation also sponsored. Employees volunteered to assist with event registration and setup in downtown Little Rock.

BKD's Arkansas offices also answered the call to help rebuild Joplin, Missouri, in the wake of a devastating tornado. The foundation made a donation to Habitat for Humanity's Ten for Joplin project, and BKDers from Fort Smith and Rogers traveled to Joplin to build a home for one of the many families displaced by the storm.

Other vital community organizations receiving charitable gifts from the foundation included the Humane Society of Pulaski County, Arkansas Chapter of March of Dimes and Arkansas Coalition Against Domestic Violence.



Pulling weeds at Denver's Bluff Lake Nature Center

Colorado **Enhancing the outdoors experience for kids and families**

In Colorado Springs, the BKD Foundation focused much of its philanthropic energy on Early Connections Learning Centers, which provide early childhood care, education and support to low-income and single-parent families.

The foundation bought new playground equipment for the Early Connections Day Nursery, and BKDers spent two Saturdays demolishing the old playground, erecting the new one and putting down rubber mulch.

In neighboring Denver, more than 25 BKDers and their family members spent a Saturday cleaning up trails at the Bluff Lake Nature Center, a

refuge for native wildlife. The center serves as an outdoor classroom for local schools and an activity hub for nature enthusiasts. Volunteers weeded out invasive plant species and built a split-rail fence.

The foundation also contributed to Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, Art Students League of Denver and National Jewish Health.

Charitable activity outside the foundation included the American Lung Association Fight for Air Climb and Denver Dumb Friends League Furry Scurry, which raised more than \$1,200 for an open-admission shelter dedicated to the humane care of lost and abandoned animals.

Indiana

Keeping the next generation happy and healthy



The Boys & Girls Club of Evansville's Healthy Dinner Program



Living the dream at a Chicago White Sox game

Indiana children and the organizations serving them received significant support from the BKD Foundation in 2011.

Damar Services, Inc., which helps developmentally disabled children and adults achieve independence, worked with the foundation to develop an innovative program called the BKD Dream Fund. Thanks to the fund, a teenage Damar client with behavioral difficulties who suffers from seizures was able to fulfill his dream of attending a Chicago White Sox game.

A foundation donation also kick-started the Healthy Dinner Program at the Boys & Girls Club of Evansville. Through the program, more than 100 chil-

dren received a nutritious meal once a month, and the warm dinners were served up by BKD volunteers.

Other Indiana organizations receiving foundation assistance were The Villages, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Indiana, Bloomington Hospital Foundation and Indianapolis Zoo.

Charitable work not affiliated with the foundation included a unique fundraiser for the Community Harvest Food Bank of Northeast Indiana. Donations came rolling in when a group of Fort Wayne BKDers promised to attend the community's Festival of Trees dressed as 'living' Christmas trees.

Kansas *Encouraging students to pursue their entrepreneurial desires*

In Wichita, the BKD Foundation continued its long tradition of patronage for Youth Entrepreneurs® Kansas (YEK), a not-for-profit organization that teaches business and entrepreneurial skills in high school classrooms.

The foundation sponsored a three-part YEK breakfast series that featured accomplished entrepreneurs who shared their success stories with high school students and local business leaders. Guests included ESPN founder Bill Rasmussen and Wichita native Leslie Rudd, owner of Dean & DeLuca and Rudd Winery. Altogether, the event raised more than \$141,000 to fund entrepreneurial education in Kansas high schools.

On the bricks-and-mortar front, foundation dollars supplemented capital campaigns for the renovation of the Envision Vision Rehabilitation Center and construction of a new library and campus center at Newman University. Donations also went to the American Heart Association and the Mental Health Association of South Central Kansas.

Beyond the foundation, BKD employees in the Wichita office contributed generously to United Way in 2011. Nineteen employees were recognized as Leadership Givers for pledging at least \$1,000, and the office set a new fundraising record.



ESPN founder Bill Rasmussen at the YEK breakfast series



Therapy at the Envision Vision Rehabilitation Center

Kentucky

Walking lockstep with child-focused and health-oriented initiatives



Hoofing through downtown Louisville for the Kentuckiana Start! Heart Walk

The foundation's goodwill took many forms in BKD's Kentucky markets.

Several BKDers in the Louisville office volunteered for a Habitat for Humanity build sponsored by the foundation with a sizeable donation. BKD's charitable arm also renewed its long-running sponsorship of the WHAS Crusade for Children telethon, which raised more than \$5 million for children with disabilities in Louisville and surrounding communities.

