

FIRST OKLAHOMA BANK PRESENTS
Business Leaders with Heart



PURPOSEFUL. PERSISTENT. PERFECTIONIST.

A native Tulsan, Patricia Samuels is familiar with the fabric of our city. She has interwoven her life with interests close to her heart, choosing to help youth and volunteer for organizations that fight heart disease and breast cancer, among others.

“I’m a perfectionist. If I commit to something, I want to do it to the best of my ability,” she says.

An early riser, Patricia always has a checklist of things to accomplish. She enjoys gardening, reading, trying different recipes, interior decorating and avidly cheering for the University of Oklahoma football team.

Her faith and church have figured prominently in her dedication to youth. After five years, Patricia recently rolled off the board of the Met Cares Foundation, which opened the Greenwood Leadership Academy and serves over 300 children, pre-kindergarten through fifth grade.

In 2014 Pastor Ray Owens of Metropolitan Baptist Church, where Patricia and her husband Paul attend, convened a meeting of north Tulsa leaders to discuss the systemic challenges facing students of color and their families. It was clear something needed to be done, and Pastor Owens created Met Cares Foundation, which has led citywide efforts for sweeping change, Patricia says. As an educational advocate, she was excited

about being a change agent for students in north Tulsa.

“Often you don’t know what difference you’re making until later in life,” says Patricia. “I’m just trying to make a difference in someone’s life and leave the world better than how I found it.”

In the past, Patricia also has been a PTA president for Booker T. Washington and served on its Foundation for Excellence as well as co-chaired the former Holland Hall Book Fair.

Her desire to help young people can be traced to her parents who generously shared what they had with children in the community. “Children loved coming and talking to my mother and father. They would take them in and nurture them.”

Among other commitments, Patricia has served on the Salvation Army board. Heart disease runs in her family, leading Patricia

one year to co-chair the American Heart Association’s annual fundraiser, Go Red for Women Luncheon. She also has been part of the Pink Ribbon planning for breast cancer awareness, noting that her mother is a 28-year breast cancer survivor.

“If you want something done and done right, get Patricia Samuels on your team! She sees problems and solves them. Although she is reluctant to seek the limelight, her fingerprints are all over our community, leaving our world a better place to live and work,” says Tom Bennett Jr, chairman of the board for First Oklahoma Bank.

Says Patricia, “First Oklahoma Bank is doing great things in the Tulsa community. The relationship building they have throughout the entire community – they do it better than most banks.”



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