

## Raising Awareness & Meeting Critical Needs

Dear Friend:

SPEAK! began in March 2010 with the mission to help raise awareness about the critical issues and lingering needs within our communities facing children and youth, women and their families and the poor through the use of technology, multi-media tools, activities, events and programs. The goal is to produce positive change in the lives of those whose voices are not being heard and needs are not being met."

As SPEAK raises awareness about critical needs in our communities, we are also working to provide programs that will help meet these needs like the following:

> The SPEAK Youth Collaborative which engages youth in a business and volunteer internships

> A program for underserved single mothers that will offer: Basic Computer Parenting Education, Nutrition Education Classes and more...

- > Career Development, Internships & Job Training
- > Mentoring, Tutoring, and other opportunities for youth & young adults

SPEAK is starting to assemble a Professional Advisory Board composed of individuals who are willing and able to offer counsel to our organization because of their professional areas of expertise. We are currently looking for individuals who would be interested in volunteering to serve on the advisory board and who have experience in: Human Resources; Nonprofit Accounting; Legal - with knowledge of patents; Business Development/Fundraising/Event Planning. Initially, the advisory board may meet in person on a less frequent basis (perhaps as little as quarterly to once per year based on the needs) as most of the interactions can happen virtually through email or conference calls.

SPEAK is still a relatively new organization with limited funds. As a result, the advisory board would serve to help address specific questions in a functional area that arise periodically. Below is a list of some examples of issues that may be put before an advisory board member:

> What accounting software would you recommend for a small nonprofit organization?

> How do we ask the right questions on an employment/volunteer application that will help bring in the right candidates and stay within legal limits?

If you might be interested in volunteering on the advisory board and would like to learn more about SPEAK, please contact me at this email address or fill out the contact form on the About Us page of the SPEAK website. Please visit the SPEAK website often to see what's new www.Speak4TWC.org Lyn Budd SPEAK!