



The Cameron Clarion

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The Cameron Clarion, The Cameron Foundation's biannual newsletter, is dedicated to promoting and supporting area nonprofit efforts. Please join us in this issue as we explore the continued growth of several nonprofit organizations and initiatives that are dedicated to increasing the quality of life in our shared neighborhoods and communities. As always, we welcome any comments or questions that you may have and look forward to serving the Tri-Cities and Southside area.



"... living a life of service to others is extremely rewarding."

Donald Haraway Joins Cameron Board

Though Donald Haraway has only been on The Cameron Foundation board for a few months, he has been connected to the Foundation in many ways since its inception. His employment at Southside Regional Medical Center as chief financial officer and interim chief executive officer provided him opportunities to work closely with the nine Hospital Authority board members, seven of whom went on to serve as founding board members of The Cameron Foundation. He also worked for the Foundation as a part-time accountant during its first few years of operation.

As a result, though only the second non-founding board member to serve on the board (Pamela Martin Comstock being the first), Haraway is well versed in the Foundation's history, mission and progress since its inception in 2003. Haraway filled a position left vacant by John H. Clements, who rotated off the board at the beginning of 2010 following dedicated service that dated back to the Foundation's inception. Haraway also serves on the Foundation's finance, investment and grant committees.

"Since its earliest days, the Foundation's greatness has been defined by an exceptional group of individuals that comprise the board," stated Ann C. Taylor, board chair. She added, "We were sorry to see Mr. Clements's term end earlier this year, and we are grateful that Mr. Haraway has accepted the role as our newest director. With an extensive background in finance, he brings a critical perspective to this position."

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TIERS OF POSSIBILITY:

A Collaborative Leadership Development Program

What do you do when, in less than two years, approximately 80 percent of your senior management is eligible for retirement? Panic? Perhaps. But the Petersburg and Dinwiddie public school systems had a better idea. In 2008 that same percentage of principals and assistant principals in both school districts would reach retirement age by 2010. So the school systems banded together and applied jointly to The Cameron Foundation for funding for a program aimed at cultivating a pool of qualified individuals already within the school systems to step into these administrative roles as the more seasoned administrators stepped down.

The Foundation awarded the leadership development program a two-year grant totaling \$99,775 in 2008. The program was named Tiers of Possibility, as it addressed three levels, or tiers, of supporting and improving the school systems' leadership. The first tier was to educate and certify teachers within the school systems so they would be eligible to transition into vacant administrative positions as they became available. The second tier was to enhance the qualifications and skills of existing assistant principals. And the third tier had the same goals for existing principals.

This spring, the two-year program concluded with better-than-anticipated results.

Ten candidates, five from each school division, enrolled into the Educational Administration and Supervision Master's-level program at Virginia State University (VSU). All ten graduated this year, and seven passed the Supervision and Leadership Licensure Assessment, which is the certification that the Department of Education requires for school administrators. Ninety-eight percent of existing principals and assistant principals at the participating schools completed the Professional Enhancement Program and Emotional Skills Assessment Process assessment, as well. These are different assessment tools that target strengths and weaknesses in existing administrators. From what was learned, program leaders worked with staff at VSU to create workshops that would address some of the weaknesses to better prepare administrators for the challenges they face. Consultants also came to both localities to strengthen administrators' ability to effectively work with Standards of Learning (SOL) data.

"Tiers of Possibility has not only increased the pool of qualified applicants for school leadership positions," said Marie Grant, Dinwiddie County Public Schools grants coordinator, "but has also enhanced each divisions' overall effectiveness by strengthening the leadership skills of existing administrators."

"Collaboration on this project was extremely successful, and we are already planning for our next opportunity to work together. All three partners share the same goal, which is to provide a top-notch education for students."

– Marie Grant
Dinwiddie County Public Schools grants coordinator



Representatives from Dinwiddie County and Petersburg public school systems' administration, Virginia State University and The Cameron Foundation pose for a photo with the ten Tiers of Possibility graduates on their graduation day.

Haraway (cont.)

