



Black Family Development, Inc. Annual Meeting “Celebrating a Mission”



Black Family Development, Inc. Board of Directors with Alice G. Thompson, Chief Executive Officer (center left) with Dee Dee McKinney Odom, Chair, Black Family Development, Inc. (center right)

The mission, “To strengthen and enhance the lives of children, youth, and families through partnerships that support safe, nurturing, vibrant homes, schools, and communities” formed the framework for Black Family Development, Inc.’s (BFDI) Annual Meeting held June 22, 2017 at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History. “We are advancing the mission through intentional, deliberate, and strategic strategies, as defined in our Strategic Plan. We are “strengthening and enhancing the lives of children, youth, and families through partnerships that support safe, nurturing, vibrant homes, schools, and communities,” stated Alice G. Thompson, Chief Executive Officer, Black Family Development, Inc.



Alice G. Thompson, and Attorney Reginald Turner.



Laura Reyes Kopack; Commissioner Martha Scott; Alice G. Thompson; and Jane Garcia, Board Chair LASED

Dee Dee McKinney Odom, Chair, BFDI Board of Directors conducted the business portion of the meeting in which new board nominees were received and officially elected to the BFDI Board of Directors. Newly elected board members included Cathy Nedd, Associate Publisher/Chief Operating Officer, Michigan Chronicle and Nicole Simmons, Volunteer Engagement, Department of Neighborhoods, City of Detroit, Mayor’s Office. Board Officers included Dee Dee McKinney Odom, Chair; Elaine Lewis, Vice Chair; Wayne W. Bradley, Sr., Secretary; Lysa Davis, Treasurer; and Byna Elliott, Member-at-Large.



(seated l to r) Tom Major; Frank McGee, NSO; (standing l to r) Joseph Business School (JBS) Entrepreneurs: Georgie Williams; Melissa Major; with Alice G. Thompson; and JBS Entrepreneurs: Angela Mitchell; Cassandra Floyd; and Megan Lowe.

Recognized as 2017 Community Champions and receiving accolades for their advocacy, community engagement and activism were two organizations; Cody Rouge Community Action Alliance, and Metropolitan Organizing Strategy Enabling Strength (MOSES). In accepting their individual awards, both recognized Black Family Development, Inc. as a supportive partner in their efforts to respond to community and educational needs.



Cheerfully enjoying the Annual Meeting celebration is newly elected BFDI Board Member, Nicole Simmons; and Dee Dee McKinney Odom, BFDI Board Chair; and BFDI board members Sonya Nicks; and Nestelynn Garrett.

Black Family Development, Inc. embraces a philosophy of person-centered care, which is anchored in the organization’s history. The organization values consumer choice, self-determination, and the inherent rights and strengths of persons served. In a testimony presented at the Annual Meeting, a young former BFDI consumer credited BFDI staff and family . . . “I know that I would not have come this far or accomplished the things that I have without my family and the support from my team at Black Family Development, Inc.”

For further information visit our website www.blackfamilydevelopment.org



Ponsella Hardaway, Executive Director, MOSES; Rev. Stancy Adams, VP, MOSES Board; Dee Dee McKinney Odom; Patricia Williams, MOSES Board member; and Marvin Cato, MOSES.



Alice G. Thompson; Niccole Nelson, Chair, Board of Cody Rouge Community Action Alliance (CRCAA); Kenyetta M. Campbell, Executive Director, CRCAA; and Dee Dee McKinney Odom



The Heart of Gold Award recognizes BFDI staff for their spirit of giving and labor of love. The 2017 recipients are (left to right) Margo Smith; Zenobia Awada; Kevin Bryant; Keisha Allen; Derek Blackmon; Manja Boyce; Jane Fernanders; Tanya Traylor and (not in photo) Kenyatta Stephens; and Chuck Dulin.



Osborn High School Complex Principals; Michael Barclay; PaShawn Johnson; and Dr. Dennis Myles; with Alice G. Thompson.