

Mississippi DOVIA
August 18, 2016
Location: Mississippi Food Network

Members present:

Stacey Cain, Presenter	Elizabeth Coleman	Joanna King
Susan Alderman	Stacy Crain	Jay-Tea Leggett
Michele Baker	Kathy Ferrell	Kami LeVern
Fran Baker	Veronica Herrin	Lauren Voelker
Megan Bankston	Embrea Jackson	Ann Willett

Treasurer's Report:

- We currently have 2,674.57 in the bank

Member Updates:

- DOVIA member receive the Early-Bird Discount of \$189 for the Positioned for Progress Conference, which is November 3-4 even when registering the day of event.
- The VA of Jackson will host for the first time the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival in October. Events will include a free show at Thalia Mara Hall put on by the Veterans.
- Fall Fix Up at the Children's Museum is September 13-15. Volunteers are still needed.
- The Jackson Zoo is hosting a Pokemon Go Safari on August 25th from 5:00-7:30.
- Jackson Zoo's annual fundraiser Zoo Party will be held on September 22nd from 7:00 - 10:00. Tickets are \$50.
- September is MS Food Networks Hunger Action Month. The Food Network will be hosting their 4th annual Feed our Neighbors 5K September 10th at 8:00 a.m.

Mississippi Food Network
Presentation by Stacey Cain, External Affairs Assistant

- The Mississippi Food Network is the only food bank in the state of Mississippi.
- Their mission is to, "relieve poverty-related hunger by distributing donated and purchased food and grocery products through a network of member churches and nonprofit organizations."
- Affiliate of Feeding America, the nation's largest charitable hunger relief organization.
- There are currently 430 churches and nonprofit agencies in 56 counties in MS that benefit from the MS Food Network
- Through these agencies, the MS Food Network serves more than 150,000 people a month
- For every \$1 donated to the MS Food Network, they are able to provide 7 meals.
- Programs include: snack programs for afterschool programs, Kid's Cafe, Backpack Programs, and Summer Feeding programs
- Volunteers are welcomed during the weekdays putting together food boxes
- Volunteer Saturday is second Saturday of each month (except June and July) from 9:00 - 12:00.
- Volunteers must be at least 18 and have a chaperone (or 12 years without chaperone)
- Last year alone, MS Food Network had 48,000 volunteer hours.

Next Meeting

September 15, 2016 at the VA Hospital