MEET DONALD L. HARAWAY

Have you had any surprises so far while serving on the board?

I did not know there were so many nonprofit organizations in the community needing financial assistance.

What has being on the board taught you so far?

The Cameron Foundation does not have the financial means to be the sole financial source for any one nonprofit organization. It can only supplement the funding of an organization. It is interesting to see the large amount of detailed information that the Foundation staff assembles before recommending a grant. The staff is knowledgeable about what is required from an organization requesting a grant and is well prepared to answer questions from the board concerning the organization.

Does your history at SRMC before it was sold to CHS affect your role on the board at all?

Yes, due to the high number of Medicaid and indigent patients at SRMC, we had to be very cost conscious in operating the hospital and, at the same time, offer quality patient care. This was especially true in the 1960s before Medicare was implemented. SRMC made me a conservative financial manager and will always influence my thinking on fiduciary decisions.

What is one thing you would like the staff of the nonprofit organizations that the Foundation serves to know about you?

I am a conservative person and believe their organizations should operate like a business and make prudent business decisions in their daily operations. My experience on the United Way Budget Allocation Committee indicated that many organizations operate very efficiently.

What was your first job?

I was a student school bus driver at Midway School. The pay was \$50 per month.

What lesson did you learn on that job that you keep with you today?

Always be observant of an appointment time and be prompt.

Who or what inspires you?

Being on the Dinwiddie school board (eight years) and the Dinwiddie board of

supervisors (16 years) has taught me that living a life of service to others is extremely rewarding. I enjoy communicating with our citizens and receive satisfaction in knowing that I helped my constituents.

What do you do when you aren't working?

My wife and I enjoy entertaining family and friends at our home on Lake Chesdin. We keep our two grandsons one day a week and have our children and their families visit us on many weekends and holidays. I'm a big sports fan; I have season tickets to UVA's football and basketball games. For the past 30 years, I have enjoyed traveling with friends to Charlottesville to cheer on the Wahoo's. NASCAR races also interest me, so I try to go to one race each year. When we are not traveling to a sporting event, Dianne and I like to visit places we've never been before. We take at least one vacation out of state each year. We also enjoy taking cruises. We prefer traveling to the beach but our favorite destination is New Orleans... they have the best restaurants in the world.

Besides work, what are your passions?

I love to collect sports memorabilia. Our basement is like a sports museum: pictures of teams and players of the past like the 1955 World Series winner (Brooklyn Dodgers), Babe Ruth, Ted Williams, Mickey Mantle and George Welsh.

What are your pastimes?

My favorite pastime was playing sports. I played basketball and baseball in high school. During the seventies I played and managed a slow-pitch softball team (Haraway Homes) that played locally during the week and would travel on weekends to cities in Virginia and North Carolina to participate in tournaments that would draw up to 75 teams. Although I'm not currently active in sports, I continue to be an avid sports fan.

What do you read?

The Wall Street Journal and finance and health care magazines are my favorite reading materials. I like to keep up to date on financial and health care matters.

What might someone be surprised to learn about you?

I was a part-time contractor who built houses in the 70's.

Donald L. Haraway

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY:

- Retired/Volunteer
- 1980-2004, SRMC Senior VP Finance and Treasurer, Hospital Authority and Petersburg Hospital Inc.
- 1979-1981, John Tyler Community College, Part-time Accounting Instructor
- 1968-1980, SRMC Chief Accountant & Controller
- 1961-1968, SRMC Part-time accountant

EDUCATION:

B.S. in Accounting from Virginia Commonwealth University and an Accounting Diploma from Smithdeal-Massey Business College

BOARD/CIVIC ORGANIZATION HISTORY:

- Former chairman and current member of the Dinwiddie County Board of Supervisors
- Member of Dinwiddie County Social Service Board
- Former chairman and member of Dinwiddie County School Board
- Former treasurer of the Central Virginia Health Planning Agency
- Former president of Retail Merchants Association of Petersburg
- Former member of Crater Planning District, Virginia Gateway Region and the Hospital Financial Managers Association

PLACE OF BIRTH:

River Road, Dinwiddie, VA

CURRENT RESIDENCE:

Sutherland, Dinwiddie County, VA

FAMILY STATUS:

Married to Dianne Haraway
Children: Artie, Pamela and Duane
Grandchildren: Jack and Chase

Central Virginia Nonprofits To Benefit From Collaborative Funders Database *GiveSouthside*



For the nonprofits in The Cameron Foundation's service area, inclusion in the GiveSouthside network will result in numerous benefits.

