



December 2016 Program Updates

Resource Development Director Second Quarter Report (October-December)

Note: Beginning in January, board members who give recurring online gifts will not receive a monthly mailed letter acknowledging their gift. They will still receive an email acknowledgement. This will save time and money for the Resource Development budget. Please let Kate know if you have questions or if you'd prefer to continue receiving mailed acknowledgements. Thank you!

Individual Donor

- MailChimp email introduction of Kate to current donors (46% open rate)
- Staff ask (CFCIS and United Way) and creation of pledge form
- Updated acknowledgement email and letter each month
- Researched and purchased bulk mail list for holiday appeal (30 new donors since start date; some from solicitation, others from holiday sponsor donation link and unsolicited)
- Wrote and designed holiday appeal
- Entered gifts in Neon and acknowledged 190+ donations
- Holiday Assistance Program (40+ hours)
- Communicated with 63 sponsors by phone call/email, assigned children, developed system, followed up with sponsors as deadline neared, sent personal thank yous to sponsors before end of year, reviewed process through round table discussion with key staff players
- Marked as holiday sponsors in Neon; goal to convert sponsors to donors in 2017

Grants

- Face-to-face meetings with Anika Ellis, Heather Dillashaw, Gwen Wisler re: City of Asheville Strategic Partnership Funds (current and future funding)
- 1st and 2nd quarter reports submitted for Buncombe County and City of Asheville; Sisters of Mercy Evaluation submitted
- Presentation with Natasha to Community Foundation of Henderson County's Rudnick Endowment (later funded \$15,000)
- 6 grants applied for – Parsec Financial, Provident Benevolent (\$20,000), Glass Foundation (LOI approved), Sisters of Mercy (LOI & application for \$50,000), United Way designation, Allegra Print (\$1,000)
- Dollar General grant discussion, calls and emails to Foundation to adjust timeline and deadline
- Working with Natasha on reporting DESSA scores for Mission Community Investment Grant
- Calls and emails to Rachael Nygaard to amend contract scope of services for Buncombe County
- Added grant and reporting deadlines into Neon

Board

- individual meetings with Jon Miles and Leeanne Briggs
- attended two board meetings (November, December)
- orchestrated board signing holiday appeal and board participation in holiday parade
- created Development Committee and Special Event Committee job descriptions

Events

- Organized Omni Grove Park Inn holiday parade participation; t-shirt order; email communication
- AYS event location scouting (New Belgium, Highland Brewing, Morris Hellenic Cultural Center)
- Met with Emilie Travis, trivia mistress, about AYS

Corporate Sponsors

- 9 face-to-face sponsorship meetings (Image 420, TD Bank, PNC Bank, Self Help Credit Union, First Bank, BB&T, HomeTrust, Navitat, WNC Realty)
- 4 email facilitated sponsorships (Katalyst, Brunk Auctions, Asheville Savings, Eblen/Biltmore Oil)
- Worked with board to get corporate sponsor leads; specific email communication with James, Alida, Mike, Leeanne
- All received mailed follow-up and thank you notes; one e-mailed instead of mailed (Navitat)
- Developed spreadsheet and researched previous sponsors for pertinent information
- Updated corporate sponsorship packet

Civic/Faith

- Holiday assistance sponsor work with All Souls Cathedral and Trinity Episcopal (80 children); appreciation
- Work with Journey Connect quarterly luncheons (received RSVP list and attending January meeting) to cultivate relationships
- In depth work with Loretta Andrews (All Souls)
- Work with Karen Ward, Givens Estates, for Christmas Outreach gift
- Loaves & Fishes, First Presbyterian Church
- Included new data entry section in Neon of civic/faith group for eventual data pulls

Other

- Informational meetings with Morgan, Barbara, Jodi
- Meeting with Student Support Specialists to discuss grant reporting significance
- Neon and QuickBooks training

