Co-chairs Detail WUP’s Growth and Success

Smart Beginnings Receives $36,000 Grant to Aid School Readiness Programs

We are pleased to report that Women United in Philanthropy is healthier and more robust than ever. Thanks to your enthusiasm for what we are doing together, our membership is at 141 as of September 2008. This is remarkable growth for an organization that is still fairly new and that does no formal advertising.

Our annual luncheon this past May was a triumph. With approximately 115 women attending, we celebrated our mission of making an impact through collective grant-making. We also delivered on our other goal of educating our membership about the human service needs in our community.

Our luncheon room at the Omni Hotel looked terrific, thanks to the artistic talent of Deborah Hayes, who created a captivating visual exhibit of our work in the community. And thanks to a top-notch presentation by Suzanne Morse of the Pew Partnership for Civic Change we learned about the largely silent epidemic of high-school dropouts, both locally and nationally.

Ms. Morse was passionate and highly informative about her topic; as a result, we enjoyed a lively and inspiring discussion during the question and answer period. Ms. Morse challenged us to consider how we might address the problem of teens in the Charlottesville-Albemarle region who, for various reasons, drop out of high school. With the help of Cathy Train at the United Way, we were able to direct women who wanted to follow up on this issue toward local volunteer opportunities. Our community is fortunate to have several organizations already thinking creatively about how to reduce the local dropout rate.

As always, we are indebted to our generous sponsors for the success of this event. This year, we thank Volvo of Charlottesville, the Better Living Foundation, and an anonymous donor for their contributions. We deeply appreciate the donors’ support of the second annual WUP luncheon.

continued on Page 2 see Growth and Success

WUP Mission Statement

Women United in Philanthropy maximizes women’s leadership in philanthropy by engaging and educating its membership, increasing charitable contributions, and strengthening our community through the impact of collective giving to support human services.
WUP 2008 Financial Statement  
1/1/08 - 7/31/08

2008 MEMBERSHIPS, GIFTS AND SPONSORSHIPS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carryover 2007</td>
<td>3,295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memberships and Collective Fund</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008 General Memberships (141)</td>
<td>10,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009 General Memberships (1)</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008 Collective Fund: Donations Above $75</td>
<td>36,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009 Collective Fund: Donations Above $75</td>
<td>3,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Luncheon - May 2008</td>
<td>2,265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>55,035</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2008 EXPENDITURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annual Luncheon - May 2008</td>
<td>4,546</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Readiness Panel - February 2008</td>
<td>724</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newsletters</td>
<td>325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>747</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant Allocations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Available for 2008 grant</td>
<td>36,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Available for 2009 grant</td>
<td>3,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>45,542</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,493</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Growth and Success  
continued from Page 1

We have completed our third grant cycle, giving away $36,000 this year to the “Smart Beginnings” program. “Smart Beginnings” is a consortium of 15 local agencies all working together to make sure that preschool children in our community are fully ready to begin kindergarten. School readiness has been a hallmark of Governor Kaine’s administration, and we are proud to support a local initiative working toward this worthy goal.

Women United will offer its members and their guests several opportunities this coming year to learn how our grant is being used to achieve greater school readiness for our local youngsters. We encourage you to watch your e-mail, your postal mail, and our website at womenunitedcharlottesville.info for more information on this grant.

Finally, we want to offer our special thanks to those who have worked hard this past year to improve our grant-making process. Karyl Kayton, Margery Daniel, Liza Borches, and Caroline Satira have made (and continue to make) our grant-making tasks—solicitation of proposals, site visits, evaluation of programs, and education of our grant committee—more sophisticated, professional, and streamlined. Making a strategic and effective grant involves a great deal of work, and we appreciate the effort of these women to strengthen the core of what we do in Women United.

The Grant Committee reviewed about a dozen project proposals this spring—all deserving, all inspiring. In our discussions, we raised a handful of thorny and fascinating questions: What are the relative benefits of funding new initiatives, on-going programs or operating expenses? How do we respond fairly to organizations that already enjoy strong community support (as opposed to those which are less established or have less experience in fund-raising)? How do we assess programs that don’t lend themselves to quantitative evaluation? How much reporting is it fair and realistic to expect of a program we fund? Such questions have no simple answers, but in wrestling with them collectively we are learning a great deal about the art and technique of good philanthropy.

As always, we thank United Way for its consistent and professional support of our work. And we thank you, our members, for joining us. Please continue to spread the word about Women United, bring guests to our events, and keep renewing your membership!