GiveSouthside Benefits to Nonprofits

- Nonprofits will experience greater exposure to a larger funding network.
- Nonprofits will be better able to provide comprehensive information about their organizations in eight content areas, such as mission and impact, programs, management, governance and financial.
- The information contained in the GiveSouthside profile will enhance public interest and allow easy access to the nonprofit's information, facilitating the due diligence process for grantmakers, including The Cameron Foundation.
- By participating, local nonprofits will become better informed of the funding priorities and application procedures for an expanded pool of grantmakers.

Nonprofits within the greater Tri-Cities will now be able to more effectively increase capacity building by participating in a new online program called **GiveSouthside**. Already available in many communities throughout the U.S., this web-based program allows an organization to upload a profile containing much of the information needed for most grant applications, like a nonprofit's audit, 990, 501 (c) 3 exemption status, annual operating budget and board member list. The information needs to be entered only once and updated only as needed, thereby eliminating redundancy in the information grantmakers collect from area nonprofits seeking funding. By completing a GiveSouthside online profile, an organization is streamlining the grant application process of multiple area foundations and corporate funders.

The information contained within the profile is easily viewed by potential donors, as well as by volunteers, staff and the general public. In fact, many nonprofit organizations who are currently participating in similar programs in other communities report they have used their profile to recruit new board members, volunteers and staff.

The online profiles and other GiveSouthside information are available online at www.givesouthsideva.org.

The GiveSouthside Funding Partnership is a shared web-based platform for grantmaking due diligence and community support powered by the GuideStar® database. GuideStar® is a nonprofit technology corporation that formed a partnership with the IRS to create public access to charities nationwide. GuideStar® has a large percentage of the nonprofits in the Central Virginia area registered, and over one million nationwide. However, it does not have an ongoing relationship with those nonprofits that local area funders have, which limits the utility of the service.

The GiveSouthside Funding Partnership is made available to nonprofits within the Foundation's service area in part through a three-year Cameron grant of \$30,000 to The Community Foundation. Several additional funders, locally and regionally, have worked together to support the larger effort. GiveSouthside Funding Partnership is expected to better position local nonprofits to apply for, and receive, funding from a wide array of sources to improve sustainability and to assist them in reaching their organizational missions.



Healthcare Advisory Council Develops Guidelines

The Cameron Foundation's Healthcare Advisory Council has developed new guidelines to help clarify its purpose and outline how it will function in support of grantmaking in the Foundation's healthcare program area. Until now Council members have met to share information about their own activities as providers of services and stakeholders in the field, to give counsel and oversight to special projects (such as the 2009 Behavioral Health Needs Assessment) and to act as a focus group for particular issues that needed exploration. More recently, Council members felt that the group was ready to further develop its mission in order to serve the community and the Foundation to its fullest ability. To codify its expanded role, the group has created a guiding document known as the Healthcare Advisory Council Guidelines.

The Guidelines clarify that **the Council's primary goal is to become a recognized body of expertise able to directly influence and facilitate the ongoing improvement in health outcomes for the cities of Petersburg, Hopewell and Colonial Heights and the counties of Dinwiddie, Prince George, Sussex and southern Chesterfield.** It also states that the Council's primary purpose is to help The Cameron Foundation better serve its mandate in the service area by (a) identifying the needs in the service area and identifying projects that would address those needs, (b) advising the Foundation on how needs can be better met and projects better managed, and (c) in so doing, by holding the Foundation 'accountable' for implementing approved projects according to agreed priorities. The Guidelines add that the Council's secondary purpose is to identify opportunities for and encourage collaboration and partnerships between the various healthcare interest groups to the ultimate benefit of the community.

