

L.E.A.P. Organization Board of Directors Meeting

April 9, 2011

In Attendance: Rich Garrett, Richard 'Reason' Garrett, Eric Purvis, Ariel Stephens, Yolanda Stewart, Leo Milan, Angela Hopkins

The meeting was called to order at 9:07am with opening prayer by Treasurer Rich Garrett. CEO Reason Garrett began by passing out the Leap Operations Report which discussed different partnerships we are looking to work with such as the CARE organization which stands for Clarksville Area Re-Entry Program which was founded by Angela Hopkins. It provides mentoring to incarcerated juveniles and adult offenders, career development and job placement assistance for juveniles, ex offenders, and single parents. Angela Hopkins also provides that CARE does whatever they can by providing referrals, mentoring, clothing, etc for ex-offenders. Reason Garrett goes on to discuss two additional partnerships that were not mentioned on the Operations Report such as Labor of Love which provides assistance to single parents with paying bills. They are also working with Sherry Walcott (the first woman we assisted for Emergency Housing) to come on board for employment and provide a vehicle to her as a means for traveling back and forth to work. The second partnership is with Radical Mission who provides a mission called "Hunger for the Souls" at Hillcrest Baptist Church which feeds the homeless during the holidays. They will also do a one-time payment with assistance in rent, mortgage, etc. We are looking to partner with them to provide transportation by picking the kids up from school and dropping them off to the mentors and other events. Daymar Institute is a potential partnership as well but they have to run the paperwork and

partnership through their legal department for them to provide tutoring, GED Classes, and college prep. The last partnership discussed was Flourishing Families whose mission is to assist with homelessness, provide job placement assistance, and childcare. They are currently working with one of the clients that LEAP has provided shelter to and will begin working with Sherry as well. The Board had no objections to the developing partnerships. Right now, LEAP is in the process of applying for the TCCY Grant to receive \$68,680 for providing our mentoring and career development service to At-Risk youth who will be court assigned into the program. We are also going to apply for the Second Chance Act Juvenile Mentoring Initiative and the Second Chance Act Adult Mentoring Initiative. Both grants can award up to \$625,000 for providing mentoring and career development services to juvenile and adult ex-offenders. Reason also passed out the outline of the Supportive Housing Complex which will consist of 36 units and at least 80 parking spaces. The goal is to have the Second Chance grant pay for juveniles and adult ex-offenders to learn construction and build the complex that will cater to low income single parents.

We also have several fundraising events scheduled starting in May with the American Intern: LEAP Series which will take place May 18th or May 21st. This event will be hosted as a means to raise money for the Washington, D.C. trip. The scene will be business attire with red, white, and blue accents. The intern will present who they are, what they want to achieve, background, accomplishments, and aspirations as well as attributes. The businesses will silent bid on the intern they wish to receive during this scene and all bidding will start around \$50-\$100. The last fundraiser event is called the Wii Fit Together competition and 4th Friday Christ After Hours event. We are looking to

start the Christ After Hours event the last week of July and September for the WII competition. More info will be provided as we begin creating the plan for these events.

As we go to expand from a group of volunteers to a team of compensated employees, we intend to begin with 3 salaried employees 50% funded by the TCCY Grant. The Program's Director and Administrative Assistant will begin with a salary of \$10,000 and the Case Manager will have a salary of \$15,000. Each position will be part time with the exception of the Case Manager who will hold down a 40 hour a week workload. Additional salary employees will be included upon LEAP receiving the Second Chance Act Grants. Richard 'Reason' Garrett also discussed how the money would be allocated upon receiving the TCCY Grant with a few minor changes in the proposal such as changing the \$7,500 total on equipment to \$8,000 so that the proper amount of computers will be on hand. The Zinc Plant was looking to give computers away but they will not be brand new. Angela Hopkins will be looking into this and providing information on this later. All prices are subject to change and when a definite amount is proposed, each board member will receive confirmation from Richard, President Tamira Cole, or Secretary Ariel Stephens. We also had a voting of a new member, Angela Hopkins. She has 34 years of experience in career development and is now the manager of the Career Center. Started CARE about 3 years ago as a means to help those who served jail time. Currently, only 36 employers in Clarksville will accept employment from ex-offenders. Her group also provides an assessment called 'Jobs for Training.' Angela went on to describe that it is a 10 week course of how to look for a job, training them to stay on the right track, etc. Some industrial factories will take a chance on ex-offenders if they complete the ten week course successfully. CEO Reason Garrett

asked her to step out of the room while the board voted on approving her membership. She was then asked to return and was unanimously voted as a new member of the Board of Directors.

We discussed the Step and Sound Off Competition which was held last month. Treasurer Rich Garrett provided the financial report of the stepshow. Total received from ticket sales and donations came up to \$2701.00 and after paying out the money for security, DJ, winners, and miscellaneous items, we made a profit of \$691.00. Currently, we have \$251.88 in our savings account and \$1236.78 in our checking account; however, the amount is subject to change because we are still in the process of collecting funds from West Creek High School from their ticket sales. For next year's event, as a way of cutting expenses, we will not be having any of the lights nor will we be using the same DJ. Secretary Ariel Stephens has a friend, who is Justin Radford's former DJ, that agrees with LEAP's cause and agreed to do the event for only \$150.00 and Leo Milan has connections with someone in the security field that will provide security for free. Yolanda Stewart provided the idea of more vendors needed as a better variety to target the youth (not just adults) such as college recruits, Armed Forces recruits, local music artists, etc. As far as the workshops, Vice President Eric Purvis provided the idea of having the workshop in the schools instead of having it on the day of the stepshow which will give the step teams a chance to participate in the workshops as a means of being allowed to compete in the competition. The schools are being allotted more money to provide for after school activities. It will be better for the kids because it will provide more of an audience as well as motivate the kids on becoming more involved. Treasurer Rich Garrett also provided the idea to raise the registration fee from \$25 to \$50 since the teams will be

getting in for free. Yolanda Stewart was received praises for the wonderful job that she did on the National Anthem and will be returning next year to do it over again.

Unity Day will be June 5th at First Assembly of God. LEAP is one of the nonprofit organizations that will be honored for our work to honor the community in our efforts to make Clarksville a better place. In closing Leo Millan advised the Board that he was allowing LEAP to use a 2 bedroom apartment unit for the Emergency Housing Program. The meeting was adjourned at 10:25am