

Martin Luther King, Jr. Child Development Center



Since 1968

October 7, 2009

Jolene & Kelley Ewing
c/o JAE Enterprises
800 Cooper Street
Suite 500
Camden, New Jersey 08102

Dear Jolene and Kelley,

There are truly not enough words to express my appreciation for the work that your organization is doing to help Non-Profit organizations like mine develop capacity-building practices allowing us to better serve our communities.

While there are so many things I've learned during this initiative and grant period, the one thing that I truly treasure has been the support of this program and from my colleagues in the cohort around Board Development (and Accountability).

The one thing that has been validated for me is that as an Executive Director, I have been on the right path in terms of what has been so long needed in my agency related to capacity-building and Board activities. You have helped me to understand that what I expected from my Board, and what I should be doing in terms of moving towards the development of a sound fund-raising or fund development plan has been appropriate to request support in from my Board of Directors.

The additional opportunities that I have had to learn the basics of Grantwriting, Development of Board and Employee Giving programs, and Strategic Partnerships has been extremely valuable, and in many ways has validated for me the Next Steps of my organization .

Obviously, my challenge is to consistently apply all that I have learned on a daily basis. However, my participation in your program has clearly helped me to focus my energies in a more **productive and proactive** manner than has in recent days been the case. As this year is truly our most challenging financially and otherwise, I feel better prepared to meet the many challenges ahead. I feel better

armed, and supported by all that I have learned and colleagues with whom I have developed relationships.

I need to acknowledge specifically your wonderful and committed staff (Brian, Addie, Carla, etc...) who have painstakingly kept us all on the path during this experience! If only we could clone them!!! I selfishly don't want to let them go! However, they have helped to validate for me that I too, have a wonderful Core Team that supports the work that we do here at MLKCDC. I was right to develop this team around me and the work just as you have. As an Executive Director of four Child Care sites, I am blessed. Please pass on my thanks to them for all their hard work and support during this grant period.

I am most appreciative of the fact that you selected our organization to participate in this past summer's grant cohort, and on behalf of our organization and the children and families we serve , Thank You So Very Much!

Sincerely,



Diana L. Walker

Executive Director

Cc: JAE File