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• Contact Us

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- escqt@mindspring.com

2008 WAS GREAT!

We are very happy with our 2008 results. More new nonprofits came to us for help; more existing clients came back to us for help; and we expanded our outreach further into Wake County. More donors also contributed to providing scholarship funds for those clients who are unable to meet our fees. We also had 5 new consultants join ESC – another indication we are furthering our community involvement. All of our volunteers and staff are anticipating that 2009 will be a fine year for ESC to achieve our mission of helping Triangle nonprofits become more efficient and effective.

Client Services

Milestones for 2008:

Projects completed: 52 (versus 46 in 2007)

New clients: 28 (versus 16 in 2007)

Active consultants: 34 (versus 24 in 2007 – the highest volunteer capacity in our 21 year history)

Triangle BoardConnect (TBC): 2 years since inception, there are 192 nonprofit positions open, with 328 individuals registered and seeking board or committee service. ESC has gained two board members and a consultant through TBC's program. There have been many good matches made throughout the nonprofit community with individuals eager to share their energy, experience and talent.

Consultants

New consultants who have joined our volunteer force since the mailing of our last newsletter are Sherry Graham (Chapel Hill), Bob Sonnhalter (Cary) and Eleanor Helms (Raleigh). We are happy to welcome these new professionals to our team and hope you have a chance to meet them soon.

Sherry retired as Acting Assistant Vice Chancellor in Information Technology at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Bob is retired from Wachovia and has a background in commercial real estate financing.

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Eleanor has many years of business management experience, and held a variety of positions in sales and marketing with Turner Broadcasting System.

Wake County Business Initiative

Our increased emphasis on Wake County nonprofits have resulted in new clients accepting our consulting services. In 2008, 38% of our completed projects were in Wake County - (29% in Orange, 25% in Durham and 8% in Chatham counties).

Tom Young of Raleigh has taken over chairmanship of this committee and we are very pleased that he has done so. Other members of the Wake County Initiative are: Don Tiedeman, Dave Gettles, Eleanor Helms, Larry Stern and Trudy Smith. Tom was Executive Director of the national ESC organization (ESCAN) until 2008, and he has an incredible amount of experience and talent to share with us.

Donors

We have been fortunate to receive contributions from donors listed below, along with clients we have been able to assist with scholarships from these Foundations. Hundreds of Triangle residents will benefit from the increased professionalism of these nonprofits and the entire community will be touched in one way or another by these generous benefactors. With ESC's low cost consulting services, partnered with the funding ability to aid more and more nonprofit agencies, we anticipate a steady growth in clients for the coming year.

Fox Family Foundation – Pittsboro Montessori Preschool and Triangle Greenways Council

Iris Rose Foundation – Girls Rock NC and Carolina Women's Center

Strowd Roses Foundation – EmPOWERment Inc., The Shodor Education Foundation, Inc., Orange Community Housing & Land Trust, Choreo Collective, Kidzu Children's Museum and Habitat for Humanity, Orange County

Triangle Community Foundation – Noire Productions, Inc., The Abundance Foundation, Alienor, Foundation for a Sustainable Community, Girls Rock NC, Youth Empowered Solutions, Triangle Impact, Read and Feed, El Pueblo, and Generation Engage .

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New Programs

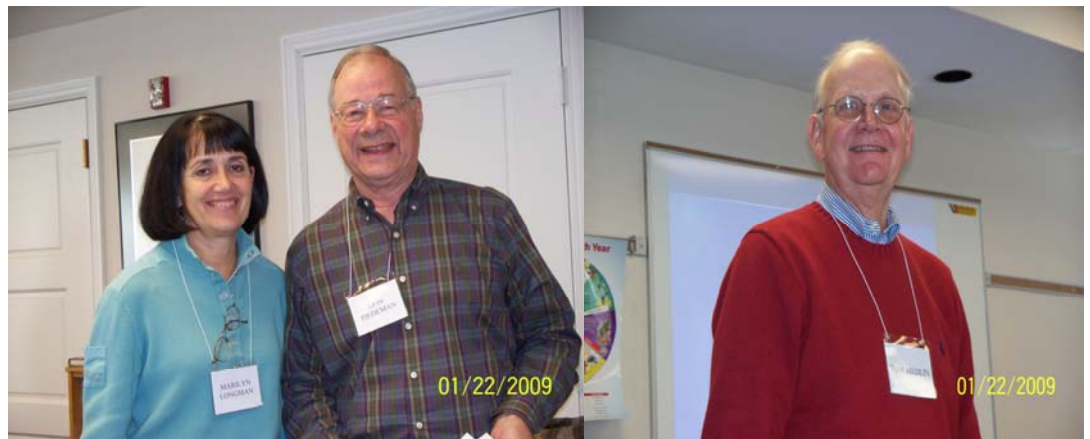
Besides doing a tremendous amount of consulting with our nonprofit clients, ESC volunteers also develop and test new programs to provide timely and needed expertise to help our clients meet new challenges. There are a number of new programs in the works but the following three have been collaboratively prepared; peer reviewed; tweaked and revised and are now ready to be rolled out in training sessions this spring.

