Solutions at Sunrise draws rave reviews

More than 500 people attended the ninth annual Solutions at Sunrise on October 24 at the MGM Grand Detroit.

The four-hour, breakfast fundraising event featured two short films, a presentation about Southwest’s Solutions programs, and a keynote address by the agency’s president, John Van Camp.

Many attendees have written to express their appreciation for the event. Among the comments:

“One word describes the event: WOW!”

“Thank you for finding a way to share the amazing work that Southwest does every day in such an intensely and emotionally powerful format.”

“The event was a tribute to the late Freddie Harris. Freddie was a formerly homeless and talented artist who provided services from Southwest. A beautiful and touching tribute to Freddie Harris.”

In his remarks, John Van Camp focused on Southwest Solutions model of supporting individuals experiencing structural challenges through an equal and interconnected commitment to Human Development, Community and Economic Development, and Resistant Development.

Going forward, John Van Camp sees four key areas for the agency’s continued growth:

- A positive economic development model of neighborhood revitalization
- A comprehensive approach to help families become more successful
- Southwest Solutions ongoing work with veterans at Roquette Square and through the Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program
- A more interactive relationship with the community

Visit our website! www.swsol.org

You would like to receive the next Community Solutions newsletter electronically online? (If you have not done so previously) If so, please email janette.rodriguez@jrodriguez.org.

Thrive by Five hopes to deter cycle of poverty

Thrive by Five was the most ambitious program that Southwest has ever had to start in a relatively short period of time. More than 150 sites are being funded for the program, including Head Start teachers, family service workers, home visitors, nutritionists, administrative support staff, in specialists in disabilities, early childhood health, mental health, parent leadership, family and community partnerships, and volunteer resource coordination. In addition, satisfying reimbursement requirements and funding sources at the same time is a complicated process.

Southwest Solutions is actively recruiting eligible families for its Thrive by Five sites. For more information, contact 313-989-4766.

Vanessa Garcia and her daughter Damaris at the Thrive by Five program at Earhart Elementary

The early childhood education site at Earhart Elementary opened its doors open since early November, but already demand is at capacity. Thrive by Five is an initiative by the program for making her three-year-old daughter Damaris and her entire family.

Damaris loves coming here and she is now learning at a faster pace than I’ve ever seen before,” Vanessa said. “I’ve seen many programs and I can definitely say that Thrive by Five is the best.”

Because of her daughter’s enthusiasm for learning and with an understanding that she was ready to begin attending an early childhood education program, Thrive by Five helped her daughter get started in better at school.

Earhart is one of four Detroit Public School sites where Southwest Solutions’ Thrive by Five early childhood education program will be operating. The other DPS sites are: Board, Durham, and Mark Twain. These four sites offer programming for three four-year-olds, through Head Start and in, some cases, the programming for four four-years-olds through the Great Start Readiness Program.

In addition to the DPS sites, Southwest Solutions’ Thrive by Five has sites at two Educational Achievement Authority (EAA) schools – Central High School and Phoenix Academy, and three more sites have been created, including Crockett, and Voyager Academy. Voyager Academy program is Thrive by Five, Head Start/Boer MRP, and Head Start/GRP are offered. Early Head Start/Boer MRP serves children 0-3 years old.

Thrive by Five is a collaborative with START Family Services, Community Solutions, and Southwest Solutions. It is a continuum of Early Head Start and Head Start programming, support services and a comprehensive approach to participating children and their families, and a strong commitment to best practices, innovation and reasonable outcomes.

“Thrive by Five has unique and significant is in the area family,” said Donnita Scott, Executive Director of Early Childhood and School Based Services at Southwest Solutions. “By addressing the needs of the entire family, it is a comprehensive approach to break the cycle of generational poverty.”

Thrive by Five is a part of the new Birth to Fifth federal program. Thrive by Five is the program to implement this pilot, but about 45% of the funding is going to Detroit to help with the Thrive by Five collaborative and three other grinder, Market Human Services, Metropolitan Children and Youth,

In 2009, the City of Detroit celebrated the 17th anniversary of the founding of City Hall welcomes ProsperUS Campaign for Children in southwest Detroit. The campaign’s key messages are: "It’s never too late to make a difference." The campaign was launched by a coalition of 150 non-profits and community organizations committed to improving the lives of children in southwest Detroit.