Outreach & Engagement Coordinator Report

4 Stories and videos featured on local media about the work of Children First/CIS

- Rylan and Maddison (two of our Learning center children) interview for StoryShare Project at Amplified Media: <https://youtu.be/gd9mRNQD7lw> (Don't miss this video!!!)
- WNC organizations, spiritual groups stand against hate: Asheville Citizen Times—Signed by CFCIS <http://www.citizen-times.com/story/opinion/2016/12/12/wnc-organizations-spiritual-groups-stand-hate/95324794/>
- Mission Health presents local nonprofits with \$869,000 in 2017 grant awards: <http://mountainx.com/blogwire/mission-health-presents-local-nonprofits-with-869000-in-2017-grant-awards/>
- FighterWithin MMA hosts Brazilian Jiu Jitsu seminar to benefit Children First/CIS Dec. 19, 21, 23 <http://mountainx.com/blogwire/fighterwithin-mma-hosts-brazilian-jiu-jitsu-seminar-to-benefit-children-firstcis-dec-19-21-23/>
- 214 supporters opened the December newsletter, 8 clicked on the Youtube video of James & Alida and 7 signed our Advocacy petition on the Affordable Care Act.
- Holiday Assistance was a huge success as 180 children were matched with local sponsors. For the first year ever, the Holiday Assistance program was facilitated by volunteers, including BOD Alida Woods. The volunteers came in twice a week (sometimes three times) for 3 weeks where they tracked the sponsor drop-off of gifts, managed the logistics, and contacted the families for pick up. It is a program with many moving parts and everyone did an amazing job!

Advocacy Report

- Meetings with Rep. Brian Turner and his legislative assistant to discuss early childhood advocacy issues related to child care subsidy.
- Greg attended convening for Community Centered Health Home grantees in Winston-Salem with other members of the local leadership team. The day and half event provided a chance to learn from the other communities receiving funds and plan our work in Buncombe. The CCHH initiative is led by MAHEC and a key collaboration for the Success Equation.
- Greg attended the statewide strategy planning session for the Raise the Age effort in Raleigh. Our organization has been a local leader for this effort for almost a decade. There is optimism that the bill will pass this year.
- Success Equation Leadership Team moved forward with a 2017 Policy Agenda draft with the goal of finalizing in January and presented to the board for final approval in February.
- Action alert sent out on protecting health care with link to our petition. 262 emails were registered as open and 47 readers signed our online petition. We also created a blog for Mountain Xpress in December on the issue that has had over 1,700 views.
- Story: The momentum on Raise the Age is building. Having been part of this effort for almost a decade, I'm inspired by the advocates (old and new) that are moving this forward for 2017.

FRCE Report

- 35 families were served through the distribution of 38 food boxes.
- 61 children were served.
- Of the 61 children, 21 attend Emma Elementary, 8 attend Eblen Intermediate, and 1 attend Johnston Elementary.
- 2 families received Emergency Financial Assistance (serving 5 children).
- Emergency Financial Assistance totaled \$200.00.
- SSS Dani drove to Swanannoa to pay a portion of a client's rent in order to prevent a disgruntled landlord from starting the eviction process.
- The FRCE received a food donation from North Asheville Baptist Church.
- The FRCE received its weekly produce donation from Trinity and monthly food donation from 1st Congregations.
- SSS Dani attended a luncheon hosted by MAHEC that celebrated the hard work and commitment of the mothers and organizations involved in the Madre to Madre project in Emma.
- SSS Dani has been providing Triple P services to a mother from Buncombe County.
- The Holiday Giving Program's distribution process took place at the FRCE and all gifts were successfully picked up by 12/16 due to dedication and the organization of strong volunteers (coordinated and supported by Jodi Ford).
- Kelly "Crossface" Anundson (coach/pro-MMA fighter) organized a 3 day donation based Brazilian Jiu Jitsu seminar that was open to the public. The seminar took place and was hosted by FighterWithin Mixed Martial Arts in Hendersonville. Green River Picklers donated jars of "Appalachian Okra" and "WNC Ramp Rarity" to be raffled off. Ally's Bar of Horseshoe, NC donated tasty, nutritious snacks to keep participants energized throughout the event. Through the seminar, Children First/Communities in Schools received holiday gifts for families, a box full of food for the pantry, and \$319.00.

Learning Centers Report

- Our leaders wrote up mid-year reviews for each child and shared them with our caregivers. This was to guide the caregivers in supporting their child over the Winter Break.
- We had wonderful Winter Holiday Festivals at each site. Santa and his elves came. The children enjoyed making gingerbread houses, playing holiday games like dreidel for Hanukkah, and many other fun activities.
- Each child got to take home a few fun presents from Santa and an educational tool to work with during the winter break, such as Flash Cards, writing workbook, math workbook, etc.

