



ASSOCIATES BOARD newsletter

Spring 2011

- Shamrock Shuffle Volunteering
- Wrigley Start Early run
- Voices Around Town
 - Voices Spotlight
 - Membership



Associate board members at the Wrigley Start Early Run.

As your new Co-Chairs, we would like to take this opportunity to say thank you for being a part of this wonderful group and we so look forward to our upcoming year. This month, on April 23rd we hope to see you walking, running, volunteering, or simply just encouraging others to participate at the Wrigley Start Early Run. We will be having a "Voices around Town" event in May and hope you can attend and/or promote this to your networks. Also, we will be starting our monthly Happy Hour Social Events, so please bring a friend that may be interested in joining us (details of each of these is throughout this newsletter). We have a new membership structure so you can be involved at a level that works for you. We look forward to meeting each of you during this exciting year.

-Angela Kawalski and Gena L. Miller

education & outreach committee

The Education and Outreach committee is excited to announce its new co-chairs, Caroline Smith and Will Allen! Under their leadership, the committee hosted the first of its two Voices for Service events of 2011. On April 5th, AB members volunteered with Open Books, leading 2nd graders in a creative writing workshop.

Also, the committee is currently planning the first Voices around Town event of 2011, which will be held in

May. The focus will be on the 2011 Kids Count findings, "Great at Eight: Investing in the Whole Child from Birth to Eight." Stay tuned for more information or join us at our next meeting! You can contact Caroline at ccherrychi@gmail.com and Will at william.allen2@pnc.com

social and fundraising committee

Happy spring from the Social and Fundraising committee.

We are happy to announce the new co-chairs, Kelley Menzano and Meaghan Keck. The two are honored and excited to take on their leadership roles with the Voices Associates Board. One of our goals for 2011 is to gain awareness about Voices as a whole as well as the Associates Board through various activities. In order to do so, it is important for the AB to become more actively involved in the community. We



are planning monthly Happy Hour outings around the city. The first was held on Wednesday, April 6 at Elephant & Castle.

Members of the AB gathered to socialize, network, spread the word about Voices and promote the 2011 Wrigley Start Early Run. On Saturday, April 23 thousands of runners will gather at Chicago's Grant Park to participate in the Wrigley Start Early Run. All proceeds will go to Voices for Illinois Children and Prevent Child Abuse America. We would love to see you in your running shoes at this great



Kids at Heart FUNdraiser



Are you on Facebook?

Please join the Voices Associates Board Facebook group! We will post activities and help you network with other members.

Search Facebook for Voices for Illinois Children Associates Board.

event! We have been focusing on a set location and date for this year's Kids at Heart Event which will be held in August. Please join us for more information and ways to get involved with S&F at our next meeting - Thursday, April 14, 6pm at the Voices office. To sign up to volunteer at the Shamrock Shuffle Expo or the Start Early Run, please email S&F co-chair Meaghan Keck at m.m.keck@gmail.com and for any other questions or to learn how to get involved you can contact Meagan or S&F co-chair Kelly Menzano at kelly.menzano@gmail.com

voices spotlight

ILLINOIS KIDS COUNT DATA BOOK RAISES AWARENESS OF ISSUES FACING ILLINOIS KIDS AND FAMILIES

“Great at Eight: Investing in the Whole Child from Birth to Eight” focuses on the multiple factors that affect school success and explores the challenges of investing in the “whole child” from birth to age 8. In addition to the data, the book includes essays by policy experts, advocates and community leaders, who provide a broader context for understanding the major findings. Phyllis German, school improvement specialist for Decatur public schools, notes in her essay, “A Community Creates a Path to Reading and School Success for Children”: “Learning doesn’t start and stop at the classroom door.” The [Kids Count Data Book](http://www.voices4kids.org) can be reviewed at www.voices4kids.org.

2011 member dues

The Associates Board has instituted a new two-tiered membership structure. **Active** members are asked to participate actively on a committee of their choosing as well as attend quarterly meetings. They are also eligible to become officers of the AB. **Sustaining** members are welcome at all AB events, including meetings, but are not required to join a committee nor are they eligible to hold office.

- Active membership fee: \$75
- Sustaining membership fee: \$100

As always, membership fees can be fulfilled through our “Give/Get” program.

Please contact Hannah Bloom (hannahpbloom@yahoo.com) in order to complete your pledge form or for more information.

Associates Board Members who make their 2011 membership commitment will be listed in Voices for Illinois Children’s Annual Report and on www.voices4kids.org.

upcoming events

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| April 14 | S&F Meeting |
| April 23 | Start Early Run |
| May | Voices Around Town |



For more information or to join the Associates Board, please contact:

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