



## Starkville Bridges Out of Poverty, INC

### November 2012 Updates

- The 501 (c) (3) was approved for tax exempt status!
- The ally job description for the *Master's Program* was created.
- The board will meet in November to set the calendar for next year.

### Congratulations 2012 *Getting Ahead* Graduates



Picture by Alex Holloway, for SDN

The second *Getting Ahead (GA)* class graduated on Tuesday, September 25<sup>th</sup> at The Episcopal Church of the Resurrection. The graduation featured a strings trio, WCBI news, and the Mayor, the honorable Parker Wiseman. The graduation was packed to capacity and three *Getting Ahead* graduates (Fredrick Smith, Ericka Gillespie, Sara Moye) spoke about the impact of GA on their lives.

### Getting Ahead Master's Program

- The *Master's Program* is expected to start by the end of 2012. We are currently recruiting allies.
- There are currently 10 graduates signed up for the *Master's Program*.
- Family Center Program is offering financial classes at Emerson Family Center for the graduates.

### Grant Opportunities

SBOP applied for grants through State Farm, Rotary Club, Kiwanis Club, and The Episcopal Church's Seed Money. Please let us know about grants and additional funding.

### Bridges New Administrative Volunteer



Santana Brown, an AmeriCorp VISTA Volunteer, started working for *Starkville Bridges* in July. She is a graduate of Mississippi State University. She has a Bachelors in Communication and a Masters in Public Policy and Public Administration.

### Bridges Training Opportunities

- Tequilla conducted a *Bridges/Ally* in-service training on August 16<sup>th</sup> at MSU South Hall.
- Santana attended the *Bridges Out of poverty Day One Training* on August 25<sup>th</sup> at St. James in Jackson, MS.
- Family Centered Programs sponsored a *Bridges Out of Poverty Day One* training on August 31<sup>st</sup>, which SBOP had 5 volunteers (Ned Browning, Hannale Hylander, Samantha Miller, Betty Tucker, and Clara Ware) trained at no cost. Thank You Family Centered Programs!

**Building Bridges 4 Kids (BB4K)** held a Kids Safety Fair at Emerson Family Center. There were representatives from the Starkville Fire Department, Sheriffs Office and OCH, who talked to the kids about the importance of knowing what to do in the case of an emergency. The kids had the opportunity to explore the emergency vehicles and take home souvenirs and personalized emergency contact cards. The BB4K participants graduated on Tuesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>. The kids prepared a showcase for their parents that demonstrated their work created during the program.



### Speakers Bureau

Help us get on agendas for speaking to organizations. Lynn Phillips-Gaines spoke to National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE) on October 11<sup>th</sup>. Lynn also spoke to the Civitan and Rotary Clubs in July. She will speak to First Presbyterian Church on November 18<sup>th</sup> at 11 am. Santana did her first presentation to Martha's Circle of First United Methodist Church on October 9<sup>th</sup>. Santana spoke at the Episcopal Church Women's (ECW) Fall Conference in Canton, MS on November 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>.