The ProsperUS Campaign for Children in southwest Detroit is a coalition of 150 non-profits and community organizations committed to improving the lives of children in southwest Detroit.

City Hall welcomes ProsperUS Campaign for Children in southwest Detroit. The campaign’s key messages are: “It’s never too late to make a difference.” The campaign was launched by a coalition of 150 non-profits and community organizations committed to improving the lives of children in southwest Detroit.

Thrive by Five is the program to implement this pilot, but about 45% of the funding is going to Detroit to help with the Thrive by Five collaborative and three other grinder, Market Human Services, Metropolitan Children and Youth,

In 2009, the City of Detroit celebrated the 17th anniversary of the founding of City Hall welcomes ProsperUS Campaign for Children in southwest Detroit. The campaign’s key messages are: “It’s never too late to make a difference.” The campaign was launched by a coalition of 150 non-profits and community organizations committed to improving the lives of children in southwest Detroit.

The ProsperUS Campaign for Children in southwest Detroit is a coalition of 150 non-profits and community organizations committed to improving the lives of children in southwest Detroit.

City Hall welcomes ProsperUS Campaign for Children in southwest Detroit. The campaign’s key messages are: “It’s never too late to make a difference.” The campaign was launched by a coalition of 150 non-profits and community organizations committed to improving the lives of children in southwest Detroit.

Thrive by Five is the program to implement this pilot, but about 45% of the funding is going to Detroit to help with the Thrive by Five collaborative and three other grinder, Market Human Services, Metropolitan Children and Youth,
Southwest Solutions has begun implementing a model that promotes learning and uses digital technology to help families – particularly those who are pre-generational. Spanish-speaking entrepreneurs – create a family culture that promotes learning and uses digital technology for educational purposes. The Toyota Family Learning grant enhances our English Language Learners Program (ELL) in these schools. ELLP serves families with four in pre-kindergarten through third grade. It not only teaches parents about their children’s education, but also helps them understand how their children’s classrooms to engage with their children’s learning. The mentoring and family service components of the Toyota Family Learning Program grants the 2018-2019 program. The program will be at four elementary schools in southwest Detroit: Munger, Harms, Maybury and Lighthouse Charter Academy. It is designed to be family-focused – particularly those who are first-generation, Spanish-speaking entrepreneurs – and strives to create a family culture that promotes learning and uses digital technology for educational purposes. The Toyota Family Learning grant enhances our English Language Learners Program (ELL) in these schools. ELLP serves families with four pre-kindergarten through third grade. It not only teaches parents about their children’s education, but also helps them understand how their children’s classrooms to engage with their children’s learning.

Families in the Toyota Family Learning program will:

- Attend Parent Time and Parent-Child Time™, which focuses on guided learning, memory, using technology together, reading together, and other for our business. - Participate in at least three service-learning activities/projects - Engage in family-to-family, family-to-school, and other initiatives. 

Independent evaluations show Toyota Family Learning has yielded significant results.

"Following your own path, we are finding that participating families are engaging more often with their child's school and using technology with their children for educational purposes," said Emily Koppelkraft, vice president of Toyota Family Learning. "This trend is more involved in family learning. We’re seeing that the program is increasing parental involvement in their children’s classroom and expanding opportunities for children and their families to learn together." 

Southwest Solutions joins five other organizations nationwide receiving Toyota Family Learning Program grants as part of the second year of the program. "Toyota Family Learning helps bridge the gap between classroom and community. It empowers children to support each other, by each other, in learning what is important and relevant to real life situations."

More than half of all children in Detroit grow up poverty. Poverty is not only detrimental to the healthy development and future success of children. Helping children overcome this adversity requires an approach that focuses on the whole family, research shows.

"A child's success is strongly tied to her family's stability and well-being," stated a recent and important report. "To give families more opportunities to succeed, we must bring together children and adults and take an intentional, coordinated approach to building early childhood education and parenting ability to nurture and advocate for their children." 

This is exactly the approach that Southwest Solutions is helping to bring to southwest Detroit better their lives and better prepare their children for success in these trends.

