

WVASF Board of Directors  
Terrell Ellis & Associates, Charleston  
June 2, 2008  
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Present: Joe Barker, Adrienne Worthy, Melissa Aguilar

Staff: Calah Young, Ann Adams

**Actions/Major Decisions:**

- ✓ Presentation of State EITC Policy Paper (draft) by Andrea Franco-Cook, WVCBP
- ✓ EITC Volunteer Recognition Event – June 23, 2008 11 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the Clay Center **RSVP by 6/6 if you plan to attend.**
- ✓ Reviewed last meeting minutes and follow up items (March 7, 2008), without amendment
- ✓ Reviewed Financial Report (Jan-June 2008)
- ✓ Discussed possible individuals to fill three board vacancies

**Follow-up Items:**

- ✓ Andrea will e-mail Calah updated Policy Paper to distribute
- ✓ Members will contact appropriate individual/organization for possible new board additions
- ✓ Calah will contact Susan Graves regarding financial report questions
- ✓ Calah will contact Ted Boettner regarding next steps with the State EITC legislative effort
- ✓ **Next meeting is August 4, 2008 at 10:00**

**Meeting Minutes:**

- Andrea Franco-Cook, WVCBP State EITC Policy Paper (draft)
- The issue is complex and could affect approximately 147,000 people in West Virginia

Two things to take away:

1. State EITC has lifted 4.5 million families w/ children out of poverty
2. It rewards work – only way to benefit from it is if you are employed
  - Currently the state has a tax exclusion which is based on poverty guidelines
  - No incentive for work
  - Has not lifted people out of poverty
  - History of Federal EITC – created in 1975 under the Nixon Administration; it is refundable and depends on the individuals income and size of family; 3 phases
    1. Phase in range – credit increases as income increases
    2. Plateau phase – income made eligible for max credit - \$4,700
    3. Phase out – lifted out of poverty
- How it will affect WV: 20% of the lowest income people pay 10% to local and state WV taxes- state EITC could off set that number
- Nationally 17% of children live in poverty – in WV 30% (or 1 in 3) children live in poverty
- 63% of single mothers with fewer than 5 children live in poverty; state EITC could lift out of poverty by allowing the mother to pay for child care and participate in the workforce.

- A single mother of three who makes \$14,500; with federal EITC her income increases to \$19,216 and with a State EITC her income would increase to \$20,159 which lifts her out of poverty and gives her an extra \$550 a MONTH (SELLING POINT)
- The State EITC could stimulate the local economy
- The downside/argument against – comes from the Governor’s Office and the Tax Exclusion; currently there is no incentive for work; with the new State EITC you must work in order to get the credit – teaches sustainability
- Who are we leaving behind if we take that away?? Would families fall through the cracks and not have any assistance? Are we hurting people in the process??
- Important to TEACH sustainability; asset development
- Look into tax exclusion
- Andrea will e-mail updated policy paper to review

EITC Volunteer Recognition Event will be held Monday, June 23, 2008 – 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the Clay Center – please RSVP by Friday June 6<sup>th</sup>

Financial Report – Calah will get with Susan Graves for a correct Quarter Report. Expectations for future income; DHHR grant (cycle is in the fall), \$7,500 from state treasurer’s office and new opportunity for a grant from the IRS. The grant could be split up between the seven coalitions and would be used to pay staff and for technology fees; it would help more for tax season 2009 – will follow up with more information once it is available.

#### Board Membership

- Biggest priority – getting back to a full board
- Board Vacancies – there are three vacancies that we need to fill.
- The core of the current board – Melissa, Joe, Adrienne, Barry and Rick – adding three key players would be beneficial

## Prospective Members

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization/Affiliation</b>	<b>Assigned Contact Person</b>
Dave Rogers	Mission West Virginia	Melissa
Susan Moran	Mid Ohio Valley Businesses	Melissa
Rich Fleisher	WVU Extension	Calah
Mary Chipps	WV CAP Inc	Calah
Kim Teiman/Lisa Tignor	Volunteer WV	Joe
Sam Hickman (or designee)	NASW	Joe
Dennis Sparks (Designee)	Council of Churches	Rick
Angie Rosser	WV Coalition Against Domestic Violence	Adrienne