



 GIVING FROM THE HEART:
Phyllis Rothrock at the
Bullington Gardens.



Embodying the Spirit of Philanthropy

When asked why she gives charitably, Phyllis Rothrock quietly answers, “Why not?”

Such a humble response reflects the selfless giving spirit of Phyllis, the recipient of the Community Foundation’s 2016 Richard C. and Vina L. Sauer Charitable Leadership Award.

CFHC’s annual Sauer Award honors local philanthropists who follow in the footsteps of the Sauers by providing outstanding leadership and making significant contributions to benefit Henderson County.

When the award was bestowed upon Phyllis, she was described as “loving, loyal and committed” — someone who has lived a life full of philanthropy and who continues to devote endless hours and unwavering dedication to help others.

Years ago, Phyllis and her late husband – who was known as Wally – became aware of the important, long-lasting work donors achieve through the Community Foundation. She says it was just natural after he died to establish the WALLY Fund in his memory.

Now known as the Wallace D. and Phyllis C. Rothrock Fund, the fund is an endowed, unrestricted component fund of CFHC that will provide charitable assistance forever.

“The needs and opportunities in the community are many and varied,” Phyllis says. “I thought the fund should have the maximum flexibility to dispense funds for the overall enrichment of the community.”

Phyllis’ generosity and volunteer efforts through the years have supported many local efforts through CFHC grants and the work of such organizations as the Bullington Gardens, Children & Family Resource Center, United Way of Henderson County, Blue Ridge Community Health Services, Habitat for Humanity, Pardee Hospital Foundation, Council on Aging of Henderson County, and the Boys & Girls Club of Henderson County.

True to her unassuming nature, Phyllis often supports causes she cares about anonymously.

“I don’t give for notoriety, fame or recognition,” she says. “It’s about giving back — and giving forward.”



See the wide variety of other charitable funds donors have established at the Community Foundation by going to [page 23](#).