In addition, an intrepid crew of Louisville employees shrugged off the rain and cold to participate in the Kentuckiana Start! Heart Walk, a 5,000-person

march through downtown that raised more than \$700,000 for the American Heart Association.

BKD Foundation contributions in Bowling Green benefited a number of not-for-profit organizations serving children. Kids on the Block provides free programming for local schools on social and safety issues, and the Barren River Area Child Advocacy Center offers support services to victims of sexual abuse. Through a partnership with Beta Alpha Psi, several BKDers also volunteered as bell ringers for the Salvation Army during the holidays.

Mississippi

Making top-notch pediatric care a priority

The BKD Foundation was again a proud sponsor of An Evening with the Mannings. The event—attended by Archie and Eli Manning and their wives—raised almost \$3 million for Friends of Children’s Hospital and the Eli Manning Children’s Clinics at the Blair E. Batson Hospital for Children. Batson is the only hospital in Mississippi that specifically treats sick and injured children.

In addition to the foundation sponsorship, the firm’s Mississippi offices separately contributed to the Jackson Symphony League, National Multiple Sclerosis

Society and Stewpot Community Services, an interfaith organization that shelters and feeds the poor and homeless.

Other noteworthy BKD sponsorships included the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Mississippi Hope Gala and the Family Picnic Celebration for the Habitat for Humanity/Metro Jackson 25th Anniversary Celebration. The four-day extravaganza marked 25 years of building in the Jackson area and included a dedication ceremony for the chapter’s 500th home.



Keeping kids well at the Blair E. Batson Hospital for Children



Stewpot serves up free lunches to more than 120 people every day

Missouri

Helping to rebuild a tornado-stricken town



Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Missouri's Derby Party and Wine Auction



Ten for Joplin volunteers at the building site

The BKD Foundation trained much of its charitable giving in Missouri on Joplin after a deadly tornado destroyed more than a third of the southwest Missouri city in May 2011. BKD's Southern Missouri practice raised a significant portion of the more than \$100,000 the foundation donated to United Way for tornado relief efforts.

The foundation also committed funding to Habitat for Humanity Ten for Joplin project, which erected 10 homes for tornado victims in just 16 days. Volunteers from BKD's Joplin, Springfield, Kansas City and St. Louis offices participated in the blitz build.

Other southwest Missouri organizations receiving foundation assistance were Developmental Center of the Ozarks, which purchased new computer equipment for disabled adults working toward employment, and Good Samaritan Boys Ranch for an outdoor recreational area at a transitional living facility for young men.

BKD volunteers in St. Louis assembled bicycles donated to disabled children during the holidays. Bikes for Kids is an annual event organized by Variety the Children's Charity that has given away more than 2,700 bikes to local kids since its inception. The foundation also sponsored another big biking event—



BKDers repair a fence at the Shoal Creek Living History Museum

the Ronald McDonald House Charities Ride—for the second year in a row. The event raised \$166,000 for RMHC of Metro St. Louis.

St. Louis' sister office in Decatur, Illinois, collected donations and nonperishable food items to help restock the Northeast Community Fund food bank, which suffered a fire in early 2011. The effort was paired with a charitable gift through the foundation.

Several Kansas City area not-for-profits—Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation and Hope Faith Ministries among them—also received funding boosts from the foundation. Beyond the foundation, the Kansas City office was honored by United Way for best growth in employee giving, and 50 employees donated more than 150 hours to help clean up and make repairs to the Shoal Creek Living History Museum.

Nebraska

Running to raise funds for research of communication disorders



Anticipation mounts at the Boys Town Memorial Day Run



BKD's entry in the Starry Nights Christmas Tree Festival

Courtesy of Lonnie Mae's Photography

The BKD Foundation proudly sponsored the Boys Town National Research Hospital Memorial Day Run and donated manpower to prepare for the fundraiser. Held in Omaha, the annual event raised more than \$100,000 to improve the lives of children with hearing loss, visual impairment and other communication disorders. More than 1,600 runners participated, and BKD's Logan Watley was the first to cross the finish line!

The inaugural People's City Mission Starry Nights Christmas Tree Festival also enjoyed the foundation's sponsorship. The event included a gala and live auction of Christmas trees professionally decorated by local designers.

BKD employees served on the event planning committee and attended the gala, which raised more than \$46,000 for the Lincoln homeless shelter and free medical clinic.