Additionally, this document details the basic duties and responsibility of the Council's members, lists the operational and procedural structure of the organization and outlines the key measures of success by which the Council will evaluate itself. In order to stay focused and mission-driven, the group must continuously focus on two main questions. The first is, "What does the Council think about how the Foundation is spending its money in the health sector and why?" The second is, "Are there better ways to spend the money, and if so, how?" By answering these questions, the Council will be able to better advise the Foundation on how to continuously improve its efforts to further the quality of health in the region.

The Guidelines were developed by the current Council members, including stakeholders who have consistently attended meetings since the initial convening two years ago. Cameron staff intends to gradually expand the membership of the Council to include most, if not all, key members of the provider community. Current Council members will be asked to assist in the recruitment process by identifying key "safety net providers" serving residents in the Foundation's service area and who have established partnerships in this region to address healthcare concerns.



Health Care Advisory Council Members

Karen Cameron, Executive Director/CEO
Central Virginia Health Planning Agency

Joseph Hubbard, Executive Director
District 19 Community Services Board

Joan Ivey, Executive Director
Stony Creek Community Health Center

Valerie Liggins, Program Officer
The Cameron Foundation

Handy Lindsey, President
The Cameron Foundation

Sheena Mackenzie, Development Director
Central Virginia Health Services

Brenda Mitchell, Chief Executive Officer
Crater Community Hospice

Cindy Pilarinos, Nurse Manager
Petersburg Health Department

Gail Sutler, Nurse Manager
Chesterfield Health District

Cameron's Technical Assistance Grant Program Revised With New Improvements

EARLIER THIS YEAR, The Cameron Foundation ramped up its efforts to provide technical assistance (TA) to organizations within its service area. “So many of the nonprofits in our area could benefit from independent, professional nonprofit consulting,” explained Najmah Thomas, director of capacity building. “To help fund these outside consultants, we’ve made the Foundation’s TA grant program more responsive to organizational needs by streamlining the application and reporting processes.”

The Foundation’s TA Grant Program can be an invaluable tool in helping organizations remain competitive and viable, as well as increasing their ability to carry out their missions. The program continues to support organizations at every stage of lifecycle—from start-ups to more established ones—through vital organizational development work with consultants for services such as board, staff and program development, financial planning, fundraising, strategic planning and marketing, as well as evaluation.

“What’s new about the program is that it’s much easier to apply for TA assistance,” said Thomas.

Organizations can now apply for a TA grant at any time during the year, and no letter of intent is needed. The maximum award is \$15,000, and organizations may request funding for multiple content areas and receive multiple TA grants per year.

“We want to make sure that people understand,” continued Thomas, “that receiving a TA grant does not in any way affect an organization’s ability to apply for other forms of Foundation funding.”

Reporting requirements have been tailored to this new process, as well. After an organization completes its TA funded activities, the group will conduct a post-assessment using the same form it completed for the grant application. A follow-up interview will then take place between Foundation staff and the organization a year later.

To learn more about the Foundation’s Technical Assistance Grant Program, visit the Foundation’s website or contact Thomas directly (nthomas@camfound.org or 804-732-8900).

The Foundation has been providing funding for technical assistance since 2007, with some grantees already benefiting from these grant awards. Here are three who have agreed to share their stories.

To read the full story of each of these organizations’ experiences visit www.camfound.org

Technical Assistance Grants...The Facts

- You can apply for a TA grant at any time during the year.
- The maximum award is \$15,000, and you may receive more than one TA grant per year.
- No letter of intent is needed.
- To apply, simply use the pre-assessment form and TA Grant Application found on the Foundation’s website (www.camfound.org) under “Interactive Forms.” You are welcome to request funding for multiple content areas if it would better meet your needs.
- Applying for and/or receiving a TA grant does not in any way affect your organization’s ability to apply for other forms of Foundation funding.
- Reporting requirements are tailored to this new process. After completing your activities, you will conduct a post-assessment using the same form you completed for the grant application. The Foundation also will have a follow-up interview with you a year later.