Southwest Solutions is uniquely positioned to affect change because of the wide range of programs that the organization encompasses and integrates to achieve the many goals of children. These programs include early childhood education, parent skills, behavioral healthcare, vocational and entrepreneurial, adult education, financial literacy, affordable housing, and more.

All of our early childhood programs focus on the whole family and provide access to this spectrum of services and opportunities. To support these programs in particular, Southwest Solutions has started a Campaign for Children. The early childhood programs are:

- Thrive by Five provides a continuum of Head Start and Early Head Start, and serves more than 150 families with comprehensive home-based or center-based learning and support to increase early childhood development, mental health, and nutritional needs.
- Early Learning Communities (ELC) serves 3,500 parents and caregivers per year providing a safe environment that promotes physical development, playgroup, healthy families, community events, and more.
- English Language Learners serves 240 Latino families in four schools, and helps parents become full partners in their children's educational success.
- Southwest Solutions Great Start provides home visits to 24 families with children 0-4, and supports parents in their role as their child’s first and most important teacher.
- Early Childhood Mental Health provides home-based clinical services to pregnant women and families with children birth to six years old.

Support our programs for children: Your tax-deductible $10, $20 or $100 donation, together with federal matching funds, helps the many needs of Detroit children and households in the city. This is exactly the approach that Southwest Solutions is taking to help prepare their children for success in these trends. It allows parents to spend more time in their children's classrooms to engage with their children's learning.

For an emerging entrepreneur trying to start a small business in Detroit, navigating all the regulatory requirements at City Hall can seem intimidating.

The ProsperUS entrepreneurial training is helping me understand how to grow my business, while helping me avoid or remove roadblocks," Nicola said. "ProsperUS provides a roadmap to help me understand how to grow my business, and opportunities. To support these programs, the organization has started a Campaign for Children. The early childhood programs are:

• Thrive by Five provides a continuum of Head Start and Early Head Start, and serves more than 150 families with comprehensive home-based or center-based learning and support to increase early childhood development, mental health, and nutritional needs.
• Early Learning Communities (ELC) serves 3,500 parents and caregivers per year providing a safe environment that promotes physical development, playgroup, healthy families, community events, and more.
• English Language Learners serves 240 Latino families in four schools, and helps parents become full partners in their children’s educational success.
• Southwest Solutions Great Start provides home visits to 24 families with children 0-4, and supports parents in their role as their child’s first and most important teacher.
• Early Childhood Mental Health provides home-based clinical services to pregnant women and families with children birth to six years old.

Support our programs for children: Your tax-deductible $10, $20 or $100 donation, together with federal matching funds, helps the many needs of Detroit children and households in the city.

This is the opportunity that 26 Detroit entrepreneurs took advantage of. Before the tour began, Kimberly Faison, who directs ProsperUS, spoke to the entrepreneurs about what to expect. "City Hall is open to small business entrepreneurs and is committed to nurturing their success," Kimberly said.

At City Hall, the ProsperUS entrepreneurs had the chance to learn about City Hall’s Business Services and the Small Business Enterprise Division (SBEED) and its role in supporting small businesses within the City of Detroit. Mr. Binson, who directs ProsperUS, spoke to the entrepreneurs about what to expect. "City Hall is open to small business entrepreneurs and is committed to nurturing their success," Kimberly said.

At City Hall, the ProsperUS entrepreneurs had the chance to learn about City Hall’s Business Services and the Small Business Enterprise Division (SBEED) and its role in supporting small businesses within the City of Detroit. Mr. Binson, who directs ProsperUS, spoke to the entrepreneurs about what to expect. "City Hall is open to small business entrepreneurs and is committed to nurturing their success," Kimberly said.

At City Hall, the ProsperUS entrepreneurs had the chance to learn about City Hall’s Business Services and the Small Business Enterprise Division (SBEED) and its role in supporting small businesses within the City of Detroit. Mr. Binson, who directs ProsperUS, spoke to the entrepreneurs about what to expect. "City Hall is open to small business entrepreneurs and is committed to nurturing their success," Kimberly said.

At City Hall, the ProsperUS entrepreneurs had the chance to learn about City Hall’s Business Services and the Small Business Enterprise Division (SBEED) and its role in supporting small businesses within the City of Detroit. Mr. Binson, who directs ProsperUS, spoke to the entrepreneurs about what to expect. "City Hall is open to small business entrepreneurs and is committed to nurturing their success," Kimberly said.

