



# Foundation News

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[HTTP://WWW.EPSILONOMEGA.ORG/FOUNDATION.HTML](http://www.epsilonomega.org/foundation.html)

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## President's Message

Cheryl Frazier



Greetings Members, Your foundation is entering into a very important time of the year. We are entering fundraising season.

Now, more than ever, your foundation needs your support. While you may not be able to participate in all the fundraising activities, we hope there is at least one that will appeal to you, your family and your friends. Even if you cannot attend an activity, it is my hope that you will consider making a financial contribution. You'll find a calendar of events within this newsletter to guide you in your decision. I am thanking you In advance for your participation and your generosity.

### REMINDER...

#### Facility Management Team

The Foundation is in need of volunteers to assist in the management and rental of the Ivy Family Support Center. If you are interested in assisting, please make contact with President Cheryl Frazier or Vice President Tonja Ringgold.

As always if you have Foundation information you wish to share, please submit that information to me or Member Tonja Ringgold.

### Foundation

#### Committees & Chairs

- Afternoon of Jazz - Crystal Cotten-Faison
- Bylaws - Verna Jackson
- Capital Campaign - Patricia Sparrow
- Card Party - Carol Robinson
- Community Advisory - Janet Williams
- Finance - Lisa Foust
- Grants and Proposals - Lisa Foust
- Phase II Renovations - Tonja L. Ringgold
- Pink & Green Gala - Frances Parks
- Scholarship - Shirley Hill
- Strategic Planning - Tonja L. Ringgold

## Ivy Center Facility Manager's Update

JoAnn Barber

### Updates & Reminders

The Ivy Family Support Center grossed **\$1,400.00** in rentals for the month of March. We experienced extensive water damage to the back rooms (Rms. 107 and 110) during the heavy rain period. We are seeking estimates to correct the structural flaws to prevent this from recurring.

Please remember to contact Member Lois Knight-Harrison, Anti-Basileus of Chapter Operations or Member JoAnne Barber, Ivy Family Center Facility Manager, of your up-coming meetings. The number at the Ivy Family Support Center is 410-367-6750.

### Renewed Foundation Kudos!

Many, thanks and appreciation to **Adam Scott** for installing the new "**peephole**" in the lower door of the Ivy Family Support Center. This new addition will provide added safety and comfort for those inside who have to open the door for callers. Adam's picture appeared in last month's newsletter, however his name was not printed. **Adam** is the son of Member **Norma Scott**.





**EΩ** Foundation  
Card Party

August 13, 2011  
Carol Robinson, Chair

Ivy Family Center  
Get Your Tickets Now



Upcoming Foundation Fundraising Events  
Please...

**save the date!**



**An Afternoon of Jazz**

October 9, 2011 4-8pm  
Crystal Cotton-Faison, Chair

### *Pink & Green Scholarship Gala*

Frances Parks & Tonja Ringgold Co-Chairs

Saturday, June 18, 2011  
8:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m.

**Place: Martin's West**  
**Cost: \$100.00**

**Dinner, Dancing and Silent Auction**



Remember to get your  
Sponsorships!  
Tickets,!  
Place your journal Ads!

**"You may never know what results come of your action, but if you do nothing there will be no result."**

*Mahatma Gandhi*

## Strategic Planning 2011 - 2014

*Tonja L. Ringgold, Chair*

Last chance to complete your Foundation SWOT analysis form. As stated over the past two months, this SWOT analysis is critical in getting your feedback on the Foundation's "Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities for growth, and Threats we face as a Foundation.

The Epsilon Omega Foundation retreat will be held at the Ivy Family Support Center on Saturday, **May 7, 2011** from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00

All Foundation members are encouraged to attend. We need and welcome your feedback and thoughts on how we should plan for the next three years.

Anyone interested in serving on the strategic planning retreat committee should contact Member Tonja L. Ringgold at 410-627-6743 or by email at aka1ad82f@aol.com.

## Volunteers Needed to Serve...

Volunteers are needed are to help raise money at **Oriole Park at Camden Yards**. The Foundation has an opportunity to earn a minimum of \$ 6,000 and a maximum of \$50,000 through an effort to participate in Maryland Sport Services Inc.

All interested parties please contact Members Lisa Foust or Crystal Cotton Faison to volunteer to serve. Training is required.



FEATURE

# Article 1: Building an Effective Board of Directors

Frank Martinelli, The Center for Public Skills Training

Every nonprofit organization must have a Board of Directors. But, beyond this legal requirement, a well-informed and well-trained board is absolutely essential. An effective board of directors has a clear understanding of its roles and responsibilities. Board members, in effect, own the organization. They are the final policy makers and they employ staff.

## ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD

The board has three broad areas of responsibility:

- 1) *planning and policy development;*
- 2) *community and organizational development; and,*
- 3) *fundraising and support development.*

The **first, planning and policy development**, includes determining the mission and vision that charts the future direction of the organization. This is usually accomplished through the board's leadership and participation in strategic planning. The first area covers policy development in response to major issues that are or will in the future have significant impact on the agency and the constituencies it serves. Also included is monitoring the performance of agency programs, products and services.

The **second area, community and organizational development**, means broadening the organization's base of support in the community; interacting with the community to bring new issues, opportunities and community needs to the attention of organization; maintaining accountability to the public, funders, members, and clients. It also includes training and developing current and new leaders within the

board and committees, and assuring that the same development is occurring within the professional staff through the leadership of the Executive Director.

The **third area, fundraising and support development**, includes giving personal time and money; developing donors, members, and supporters; leading and supporting fundraising campaigns and events as well as maintaining accountability to donors and funders.

The three areas are closely linked to each other: If the Board is going to make decisions that reflect the true interests and needs of the organization's constituents, board members must be in tune with those constituents and the wider community of which they are apart.

If the Board is expected to raise funds to support the programs and services of the organization, then board members must be involved in planning and decision-making in meaningful ways so as to feel in a strong sense of **individual and collective ownership**.

If the organization is counting on board members to raise funds from the community, then board members need to maintain relationships with individuals and institutions in that community.

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Next month's feature article will be a continuation of this thread.

## Scholarship Committee

Shirley Hill, Chair

The Scholarship Committee received thirteen applications from students at three high schools and reviewed them Thursday, March 24, 2011 at the Ivy Center. After reviewing the applications, reading the essays, rating and discussing each applicant, six were selected to be interviewed on Wednesday, April 27, 2011 from 4:30 – 7:15 p.m. because they met the criteria. The interviewees are: **Brae Bower, Kendall Frye, Shyrita Hunt, Tiara Jenifer, Destane Stokes, and Shyra Washington.**

All applicants will receive a letter which were mailed April 1, 2011, informing them of their interview date and time, or indicating why they are ineligible for our scholarship.



After the interviews, two students will be selected to receive the Foundation's \$1,500.00 scholarship a year, for four (4) years as long as they remain in good academic standing. These students will be presented to the membership at the May 2011 Epsilon Omega chapter meeting.

The committee thanks Tonja Ringgold for making the scholarship packet available on the Epsilon Omega Foundation's website, Joann Barber for receiving the application from a parent and retrieving the others from the Foundation P.O. Box, and Tangela Richardson for providing substantive scholarship information for our scholarship recipient, Sequoia Boone, who is in need of additional funds.



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**Foundation Exec. Board Meeting Dates:**

April 25th - 6:00 p.m.  
May 23rd - 6:00 p.m.  
June 27th - 6:00 p.m.

**About Epsilon Omega Foundation**

Epsilon Omega Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit and tax exempt, 501 (c) (3), corporation established to acquire resources to support and promote programs and services to meet the changing needs of citizens of the Baltimore metropolitan community and beyond. The Foundation was created and incorporated in 1991.

The Foundation has been supported by contributions from members, friends and grants from public and private sources.

**Mission Statement**

The mission of the Epsilon Omega Foundation, Inc. is to meet the challenges of the community through service education and cultural development.

**Ivy Family Support Center**

The vision for the Ivy Family Support Center is to become a center of and for the community - a place where family life is supported, recreation and good health encouraged, educational opportunities provided, art and beauty treasured and where intergenerational contact is valued.



# 2011 Epsilon Omega Foundation Board

**Foundation Board Officers**

- Cheryl L. Frazier, *President*
- Tonja L. Ringgold, *Vice President*
- Tangela D. Richardson, *Recording Secretary*
- Carol Y. Robinson, *Assistant Recording Secretary*
- Marcia C. Martin, *Corresponding Secretary*
- Ester C. Bailey, *Financial Secretary*
- Vacant Position, *Assistant Financial Secretary*
- Lisa Foust, *Treasurer*
- Sylvia L. Johnson, *Assistant Treasurer*

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Joann Barber, *Ivy Family Support Center Facility Manager*

Foundation Webmaster & Newsletter Editor: *Tonja L. Ringgold*

**Foundation General Directors**

- Isabella Branch Brown
- Jewell C. Chambers
- June Dennis
- Crystal Cotton-Faison
- Angela Gibson
- Shirley T. Hill
- Lois Knight-Harrison
- Vivian E. Holmes
- Verna Jackson
- Cylia Lowe
- E. Francine Stokes-McElveen, Esq.
- Karen Robertson
- Gwendolyn Statham
- Maxine Wood