Additional Resources:

Southside Community Partners will host a **Learning & Leadership workshop on the Foundation’s Technical Assistance program** Tuesday, Oct. 26th, from 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the Appomattox Regional Library System headquarters, 209 E. Cawson St., Hopewell, VA 23860. The workshop is free, but you must register online to attend.

For more information and to sign up, visit www.ConnectSouthside.org/NPTrainings.

THE JAMES HOUSE



Since 1989 **The James House** has been committed to providing comprehensive, cost-free services for people who have been affected by sexual violence, domestic violence and stalking. Three years ago its board recognized the fact that the organization needed a strong strategic plan to lead the group into the next phase of operations. The group also understood that it could work more effectively if its

members had better training and tools in place. The James House sought technical assistance funding from The Cameron Foundation to secure the consultants that were needed to assess the organization and make recommendations that would enhance its internal capacity.

The Foundation has provided The James House with TA funding for three consecutive years, enabling the organization to contract with multiple consultants. To date, the group has developed and begun to implement a five-year strategic plan, has completed executive training for the organization's CEO and has realized a stronger, more effective board.

"The work we have completed thus far makes our directors champions for

our cause and our organization, and has instilled our staff members with confidence in our organization and their own capabilities," said Chana Ramsey, James House CEO. "Once the economy improves, we are now perfectly positioned to grow the organization and better serve our clients."

Gay Cutchin, board chair agrees. "In its 21 year history, The James House has never been more organized, focused and mission-driven." She added, "As a result of three years of admittedly hard work, staff and board are on the same page, with the same agenda, which I am confident will greatly enhance our sustainability as an organization and our effectiveness in helping people in our area who have been affected by sexual and domestic violence."

SYCAMORE ROUGE



As a four-year-old small professional theater company, **Sycamore Rouge** has much for which to be lauded. The organization pulls off 200 events annually, and to an outside eye may look like the ultimate cultural success story. But behind doors, there's another story...

"I think the board and staff would agree that for the first few years, Sycamore Rouge focused more on bringing quality

productions to the stage than on developing internal processes to become self sustaining and efficiently managed," said kb saine, producing artistic director.

With this realization, Sycamore Rouge turned to The Cameron Foundation for technical assistance funding in the three major areas it identified as needing the most help with: board development, human resources and fundraising.

The board development consultant immediately identified the need for a formal board book that would clearly define board expectations in relation to bringing on new board members, hiring new staff, working with existing staff, fundraising and more. Outside consultation also was critical in developing appropriate staff evaluation forms and with a national search and

interview process to fill the void of the theater's executive director position.

An additional consultant helped the organization develop a workable fund development plan and a much needed daily financial management procedures manual.

With the technical assistance Sycamore Rouge received, the young theater company is much better positioned to achieve its mission to promote and contribute to an environment that fosters creativity through theater, music and cabaret.

"We've learned that this is not a one-time, finite project," said saine. "As strategic planning continues, I'm sure additional technical assistance needs will be recognized, and we will once again pursue outside assistance to meet those needs."

SERENITY



In a region where the number of residents with HIV is the highest in Virginia and one of the highest in the country, an organization like **Serenity**, which is committed to reducing the transmission of HIV, plays a critical role in the health of the community. But while Serenity has spent years championing for the health of those in this region, as an organization it has put its own health on the backburner.

Recognizing that Serenity's sustainability was in question, Rosa Tuma, executive director, turned to The Cameron Foundation for technical assistance funding to help support capacity building initiatives for her organization. Using these funds, the organization contracted with consultants to receive training in strategic planning, board development and financial management.

As a result, "We now have a clear, workable plan, are more focused and task oriented and understand the steps we need to take to reach our mission," Tuma said. Serenity has also been able to re-establish an independent office from which it can administer and deliver its programs. "Previously, we were operating out of a storefront that was less than

professional and offered our clients little to no privacy," Tuma explained.

The plan has also helped the board and staff improve policies and procedures, grant writing strategies, program planning and evaluation and public relations. Additionally, board and staff received financial management training, which led to the organization's first fundraising plan.

