



Board Meeting
December 13, 2013

Board Members Present: Wade Kolb, Grady Patterson, Lauren Briles, Nancy Powers, Linda Brees, Lorraine DeJong, Melissa Starker, Karen Allen

Staff Present: Derek Lewis, Leslie Latimer, Beth Jamieson

Meeting called to order: 1:09 pm by **Karen Allen**

New board members Lauren Briles, Grady Patterson and Wade Kolb were welcomed following an introduction from all board members.

Approval of Meeting Minutes: Tabled because there was no quorum.

First Steps Program Updates:

Leslie Latimer presented on her group presentation at NAEYC this year, along with information about the closing of the Greenville yWca. Information presented is as follows:

- The Greenville yWca has made a decision to close their Child Development Center effective December 20th
- Greenville First Steps is helping place the 6 families (7 children) who are on First Steps scholarship into new centers.
- Greenville First Steps has agreed to help place staff in other childcare centers who have job openings. We have created a Facebook jobs posting page called Greenville Childcare Works for centers to post jobs and childcare staff to post resumes.

Leslie also gave an update about the Greenville County Childcare Association website that is currently being developed. Members were shown a snapshot of what the page looks like and some of the content that is expected.

Beth Jamieson presented on the 2013 Zombie Run, Project Pinwheel and Childcare back office support proposal.

2013 Zombie Run Update:

- **Final Budget:**

Income: \$23,649

Expenses: \$16,117

Net: \$7,532: Shared by Greenville First Steps, Red Shoe Society, Brashier Middle College, Little Steps and Greenville High Rugby Team

- **Participants:**

Runners-370

Zombies-47

Kids Run-90
Volunteers-70+

- **Media Coverage:**

Fox Carolina morning spotlight coverage day before event
WSPA covered event 3 days before event
Fox, WYFF, WSPA, and WLOS all covered event
Greenville Journal, Greenville News, Spartanburg Herald photographer

Derek Lewis gave an update on Childcare Resource and Referral.
He presented the following foreseen problems and proposed solutions.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Problem: Centralizing services will result in no office presence for CCR&R Likely means closing of United Way CCR&R Resource Center • Proposed solution: First Steps will work with UW to ensure Resource center is open either within space at United Way or another partner organization. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Problem: CCR&R staff have historically played a leadership role in WOYC/Picnic in the Park planning and implementation. • Proposed solution: First Steps will convene a group of partners to carry on this work in our community. First Steps will use board approved literacy initiatives within WOYC to supplement programs.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Problem: Without local CCR&R staff to make personal referrals there is an increased need for an interactive online searchable database. • Proposed Solution: First Steps will ramp up production of a Greenville County searchable database to be launched by March 1st. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Problem: A state centered TA team will likely focus on emergency responses and high risk TA, not voluntary improvement systems. ◆ Proposed Solution: First Steps will use board approved QI dollars to pilot Quality Counts in 5 childcare settings in Spring of 2014.

Board members asked many questions about the purpose of us wanting to take on these initiatives. All of the initiatives were discussed as a group.
Following the discussion about Child Care Resource and Referral, Derek discussed Quality Counts. The board approved the funding for this program at a previous meeting. Derek explained that we would choose 5 pilot sites for this year, 3 of them being our current scholarship sites. We will do this program in conjunction with Spartanburg First Steps.

The next board meeting will be February 7th at the Greenville Chamber of Commerce.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:20 pm by **Derek Lewis**.