At City Hall, the ProsperUS entrepreneurs had the chance to learn about City Hall’s Business Services and the Small Business Enterprise Division (SBEED) and its role in supporting small businesses within the City of Detroit. Mr. Binson, who directs ProsperUS, spoke to the entrepreneurs about what to expect. "City Hall is open to small business entrepreneurs and is committed to nurturing their success," Kimberly said.

At City Hall, the ProsperUS entrepreneurs had the chance to learn about City Hall’s Business Services and the Small Business Enterprise Division (SBEED) and its role in supporting small businesses within the City of Detroit. Mr. Binson, who directs ProsperUS, spoke to the entrepreneurs about what to expect. "City Hall is open to small business entrepreneurs and is committed to nurturing their success," Kimberly said.

At City Hall, the ProsperUS entrepreneurs had the chance to learn about City Hall’s Business Services and the Small Business Enterprise Division (SBEED) and its role in supporting small businesses within the City of Detroit. Mr. Binson, who directs ProsperUS, spoke to the entrepreneurs about what to expect. "City Hall is open to small business entrepreneurs and is committed to nurturing their success," Kimberly said.

At City Hall, the ProsperUS entrepreneurs had the chance to learn about City Hall’s Business Services and the Small Business Enterprise Division (SBEED) and its role in supporting small businesses within the City of Detroit. Mr. Binson, who directs ProsperUS, spoke to the entrepreneurs about what to expect. "City Hall is open to small business entrepreneurs and is committed to nurturing their success," Kimberly said.

At City Hall, the ProsperUS entrepreneurs had the chance to learn about City Hall’s Business Services and the Small Business Enterprise Division (SBEED) and its role in supporting small businesses within the City of Detroit. Mr. Binson, who directs ProsperUS, spoke to the entrepreneurs about what to expect. "City Hall is open to small business entrepreneurs and is committed to nurturing their success," Kimberly said.

At City Hall, the ProsperUS entrepreneurs had the chance to learn about City Hall’s Business Services and the Small Business Enterprise Division (SBEED) and its role in supporting small businesses within the City of Detroit. Mr. Binson, who directs ProsperUS, spoke to the entrepreneurs about what to expect. "City Hall is open to small business entrepreneurs and is committed to nurturing their success," Kimberly said.

At City Hall, the ProsperUS entrepreneurs had the chance to learn about City Hall’s Business Services and the Small Business Enterprise Division (SBEED) and its role in supporting small businesses within the City of Detroit. Mr. Binson, who directs ProsperUS, spoke to the entrepreneurs about what to expect. "City Hall is open to small business entrepreneurs and is committed to nurturing their success," Kimberly said.

About ProsperUS: For more information about ProsperUS, please visit prospectours.org or call (313) 387-6000.

These divisions include Construction, Business Services Centers, Environmental Affairs, Pre-Sale, Property Maintenance, and Zoning.


About ProsperUS: For more information about ProsperUS, please visit prospectours.org or call (313) 387-6000.

These divisions include Construction, Business Services Centers, Environmental Affairs, Pre-Sale, Property Maintenance, and Zoning.


About ProsperUS: For more information about ProsperUS, please visit prospectours.org or call (313) 387-6000.

These divisions include Construction, Business Services Centers, Environmental Affairs, Pre-Sale, Property Maintenance, and Zoning.


About ProsperUS: For more information about ProsperUS, please visit prospectours.org or call (313) 387-6000.

These divisions include Construction, Business Services Centers, Environmental Affairs, Pre-Sale, Property Maintenance, and Zoning.


About ProsperUS: For more information about ProsperUS, please visit prospectours.org or call (313) 387-6000.

These divisions include Construction, Business Services Centers, Environmental Affairs, Pre-Sale, Property Maintenance, and Zoning.


About ProsperUS: For more information about ProsperUS, please visit prospectours.org or call (313) 387-6000.

These divisions include Construction, Business Services Centers, Environmental Affairs, Pre-Sale, Property Maintenance, and Zoning.


About ProsperUS: For more information about ProsperUS, please visit prospectours.org or call (313) 387-6000.