Established in 1993 by the Community Foundation Board of Directors, the Richard C. and Vina L. Sauer Charitable Leadership Award serves as a memorial to Mr. & Mrs. Sauer for their philanthropic support of our community.

The 1994 recipient of the Richard C. and Vina L. Sauer Charitable Leadership Award was Kenneth Youngblood.

Ken is a behind-the-scenes mover and shaker when projects are in their infancy. He played this role when he pushed to establish the Henderson County Education Foundation, the Hendersonville Symphony Orchestra, the Henderson County Cancer Society, the Historical Johnson Farm, and the Community Foundation of Henderson County, Inc.

Ken’s name should be lettered on every fire truck in the County because he helped organize and establish every volunteer Fire Department in the County. He helped establish the Blue Ridge Community College Foundation and has donated a great many hours as attorney for the Henderson County Schools and the Town of Fletcher. He has been a major supporter of United Way, the Fletcher Elementary School Endowment Fund as well as the Fletcher School Projects.

It was through Ken’s influence that the Kellogg Property was donated to the state along with matching cash funds for perpetual maintenance. Now, with grants from the state of NC, the Kellogg property, which is located in Henderson County, will become a show place for the University of NC at Asheville.

Ken lays the groundwork and gets the right people involved to insure the success of a project. He has been involved in many endeavors that make our community a better place for us and future generations to live and to prosper and he never wants any credit.