"The technical training we received was intense and long, but it was ultimately worth it," Tuma said. "It provided an outside perspective to help us develop a road map with signs, u-turns and overall direction to help Serenity arrive at its organizational goals developed years ago and to ultimately provide the community with comprehensive services to reduce the transmission of HIV."

Cameron Foundation Documentation Project



The year's final phase of the project has three primary goals:

- TO SUPPORT the alignment of data and other information regarding the significant amount of work the Foundation has undertaken in the area of nonprofit capacity building.
- TO ALIGN AND INTEGRATE the tools and processes critical to the continued success of the Foundation's capacity-building strategy.
- TO ENABLE VCU's research team, which has developed a comprehensive knowledge of the Foundation's grants program and capacity-building goals, to provide valuable insight during the implementation of this final phase of the documentation project.

As a young foundation, Cameron is uniquely positioned to capture and document its history and community impact from the very beginning and assess how its grantmaking strategies have evolved over time. That's why The Cameron Foundation awarded a grant to Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) in 2007 to conduct a research study documenting the Foundation's history and the impact of its grantmaking strategies on the service region. The project was dubbed the "Documentation Project."

Under the direction of Dr. Nancy Stutts, associate professor and researcher at the L. Douglas Wilder School of Government, and her research partner Dr. Kevin Allison, associate dean for community activities in the College of Humanities and Sciences at VCU, the university has successfully completed two years of the project and is currently embarking on the third and final year.

This effort examines the Foundation's history, grantmaking strategies and impact on the community over time. Furthermore, it looks more closely at the Foundation in terms of the growth of health legacy foundations both regionally and nationally, as well as in the context of being a new funding resource in what was a historically under-resourced and under-funded community. Documentation of the Foundation's work will help to ensure accountability of both the Foundation and its grantees to demonstrate that the Foundation and its nonprofit partners are achieving the stated mission in a strategic and thoughtful manner.

In undertaking the Documentation Project, Drs. Stutts and Allison have taken a foundation-wide evaluation approach, using participatory action research to involve Foundation staff, board members, grantees, other funders, public officials, and other stakeholders in the research process. The researchers have worked collaboratively with Foundation staff to develop meaningful research questions and have used qualitative research methods, including case studies, interviews and focus groups. They produced substantive year-end reports that addressed the Foundation's development in the national and regional context of health legacy foundations, as well as significant accomplishments, perspectives on best practices, perceived challenges, lessons learned and implications for ongoing capacity building efforts.

At the conclusion of the project, the researchers will prepare a monograph for the Foundation that articulates their key findings, which Foundation staff will disseminate to peer organizations and nonprofit organizations.

"We look forward to learning what Drs. Stutts and Allison have learned during this three-year project, not only so that we can internally refine our capacity building work, but so that we can share our findings with the community so that they, too, can benefit from the lessons learned from The Cameron Foundation's work to date," said Jill C. Coleman, vice president for programs.

Cameron Foundation Recognition Award Program Moves Into Its Fourth Year

For the fourth consecutive year, The Cameron Foundation has solicited nominations for its two annual recognition programs for nonprofit organizations within the Foundation's service area.

For the 2010 **Cleveland A. Wright Award for Outstanding Community Service**, members of the community were encouraged to nominate an organization that they felt had demonstrated a commitment to caring and generosity of spirit, as well as openness and accessibility. This award was named in honor of The Cameron Foundation's first president (and current board member) for his exemplary and untiring commitment to the Foundation's mission. Fifteen nonprofit organizations were nominated for the Wright Award this year by the June 1, 2010 deadline. The eligible organizations were then contacted and invited to submit an application by June 30. Twelve candidates were able to move forward through the application process.

For the 2010 **Excellence in Organizational Management Award**, nonprofit organizational staff or board members were encouraged to apply on behalf of their organization. The application process was similar to an internal audit or self-assessment, and organizations were encouraged to use it as an opportunity to measure themselves against national best practices in organizational management. As has been the case in past years, it was anticipated that this program would see a smaller pool of candidates due to the rigorous nature of this application process. A total of five applications were received by the June 30, 2010 submission deadline.

