



Black Family Development, Inc. Making a Difference 2014 Annual Meeting

A young girl born with promise and potential discovered in her teen years, with the assistance of Black Family Development, Inc. (BFDI), that her aggression and fighting as a defense would not get her where she wanted to go. She had dreams, goals, and aspirations, but realized that to achieve her goals, she had to equip herself with new and more meaningful skills. With guided and loving support, she began to own the outcomes of her circumstances and accepted new ways to cope with the stressors in her life. For this new pathway that she is now on, she paused and gave thanks to BFDI among an audience of 200 attendees at the organization's Annual Meeting. Her story is a reminder of the transformative work that takes place every day in our city with the caring touch of individuals that give support, love, guidance and direction to children, youth, and young adults who are challenged too often with daily stressors. Amidst a transforming city are physical, social, and emotional reminders in our home, schools, and neighborhoods of the transformative lifting needed to get us to our Future City. BFDI and its community partners share the goal of, "strengthening and enhancing the lives of children, youth and families through partnerships that support safe, nurturing and vibrant homes and communities."

The 2013 Annual Meeting of BFDI, held in July at the Museum of African American History, recognized the stellar outcomes of the 2013 program year with a milestone celebration of 35 years of service to the Detroit community. This rich legacy of delivering high quality services, meeting the needs of the community, embracing results-based accountability, continuously improving performance, and maintaining high levels of consumers, staff and funder satisfaction, gave reason to pause and celebrate.

When Alice G. Thompson, the CEO of BFDI, was asked, "What was significant in advancing the organization's achievement and advancement?"; she simply responded, "Assessing our environment and developing a culture of turning challenges into opportunities."

BFDI reported achieving the goals outlined in its Strategic Plan, and that its Performance Improvement targets were on track.

Throughout the 2013 year, the cooperative and collaborative support of an extensive network of partners



Black Family Development, Executive staff; Kenyatta Stephens, COO; Alice G. Thompson, CEO; and Jane Fernanders, CFO.



Kenyatta Stephens, COO, BFDI; Community Champion Award recipient, Teach for America-Detroit, Tiffany Williams, Executive Director; and Alice G. Thompson.

allowed BFDI to keep pace with meeting the demands of funders, neighborhood groups, schools and consumers. In addition, innovative and best practice services and ongoing competency based training have resulted in BFDI consistently meeting or exceeding program outcomes and independent audits. Black Family Development, Inc. is making a difference in our community.

For more information on the organization, call (313) 758-0150.



Elaine Lewis, BFDI Board Vice President, Alice G. Thompson, Student Intern, Jaslyn Houchins, and Jane Fernanders, CFO.



BFDI Community Champion Award Recipient, City Year representatives with Alice G. Thompson, CEO, Black Family Development, Inc.



Staff and guests from Hope Academy.



Dr. Ethriam Brammer, Wayne State University; Alice G. Thompson; Patrick O. Lindsey, Wayne State University and BFDI Advisory Board member.



BFDI Board members: Sharyl Smith; Dr. Ingrid Draper; Board President, Dee Dee McKinney Odom, Attorney Sherrie Farrell; Elaine Lewis; Stefen J. Welch.