Fundamentals of Fundraising: Building Capacity for Your Agency.

Communications Plan – to help recruit/retain volunteers, raise money, strengthen advocacy, build client volume, respond to a crisis and create an environment for growth.

Financial Assessment – a structured financial overview of the financial reporting, budgeting, internal controls and management practices of an organization.

An all consultant training session introducing these new programs was held on January 22nd with Tom Medlin, Sheila Creth, Larry Stern and Linda Stryker-Luftig presenting. Marilyn Longman and Don Tiedeman organized the training along with Trudy Smith.



Marilyn Longman & Don Tiedeman

Tom Medlin

New Board Members

ESC has been fortunate to obtain the volunteer Board services of Randi Burlew, Sheila Creth, Roy Pogrzeba and Chris Bennett. We are very pleased these talented people have chosen to spend their time and energy with ESC and we welcome them to our mission.

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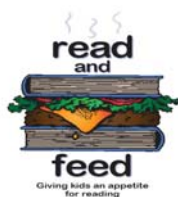
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FOCUS ON OUR CLIENTS



READ AND FEED

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ESC was introduced in August 2008 to Read and Feed through our partnership with the Triangle Community Foundation (TCF). Three ESC consultants are working as a team on the second of 2 assignments to help grow and strengthen the Board so they can continue to reach more Wake county children. It is nothing short of a major shift forward in reading success, and the momentum is at mach speed. ESC is proud to be a part of Read and Feed's success. The following story is just one example of how they fulfill their mission daily.

Recently at 5 pm, an 8 year old boy named Eddie hurried with his mother to a specially equipped RV in Raleigh's Green Spring Valley Mobile Home Park. Once inside he and his mom had a warm dinner and Eddie spent an hour with trained tutors, learning to love reading in the company of other children, their parents and dedicated volunteers, Eddie commented, "This is the best place I've ever been." He also said that what he liked best were "seconds."

Eddie has this opportunity thanks to Read and Feed, a Wake county nonprofit which, in its 2 short years, has grown from tutoring and feeding 7 children per week in 2007 to 80 children per week in 2009--from serving 25 meals a week to low-income families, to 120 meals per week.

Read and Feed has distributed more than 1,400 books to at-risk children to build their home libraries. This extraordinary organization is a dream come true for founder and president, Jan Elmo. Jan's mission is to "give kids an appetite for reading", and her concept is to combine a mobile classroom, a child friendly atmosphere, books, food, and tutors with a parent and child. Teachers and parents alike have said that the Read and Feed program has increased their children's reading abilities. One teacher noted that students who were going to be retained, have not due to the impact of Read and Feed.

Read and Feed's group of volunteers have one objective -- "To bridge the gaps of reading deficiencies for low income elementary students in Wake County, North Carolina."

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With their partnerships with non-Title I elementary schools, the **Feed the Reader Road Show** encourages parents and children to read together on a daily basis.

Read and Feed is a 501(C) (3) corporation founded in 2006 and is a tax deductible, non-profit corporation. The success of the Feed to Reader Road Show depends on financial support from their “Partners for Reading Excellence”. These partners provide support for the mobile classroom, books, computers, evening meals, and volunteer training.

All funds received are used to support the reading program. Everyone dedicated to this endeavor is a volunteer; there is no salary staff.

The concept is to combine a mobile classroom, a child friendly atmosphere, books, food, and tutors with a parent and child to create opportunities to develop and improve reading and comprehension skills in a child.

