

# DOVIA Mississippi Meeting Notes

October 15, 2015 at 8:45 A.M.

## The Mustard Seed

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Susan Alderman

Barbara Beavers

Veronica Herrin

Fran Baker

Stacy Crain

Joanna Puddister King

Michele Baker

Sara Hart Fellows

Amariah McCarthy

### MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**Joanna Puddister-King, DOVIA President** (Good Samaritan Center): Welcomed everyone and expressed DOVIA's appreciation for The Mustard Seed for hosting us. Good Samaritan is busy with planning and implementing all of their upcoming events and operations. Joanna reminded everyone of their Christmas Program and that they are currently screening low income families. This will continue all the way through November, so you are welcome to refer families to them. Good Samaritan is also planning their holiday races for November 12, which is one of the largest races in the city. Please share with your colleagues and friends about the 12K, 5K, and Kids Fun Run with Santa, which is free for children ages 12 and under.

**Veronica Herrin** (Good Samaritan Center): Veronica reminded everyone that every third Saturday, people may volunteer from 9:00 A.M. to noon. Veronica requests that groups and families give her a few days notice before the designated Saturday.

**Fran Baker** (Born Free): Shared the news that they have sold the property. She expressed her appreciation for everyone helping her spread the word over the past year.

**Stacy Crain** (Jackson Zoo): Stacy reminded everyone that *Boo at the Zoo* is October 23-24 and that they will be hosting a 5K race on October 30.

**Erin Williams** (Meeting Host, Mustard Seed Volunteer Coordinator): Shared that people are always welcome to sign-up to become a volunteer at the Mustard Seed. Often, there is a volunteer need in the gift shop on the second Saturday of each month from 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

**Mandy Sisson** (Meeting Host, Mustard Seed Communication Director): Mandy shared that their open house will be held on December 5, along with that Mustard Seed will also host a 5K race, Racin' for the Seed, which will take place in April.

**Michele Baker** (Crossroads Film Society): Michele is currently looking for people to screen films (length of films vary from 2 minutes to short to feature length) for the upcoming Crossroads Festival. If you are interested in screening, please contact Michele.  
[coord@crossroadsfilmfestival.com](mailto:coord@crossroadsfilmfestival.com)

**Barbara Beavers** (Center for Pregnancy Choices): Barbara shared about their Fondren Initiative, which is to open another office in the Fondren area. CPC has seen an increase in awareness and volunteerism in the recent months.

**Susan Alderman** (Center for Pregnancy Choices): Susan gave the reminder of CPC's fall volunteer trainings on October 29, November 5 and 12 in the mornings, which is a great resource for both old and new volunteers. Currently, CPC is seeking weekly volunteers for office work, decision specialists and nurses.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Dr. Frank Baker (DOVIA Treasurer) shared that the current balance in the account is \$2,496.75, along with a new online membership of \$25, which has not been credited.

### **PROGRAM:**

The Mustard Seed's Volunteer Coordinator, Erin Williams, and Communications Director, Mandy Sisson, welcomed and thanked everyone for attending. These ladies gave a tour and history of The Mustard Seed, as well as what a day in the life of its residents looks like. They encouraged everyone to consider volunteering at the Seed.