

## Wayne C. Thompson

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Wayne C. Thompson was the Executive Director of the Oklahoma Health Care Project. Established in 1986, the entity had been dormant for many years until Thompson, along with several Health Care Project former board members, revived the agency focusing its efforts on the well-being of children in the juvenile justice system and other at risk young people. Thompson was able to secure much-needed funding for programs and activities which offered opportunities for children who would have otherwise been left behind.

In addition to the Oklahoma Health Care Project, Thompson was a significant partner in All of Us or None, the Haiti Support Project and the San Francisco 8 activities. He founded WCT Management, where he represented the interest of others at the State Capitol. He also shared his knowledge and expertise working to make improvements in the juvenile justice system in Washington, D.C., and in Jamaica.

An advocate for health-care access, he served many years on the Board of Directors of Community Health Centers, Inc., the corporate sponsor of Mary

Mahoney Community Health Center as well as several other health centers in central Oklahoma.

Wayne supported his mother, Daisy Mitchell, and other Dunjee/Spencer residents in a grassroots effort to establish Mary Mahoney to meet health-care needs of residents in far northeast Oklahoma County. Wayne was honored for his role in the creation of the Oklahoma Primary Care Association, the trade association of community health centers and other community-based health-care providers.

Throughout the country, Thompson was well-known and respected from California to Washington, D.C. He had a worldwide influence on those in Haiti, Jamaica, and Africa. Wayne Thompson worked tirelessly to make life better for impoverished people and others in dire circumstances.

After Thompson's death, U.S. Congresswoman Diane E. Watson of California prepared a Resolution honoring her associate and colleague and celebrating his purpose-driven life. The Resolution was entered into the Congressional Record on January 13, 2009.

# Wayne C. Thompson: A Lifetime of Commitment



*Above: Dr. Jeanette Davidson, director of OU's African & African American Studies Program, is pictured with Wayne C. Thompson, Joslyn Barnes and Danny Glover at a meeting in New York.*



*Left: Actor and activist Danny Glover joined his friend, Wayne C. Thompson, on a panel at the National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in Higher Education, sponsored by OU's Southwest Center for Human Relations Studies.*



*Bottom left: Wayne's daughter, Lonna Thompson, accepts the A.C. Hamlin Award, awarded posthumously to her father, by the Oklahoma Legislative Black Caucus on May 5, 2009.*