



VISIONARIES: Bernd and Toby Linder enjoy a walk at The Park at Flat Rock.

Planting Seeds of Giving

2017 SAUER AWARD RECIPIENTS BERND AND TOBY LINDER

For the Linders, the inspiration behind their philanthropy is simple. “We are interested in trying to improve the quality of life for future generations in Henderson County,” Bernd and Toby share. Through each act of giving, the Linders demonstrate that doing good for their community, is a part of living well.

Determined and visionary philanthropists, Bernd and Toby received the Community Foundation’s 2017 Richard C. and Vina L. Sauer Charitable Leadership Award. CFHC’s annual Sauer Award honors philanthropic leaders who follow in the Sauers’ footsteps by providing vital contributions to benefit our community.

Friends describe the Linders as “truly benevolent, using their talents, gifts and personal involvement in every aspect of our community in order to heal our world.”

Bernd and Toby met while they were attending college in New York City. In 1970, Bernd’s job at GE brought them to Henderson County where they raised a family. Soon after settling down, the Linders realized that they share an interest in cultivating their community through philanthropy.

By establishing the Linder Family Charitable Fund, a donor advised fund with CFHC, the

Linders are able to contribute to over twenty different organizations annually. Two causes that are particularly close to the Linders’ hearts are the new Pardee Cancer Center and recreational facilities in local public parks.

“We are fortunate to have the means to act philanthropically,” Toby says. “We feel that CFHC is a wonderful vehicle for us to structure and focus our charitable giving.”

The Linders’ generosity and volunteer efforts have supported many local organizations through CFHC grants, including: Pardee Memorial Hospital Foundation, Children & Family Resource Center, Flat Rock Playhouse, St. Gerard House, Agudas Israel Congregation and more.

Bernd and Toby have some advice to offer others interested in making a difference through philanthropy. “Listen to what others have to say. Find areas you want to focus on and make yourself aware of the community needs,” the Linders advise. “Also, be aware that it is hard to predict what the future holds. You can trust in CFHC to help address the future needs of this community.”



Nominations for the Sauer Award are accepted on a yearly basis. For a complete list of past recipients and details on how to nominate visit www.CFHCforever.org