The review committees for both recognition award programs have convened, and they have made their recommendations to the Foundation's board in its August meeting. Applicants are being notified of the decisions for both awards. The recipients will be formally recognized in the Foundation's October Grant Awards Ceremony on Thursday, October 28, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at Union Train Station in Old Towne Petersburg. They also will receive awards totaling \$90,000 for their outstanding community service and organizational management.

Staff Changes

Welcome



Courtney A. Rice
2010/2011 Intern

Courtney Rice has joined the Foundation as an intern during the 2010-2011 academic year. She is completing her final year of the Masters of Science Degree in Project Management at Virginia State University (VSU). She received a Bachelor of Science degree in criminal justice from VSU in May 2008. Since then, she also has worked as a Medicare benefits specialist for Vangent, Inc., a leading global provider of information management and strategic business process outsourcing services for the Federal government as well as commercial, education and healthcare organizations.

PROMOTED / CHANGED

Dianna L. Lester
Administrative Associate

Dianna Lester's position will expand to full-time when the Foundation relocates to its new headquarters this fall. She was hired by the Foundation last year as a part-time administrative associate.

Michelle L. Martin
Grants Manager

Michelle Martin has been promoted to grants manager. She was hired by the Foundation last year as an administrative assistant. In her new role, Michelle will manage all grants, as well as handle the oversight of the public use of the meeting facilities in the Foundation's new building.

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Southside Community Partners Nonprofit Resource Center

Fall/Winter 2010 Learning & Leadership Calendar

OCTOBER

Wednesday, Oct. 20, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. ▶ Integrating Social Media in Your Organization; **PRESENTER:** Sarah Milston

Tuesday, Oct. 26, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. ▶ The Cameron Foundation's Technical Assistance Grant Program; **PRESENTER:** The Cameron Foundation
NOTE: This program is free to attend, but registration is required.

NOVEMBER

Tuesday, Nov. 2, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. ▶ How to Write a Nonprofit Business Plan; **PRESENTER:** Kristy Hall

Tuesday, Nov. 9, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. ▶ Community Organizing: Effective Planning & Administration; **PRESENTER:** Cathy Woodson



Unless noted otherwise, all workshops require a standard \$20 registration fee and are held at the Appomattox Regional Library System in Hopewell.

Register and pay online for any of these professional training sessions. For more information and to sign up, visit www.ConnectSouthside.org/NPTrainings.

To learn about other resources tailored to the needs of your nonprofit organization, also visit the Southside Community Partners' Nonprofit Resource Center, located in the Appomattox Regional Library. Make appointments with the Center's coordinator online at www.ConnectSouthside.org or by calling (804) 458-6329.

The Center is open during the same hours as the library, Monday – Thursday, 10 a.m. – 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., and closed on Sundays.

New Foundation Headquarters: An Update

The renovation and construction of the new Foundation headquarters and conference center are nearing completion, and we are excited! We had hoped the project would be completed sooner, but there have been delays resulting from a combination of circumstances, including winter snow, spring rains, and issues relating to the renovation of a very old building. It now appears, however, that the project will be completed in October, and we will be able to open for business at the new location in November.

The new headquarters are located at 228 South Sycamore Street in the Poplar Lawn Historic District of Petersburg. The building that is being renovated was constructed between 1840 and 1845 and is known as the Weddell-McCabe-Chisholm House. Prior to commencement of the work, the project was approved by the Architectural Review Board of the City of Petersburg and Historic Petersburg Foundation, Inc.

The general contractor for the project is Monument Construction, a company located in Richmond, and a number of local subcontractors have been involved. The architectural firm that designed both the renovation and construction portions of the project is Enteros Design, a firm located in Petersburg.

A special oversight committee appointed by the Board of Directors of the Foundation has been meeting every two weeks with representatives of the general contractor and the architectural firm. This special committee works with the architectural firm in attempting to keep the project “on track.” It also keeps the Board informed about the status of the project and any change orders that are necessary to address issues that arise along the way.

