

Greenville First Steps Board meeting
February 21, 2014
Greenville Chamber of Commerce
1:00PM
Conference Call option:

Agenda Items

1. Approval of Board minutes from October and December 2013
(attachment 1)

2. Election of 2014 Officers

Chair: Danny Varat

Vice Chair: Keith Frazier

Executive Committee: Danny Varat, Keith Frazier, Karen Allen, Karen Sparkman. Also, approval of Karen Allen, Danny Varat to sign invoices

3. Election of 2014-2017 Board Members

Melissa Roper (Childcare provider)

Nancy Powers (Healthcare provider)

Stacy Burr (College Educator)

Sandra Linder (College Educator)

Meredith Burton (Childcare provider)

Keith Frazier (DSS Appointee)

4. Long Term Fund Development Proposal

Final report from SE Consulting (attachment 2)

General summary: Before organization can create a long term strategic plan for service provision, organization should develop a long term Fund development plan to address question of state ownership of private funds.

Proposal: Support the development of a “Friends of First Steps” independent 501c3 that would be responsible for developing local private funds to be used exclusively by Greenville First Steps for service provision. FRIENDS model would be a stand-alone agency that would raise private funds through Individual and Corporate contributions and sponsorships. FRIENDS would hire staff to support their work and would have a separate board of directors. To ensure connection between Greenville First Steps and FRIENDS, GFS board would appoint 2 members to FRIENDS executive committee, GFS Executive Director would be a non-voting member of FRIENDS board.

Action: None at this time. FRIENDS would be set up as an independent 501c3. After status is obtained, GFS board would be asked to fund \$100,000 in local private funds as start-up costs for FRIENDS (as contracted consulting services). FRIENDS would have an expectation to develop a long term sustainability plan that would include donations to GFS beginning FY2016.

5. **Mid Year Program Report**
Program Report (attachment 3) looks promising. No programs have output projections that are significantly below Board goals set in April 2013. Many programs are performing ahead of schedule and serving increased number of clients beyond those original goals.
A few high points:
Nurse Family Partnership will grow from 8 to 11 nurses in April thanks to Local and Federal funding. Will increase caseload from 175 to 250 families
Scholarships. To date we are projecting a 30% increase in awarded scholarships.
Matching. Reach out and Read, YMCA Judson, and GHS Cribs for Kids had three successful matching campaigns where First Steps funds were matched 1:1 with local private dollars. \$30,000 in FS funds were turned into \$70,350.
6. **First Steps 15 Anniversary Celebration.** Saturday March 29 3:00-5:00 at the Hanger, Downtown Greenville Airport. Will be an oyster roast with kid friendly fare. Purpose is to celebrate the impact Greenville First Steps has had over past 15 years. Invitations will be extended to Current and Former Board members, Former Executive Directors, Greenville Legislative Delegation, and their families. 100% of event will be funded through local private cash contributions. Still looking for a few \$100 sponsors. We have a list of former board members. Do you know anyone we are missing. Do you know any contact info? (attachment 4) Let Derek know.
7. **Project Pinwheel.** Off to a great start. Yam and Anne Lee, two staff brought on to help with campaign, have done some great work expanding our reach to churches and adding events. This year will include a Celebration Sunday (for churches), a Walk, from First Baptist Church to plant pinwheels in Cleveland Park, Greenville Journal insert (runs March 30). Also, to date we have received commitments of \$30,000 in Private grants, with another \$10,000 pending. Learn more at www.projectpinwheel.com. Thanks to GHS, DSS for supporting.
8. **Week of the Young Child:** April 5-12. Working to build a coalition of local events to celebrate this national campaign. Events include: GHS Safe Kids celebration, Lifelong Learning training, Family Night at Heritage Green, YMCA Healthy Kids Day events, and Picnic in the Park, United Way is working with First Steps to develop marketing content. Institute for Child Success is helping with Proclamations and media coverage. Thanks to Primrose School for sponsoring event promotion. Visit www.projectpinwheel.com for more information.

9. 2014 Board Meeting Schedule

April 11	Review of First Steps funding priorities. Approval of Fund Dev. plan
May 9	Conference Call Approval of FY15 Budget
August 8	FY14 Annual Review Approval of FY15 Goals Executive Dir. Performance Review
October 10	FY14 Annual Report FY 14 Audit Allocation of Unspent FY14 \$\$
December 12	Election of New Officers Election of New Board Members