

May 23, 2016



So many great things are happening right here in Carroll County for our organization!

- New organizational structure
- Over 20 new volunteers at work on our teams
- New partners to work with us
- New programs in our Family Education team efforts
- Data Statistical Team now beginning the evaluation process in the city schools

We are working hard to implement our Strategic Plan objectives and have some tough goals for 2016.

1. Fully operating on new organizational structure
2. 2 major fundraising events raising more than \$15,000 each
3. Reach 3872 books mailed monthly by December 2016
4. Total dollars raised to exceed \$128,000 in 2016

Our statistical analysis work with the Carroll County Schools shows that children who have received our books for four years or more did significantly better on the reading readiness area of the GKIDS testing which evaluates readiness for kindergarten. The exciting news is that children who are enrolled in the free lunch program and received our books also scored significantly better compared to general population. Our evaluation team concluded that our program works well, meets our objectives, and is a leveler in preparing children for learning success.

Our fall Ferst Fashions and Luncheon is set for October 12 at Sunset Hills Country Club. Most of the members who worked so hard on that event last year have agreed to do it again!

We made the decision to abandon the Playhouse Raffle Project this year and to begin the search for other fundraising opportunities. The UWG Ignite students will be building birdhouses this year for us to sell in the future. We are talking with the West Georgia Track Club and several groups at the university about the potential of a running event at some time in the future. We are working on Donor Development in the hopes of building stronger community financial support from both individuals and businesses in the community.

It is truly an exciting time to be part of this worthy organization!

Sincerely,

Karen

Karen Hartley, Chairman, Carroll County Ferst Foundation for Childhood Literacy

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