The chair of the special committee is Cleveland A. Wright, who is a member of the Board of Directors. According to him: “This has been an exciting project, but it also has been a challenging one. All of us are looking forward to the day when we can utilize the new facility to better serve the community.”

In addition to providing much needed additional space for the day-to-day operations of the Foundation, the new facility will meet an urgent need for a conference center for meetings, seminars and training sessions relating to the activities of the Foundation.

Staff Changes (cont.)

PROMOTED / CHANGED

Risha L. Stebbins

*Senior Program Officer/Coordinator
of Communications*

In the spring Risha Stebbins was promoted from program officer to senior program officer/coordinator of communications. Her primary responsibilities include grant portfolio management, communications management and administration of the Foundation’s Cleveland A. Wright Award for Outstanding Community Service. Additionally, Risha recently has been selected to participate in the 2010-2011 Hull Fellows Program of the Southeastern Council of Foundations, a leading professional development program for philanthropy.

Najmah Thomas

Director of Capacity Building

As of October 1, 2010, Najmah Thomas changes positions from senior program officer/coordinator of technical services to director of capacity building, a newly created part time position. In this new role, her primary responsibility will be to provide leadership in the areas of performance and outcome improvement for nonprofit organizations in the Foundation’s service area. She will, in close collaboration with the Foundation president and vice-president for programs, develop and manage programs and initiatives aimed at building nonprofit management capacity at the individual, organizational and community level.

Calendar of Events

Grant Letter of Intent (LOI) Deadlines:

September 1, January 2, May 1 of each calendar year

Grant Proposal Deadlines (Requested by the Foundation After an LOI Has Been Reviewed): October 15, February 15 and June 15

If approved, proposals submitted in October are awarded in February; proposals submitted in February are awarded in June; and proposals submitted in June are awarded in October.

Information Workshops

The Foundation hosts information workshops for organizations to learn about The Cameron Foundation, its mission and grant submission procedures. Onsite workshops are offered at the Foundation's headquarters at 24 West Old Street in Old Towne Petersburg and are conducted by the Foundation's program staff, Valerie Liggins, Risha Stebbins and Najmah Thomas. The sessions begin promptly at 9:30 a.m. and run for approximately two hours. Organizations are encouraged to have a representative attend one of these workshops to find out more about the Foundation's priorities and the application process. Existing grantees or organizations currently under review for grant consideration do not need to attend information workshops.

To inquire about the onsite workshops, interested organizations should call the Foundation's offices. Because space is limited, participation will be on a first-come, first-served basis. To reserve a space at an onsite workshop or to request a copy of the Foundation's guidelines and application materials, you may email or call Dianna Lester, our administrative associate, at dlester@camfound.org or (804) 732-8900. (Email is preferred.) Please provide the following information when you make your reservation: organization, your name and position in the organization, phone number, date of workshop you would like to attend and email (if available).

The Next Onsite Session Dates Are:

Thursday, November 18
Thursday, December 2

Thursday, December 9

More onsite sessions will be scheduled as needed, so please sign up with Dianna Lester to receive notification of new information workshop dates as they are added.

Rural Outreach Information Sessions

The Foundation periodically schedules offsite information sessions to accommodate nonprofit organizations that may be located in the outlying areas of the Foundation's service region. Dates, times and locations for upcoming sessions will be posted on the Foundation's web site as the information becomes available, so please visit www.camfound.org for details. To reserve a space at one of the Rural Outreach Information Sessions, please email Najmah Thomas at nthomas@camfound.org or call her at (804) 732-8900.

The Next Rural Outreach Information Sessions Are:

Dinwiddie

Friday, November 19 • 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Eastside Community Enhancement Center,
7301 Boydton Plank Road, Petersburg, VA 23803

Sussex

Friday, December 3 • 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Wakefield Foundation,
100 Wilson Avenue, Wakefield, VA 23888

Prince George

Friday, December 10 • 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Human Services Building Conference Room (small),
6450 Administration Drive, Prince George, VA 23875

Please note, in the event that registration does not reach a minimum of five individuals, the workshop will be postponed.



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