Student Support Specialist at Johnston Elementary School

- Bethesda Baptist Church partnered to provide Christmas gifts for 6 Johnston Elementary School's families
- DVA Homework Club Monday-Wednesday
- DVA Dance w/ LEAF Wednesdays
- DVA Holiday Party
- Partnered with Biltmore Baptist Church to Deliver 1 week of groceries to JES Families
- Expanded Food Pantry at JES

Student Support Specialist at Emma Elementary

- Assisted 2 Case Managed student with emergency clothing.

- Assisted 32 students with shoe and Christmas gift referrals from the Elks Lodge. SSS attended the Elks party with 2 Emma families.
- Completed Emergency Financial Assistance for 1 family.
- Attended 2 CHAPS meetings.
- Continued Student Support Plans for Case managed students.
- Provided academic assistance and facilitated enrichment activities for 20 case managed students at Woodridge Learning Center.
- Served lunch to Emma families at the Christmas Luncheon.
- Assisted with the WLC Holiday Party. Students participated in holiday themed crafts and games.
- Worked directly with and provided support for 9 WLC volunteers and 6 Emma Elementary and FRCE volunteers.
- Attended Coffee Talk (open meeting for parents/community members at Emma) lead by Principal Stowe.
- Completed 1 home visit for Case Managed families.
- Assisted with Holiday Assistance for 44 children through the CF/CIS program
- Assisted with Toys for Tots Donations for 23 students.
- Completed 3 Manna Foodbank pickups, unloaded and organized food pantry and distributed food boxes to families.
- Delivered clothing donated from community partners to the FRCE clothes closet.
- SSS Amanda Fox worked with 2 volunteers to clean up, and organize the FRCE.
- Coordinated the Lunch Buddy Mentor Program at Emma.

Student Support Specialist at Claxton Elementary School

- Contacted Parent concerning her child's eyeglasses
- 8 meetings with Parent regarding child's behavior both at CLX and LC
- Added 2 children to caseload
- 2 One on One Behavior Interventions with child
- 4 Check ins
- Called Parent regarding housing assistance
- Weekly Learning Center
- Holiday Party (LC)
- Classroom Observation
- One on One Intervention with child regarding verbal bullying
- Met with student regarding Anti-bullying posters
- One on One meeting with teacher
- Conference with Teacher regarding student schedule
- Assisted with holiday giving at FRCE
- Distributed holiday gifts

Student Support Specialist at Eblen Intermediate

- Continued to implement Check & Connect with three students.
- Attended weekly Teaming On Kids meetings.
- Deaverview Dance Crew continues to take place every Wednesday.
- Continued to provide homework club for students living in Deaverview every Thursday (allowing students to complete and receive assistance with assignments due on Friday).
- Provided Homework Club for students living in Woodridge every Friday (allowing students to practice math, literacy, etc skills through fun interactive games/activities. Homework Club also provided a safe space to openly discuss heavy topics such as racism, discrimination, and stereotypes that students face in both school and their community).
- Nominated one of her students for a \$100 shopping trip to Target and the student was selected. The SSS joined the student and her mother on the Saturday of the event and helped the student practice budgeting skills.
- SSS and her supervisor met with the principal of Eblen Intermediate and officially signed off on the School Support Plan and provided a quarterly update.
- Made phone calls to families in regards to holiday assistance pickup and assisted with the program when necessary at the FRCE.
- Found a last minute donor for one of her families and picked up and distributed the gifts.
- Works heavily with families through the FRCE (check FRCE Board Report).

Student Support Specialist at Estes Elementary School

- Helped organize gifts and food boxes for Warm Winter Wishes holiday giving program for 103 students.
- Met with the assistant principal to discuss status of School Support Plan and asses any needed changes.
- Facilitated a parent-teacher meeting to address the behavior issues of a student and implement a plan to help improve the students' classroom conduct.

Project POWER/AmeriCorps Report

- On December 2, Project POWER team members participated in a Budgeting and Money Management Training lead by an OnTrack facilitator.
- Our own Greg Borom came to the December 16th Project POWER Team meeting and lead the group in VPSA (Values, Problems, Solutions, Actions) Training. Following VPSA training members participated in Self-Care activities and received Passion Planners that the Passion Planner organization donated to Project POWER.
- Due to personal reasons One Full-Time member had to end their service.
- Thanks to a new partnership with the UNCA education department we were able to add 9 New 450 Hour Education Award Only members.