

THE PRIDDY FOUNDATION



David Wolverton



Dr. Shelley S. Sweatt

TRANSFERRING OF THE GUARD

The President of The Priddy Foundation, David Wolverton to retire, Dr. Shelley S. Sweatt to take his place. Effective early Fall 2016, David Wolverton will be stepping down as President of The Priddy Foundation.

David Wolverton has been the President of The Priddy Foundation since January 1, 1999. David Wolverton has had the honor of serving as President for seventeen years, in which he has accomplished many things, including the following:

- Forged partnerships with community organizations and participated with them in their vital work in behalf of their communities
- Expanded the reach of the foundation to other counties in North Texas and Southern Oklahoma
- Moved beyond a traditional grant program into community-wide initiatives, such as developing and implementing an arts plan for Wichita Falls
- Worked with Robert T. Priddy for sixteen worthwhile and entertaining years

Of his tenure, David Wolverton has stated “When I entered the world of philanthropy, I thought giving away money would be fun and easy. It has been fun; supplying resources to worthwhile organizations is an enjoyable activity, but it hasn’t been easy. Fortunately, I have had a very competent and dedicated staff all of these years. They made it easy.”

David Wolverton looks forward to his replacement, Dr. Shelley S. Sweatt. Of her experience and appointment, David Wolverton has said “The foundation board has chosen an outstanding President of the foundation. In her four years as a member of this staff, and in her former lengthy career in education, she has exhibited a broad range of skills and capabilities that will enable her to meet the challenges of leading a large and changing philanthropic organization.”

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PRESS RELEASE

Dr. Shelley S. Sweatt has been Executive Director of The Priddy Foundation since 2014. During her term on the board of The Priddy Foundation, Dr. Sweatt has been involved with the following:

- Traditional Grants and Community Impact Projects
- Grants Associate
- Board Trustee, 2010-2012

Dr. Shelley S. Sweatt's personal background includes:

- Executive Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Burkburnett ISD, 1995-2012 (retired)
- Classroom Teacher, Campus Administrator, Burkburnett ISD, 1980-1995
- Family: Husband-Greg Sweatt, Daughter-Merrill Sweatt Cain and her Husband-John Tyler Cain
- Education: Ed. D. University of North Texas (Educational Administration), M. Ed. Texas Women's University (Educational Supervision), B.S. Texas Tech University (Secondary Education)

“I am honored to be afforded the opportunity to follow David Wolverton as President of The Priddy Foundation. Just being part of this wonderful foundation is an incredible experience, and to know that we have had a small role in helping our nonprofits impact the lives of others in the communities that we serve is very humbling. It is a privilege to be responsible for the stewardship of the resources and legacy left to us by Robert Priddy.” – Dr. Shelley S. Sweatt

HISTORY OF THE PRIDDY FOUNDATION

The Priddy Foundation was founded by Walter M. and Swannanoa Priddy in 1963, primarily as a vehicle for the founders' personal charities. The principal focus of giving was on Wichita Falls, Texas and the states of Virginia and North Carolina, the couples' birthplace.

In addition to Swannanoa and Walter Priddy, the original trustees were their sons, Robert T. Priddy, Charles H. Priddy, Ashley H. Priddy, and a few close friends.

The Priddy's philanthropic venture functioned as a family foundation for three decades and became recognized as a vital force in Wichita Falls philanthropy. In the early 1990's, under the leadership of Robert Priddy, the foundation increased the board and continued to add non-family members as trustees.

Robert Priddy and his wife, Ruby, also began making substantial gifts to the foundation. Robert Priddy retired as president of the foundation on December 31, 1998, and was named trustee emeritus. Today, the foundation is governed by a committed board of community leaders who count it a privilege to continue the efforts of the Priddy family.

Robert Priddy's legacy is not just in the formative role he has played, nor in the substantial gifts he has made, but also in the way he has provided for the foundation's future as a philanthropic entity. For over half a century, The Priddy Foundation has been committed to enriching the lives of others through charitable giving, investing almost \$90 million to date to support worthy programs and organizations in the foundations twenty-four county service area.

THE PRIDDY FOUNDATION MISSION STATEMENT

Dedicated to the support of programs in human services, education, the arts, and health, which offer significant potential for individual development and community improvement.

**See attached high resolution photos and logo for The Priddy Foundation.
Quotes included in press release are for any coverage elements you may choose to utilize.**