The foundation also funneled funds to the Lincoln Children's Museum, March of Dimes, Make-A-Wish Foundation and TeamMates Mentoring Program, which encourages school children to reach their educational goals by pairing them with adult mentors.

Ohio Celebrating the holidays with the Cincinnati Bengals

For the fifth year in a row, the foundation supported the Kicks for Kids Christmas Celebration held at Paul Brown Stadium—home turf of the Cincinnati Bengals. More than 60 children received winter clothing, toys and games, but the best gift may have been meeting their NFL heroes—along with Santa Claus and Bengals mascot Who Dey. Kids fanned out on the football field, where they threw passes and attempted field goals.

BKDers also participated in the 10th annual Paint the Town, a project affiliated with Give Back Cincinnati. The daylong event in June 2011 involved more

than 1,000 volunteers, and the BKD Foundation sponsored one of 40 homes and supplied a paint crew of seven employees—plus family and friends. In its 10 years, Paint the Town has freshened up the exteriors of 310 houses in Greater Cincinnati and northern Kentucky.

Other not-for-profits receiving charitable gifts were the American Heart Association, Legal Aid Society of Greater Cincinnati and Lindner Center of HOPE, a not-for-profit mental health center.



Santa hands out gifts at the Kicks for Kids Christmas Celebration



Storming the field at Paul Brown Stadium



BKDer's raise a wall during the Ten for Joplin blitz build

Oklahoma Crossing the state line to give tornado victims shelter

When Habitat for Humanity (HFH) chapters in Tulsa and Joplin, Missouri, announced an ambitious project to build 10 homes for Joplin tornado victims in just 16 days, the BKD Foundation immediately committed funding and manpower. More than 30 BKD volunteers, including many from the Tulsa office, participated in the blitz build.

"Joplin's our neighbor, and a lot of people in Tulsa have ties to Joplin," said BKD Senior Manager Jeff Ronsse, chairman of the Tulsa HFH Board of Directors. "We used our resources and influence in Tulsa to raise money and help with the rebuilding project."

Oklahoma City BKDer's helped box up snacks and prepared meals at the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma, which distributes food to more than 825 partner agencies and schools in central and western Oklahoma. They also raised money for the American Heart Association, and about 25 employees turned out for the Central Oklahoma Start! Heart Walk.

Other donees were Enid Public Schools and the Tulsa Boys' Home, a treatment facility for young men with mental health, behavioral and substance abuse problems.

Texas **Battling breast cancer and building character on the links**

The BKD Foundation made a big impact in Texas in 2011.

A team of Houston BKDers led by Senior Manager Gail Duke—herself a breast cancer survivor—raised tens of thousands of dollars for the Komen Race for the Cure®. Other Houston organizations receiving grants were Prevent Child Abuse Texas and Heroes for Children, which provides financial and social assistance to Texas families with children battling cancer.

Out west in San Antonio, BKD employees spent a Saturday in October putting the finishing touches on a new Habitat for Humanity home by priming

and painting the interior, laying shingles and installing porch beams. Volunteers from that office also organized, cooked and served a chili dinner for homeless families staying at the SAMMinistries Transitional Living and Learning Center.

Another major foundation contribution came in the form of a three-year pledge to The First Tee of Greater Dallas, and BKD supplied volunteers for The First Tee Golf Tournament. First Tee's goal is to build character and instill values in young people through the game of golf.



The 2011 Komen Race for the Cure® in Houston



Courtesy of The First Tee of Greater Dallas

The First Tee of Greater Dallas teaches fundamentals of golf—and life



Community Involvement

Foundation gifts and volunteerism are among the ways we support communities BKD serves, but our local offices participate in activities above and beyond local BKD Foundation initiatives. Our personnel are represented on civic and charitable boards, involved in churches, synagogues and other religious organizations and engaged in a wide variety of community-based special events.

In 2011, BKDers taught financial literacy to elementary students in Cincinnati, dressed up as Christmas trees for a fundraiser benefitting a Fort Wayne food bank, donated Christmas gifts to the Salvation Army in Evansville, walked to raise money for a Tulsa organization that provides disadvantaged women with professional attire and staffed a food bank call center in Houston.

United Way

Many BKD offices support United Way, an international organization that gathers money, goods and volunteer services from donors and transforms the contributions into support for local not-for-profit agencies. BKD launched creative campaigns to champion United Way giving in 2011, which totaled more than \$790,000. Many offices broke previous fundraising records, and some achieved 100 percent staff participation. Dozens of BKDers across the firm have been recognized as Leadership Givers by their local United Way chapters.



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