Kakie Brooks and Jennifer Feist  
Steering Committee Co-Chairs

Fall Membership Event

“Teens at Risk in our Community”

Dyan Aretakis, Director Teen Health Center, UVA  
Carol Hernandez, Court Services Unit  
Sibley Johns, Executive Director, Music Resource Center  

Tuesday, September 23, 2008  
4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Kenridge  
Home of Susan Payne  
912 Marsh Lane  
Charlottesville, VA 22903

A special thanks to Susan Payne for hosting this event in her home.

WUP would like to thank its program sponsors:  
Volvo of Charlottesville,  
The Better Living Foundation, and an anonymous donor

From left, Deborah Conway, Sue Rainey, Suzanne Brooks, and Deborah Hayes attend the check presentation.
A Call for Community Champions
Luncheon Speaker Addresses High-School Dropout Rates

In Charlottesville, a child has a 70 percent chance of finishing high school on time; in Albemarle the chance is 80 percent. Across our country, 30 to 40 percent of all high school youths fail to finish on time. These facts were presented at our May luncheon by Suzanne Morse, President of the Pew Partnership for Civic Change and WUP member, in her talk “Making Charlottesville the Smartest City; Keeping Our Kids in School.”

More disturbing facts: More than 50 percent of all African American, Hispanic, and Native American students do not finish high school on time. Children who cannot read by the fourth grade rarely graduate from high school. The cost of dropouts to our country is $260 billion in lost income taxes and social security taxes.

Suzanne contends that our schools cannot fix this problem alone since communities do not realize the severity of the problem and its link to crime. Decreasing the dropout rate by even 1 percent would prevent 100,000 crimes a year in our country.

What is needed is for community champions to invest in the community. Suzanne believes we have “breathtaking opportunities” to help prevent dropouts by helping our children at younger ages. We have to alert the public to this issue.

Students who drop out often do not have good attendance in the first weeks of school, so truancy early in the school year must be prevented. Decreasing poverty decreases the chances of children dropping out. Interventions that lead to all fourth graders being able to read would have a positive impact, as would making sure that all eighth graders are academically ready for high school.

Members who are interested in helping in these areas should contact Shaele Wood at the United Way to find out what is being done in our community to improve the dropout rate and what volunteer opportunities are available.

We thank Suzanne for the special opportunity to hear about her important work on the dropout problem in our country.

Member Profile:
Meghan Murray

An early member of WUP and a former participant on the Membership Committee, Meghan Murray has been an avid supporter and enthusiast from the start. Meghan owns an Internet marketing company in Charlottesville, helping both local and out-of-town companies develop web-based applications and online strategic plans. She has worked with groups from the Girl Scouts to Harvard Business School Press.

Meghan joined WUP because she is “interested in anything that educates, empowers and encourages women”; she was especially pleased to participate in Charlottesville’s first all-female philanthropic organization.
2009 Membership Form

Select one:

____General Member: all Members of Women United in Philanthropy
commit to a General Membership of $75 per year, which covers the cost of
providing several educational and social events. The $75 General Membership
fee covers program costs only and is not tax-deductible. It is due by December
31, 2008. Earlier payment is appreciated as it assists in planning.

Additional Contribution: donations of amounts less than the Donor Member
level are most welcome and provide needed support for the Women United in
Philanthropy Grant Fund.

Tax deductible gift amount: $50  $100  $200  Other

____Donor Member: a Donor Member also makes a tax-deductible gift
of $500 or more in addition to her General Membership of $75. Donors
contribute to the Women United in Philanthropy Grant Fund, and Donor
Members are eligible to vote on the use and allocation of this Fund. Donor
Member gifts are due by December 31, 2008. Please check the amount: $575___$1075___$1575___Other $_____

***Includes the non-tax deductible $75 membership fee.

---

Your Name
Address
Telephone
Email (Print carefully please)

Payment Options:

____My check is enclosed. (Please make your check payable to Women
United in Philanthropy/ United Way.)

____Charge my gift to my Visa or MasterCard: # Exp:

Signature: __________________________ Date: ______________

Thank you. Please mail, scan/email or fax this completed form to the
address below. Please contact Deborah Conway at 979-7364 or
womenunited@unitedwaytja.org with any questions.

---

Women United in Philanthropy

c/o United Way - Thomas Jefferson Area
806 East High Street
Charlottesville, Virginia 22902

---

2008 Members
(as of August 20, 2008)

---

Decreasing the high-school dropout rate by
even 1 percent would prevent 100,000
cries a year in our country.

Read “A Call for Community Champions”
on Page 3 to learn more.

---

Women United in Philanthropy

---

www.womenunitedcharlottesville.info
Phone: 434-972-1701/Fax: 434-972-1719
Email: womenunited@unitedwaytja.org

---

Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Charlottesville, VA
Permit No.420