

December 30, 2011

"It was truly an inspirational evening, and I'm glad I attended!"

Attendee, "Guiding the Journey to Responsible Living:
Foster Youth at the Crossroads" panel event.

Dear Friends of Zoeza Institute,

What happens when youth in foster care reach age 18 and no longer have the foster care system's support? This is the driving force behind the mission of Zoeza Institute (ZI). Our panel was held in October at the University of Pennsylvania. It featured two of our mentees who are on the cusp of independence and Steven Oakman, Administrator, DHS. Attendees learned about the challenges to reach independence. The following week, one of our mentees participated in an important public hearing on foster care aging out.

On October 22, ZI participated in the retailer Villa Dream Project where the mayor, along with many accomplished entrepreneurs shared their keys to success. Marvin, one of our mentees said that he expanded his network and found the event motivational as he started his freshman year at Edinboro College.

On October 28, I had the honor to be with Glynnis at family court to receive her discharge as a dependent in DHS care. So much of the work we do is to support our mentees to prepare them for this event. Glynnis is our first mentee to reach this milestone! And to do so as a single parent of a 4 year old daughter while on the Dean's list at LaSalle is truly significant! Congratulations!

Let's welcome mentee Shawn, Desiree Carr and Michelle Campbell to our Team Zoeza family! Shawn is a graduate of Masterman and a senior at the University of Pennsylvania. He is V.P. of Penn Cultural Exchange, chair of philanthropy at Delta Upsilon Fraternity and wishes to mentor those of similar foster background. Shawn worked for Google last summer and took the initiative to create a powerpoint, "On Cloud 9- Leverage the Cloud, Make Technology Work for You". It shows the pros and cons of storage options for documents, music and photos at little or no cost. Request a free copy. Thank you Shawn!

Desiree Carr has a Penn master's degree, is the assistant director of annual giving at the Penn Nursing School, and an accomplished entrepreneur. Desiree's enthusiasm to share her wisdom and network is only exceeded by her boundless energy.

Michelle Campbell is the proud mother of 4 year old Jayden, an experienced attorney, co-founder of Independence Charter School and a world traveler. Michelle and Desiree serve on our advisory board.

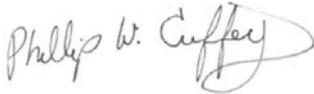
Join Zoeza Institute for the following events! Bring a young person and RSVP at phillip.cuffey@zoeza.org

- On January 10, we have tickets for men's basketball LaSalle vs. Penn at the Pallestra, 7:00 p.m.
- On January 20, we are planning a group trip to see the movie Red Tails which is about the elite Tuskegee pilots in WW II.

Thank you to the Enon Community Reinvestment Ministry for a generous grant, Dr. Jesse Johnson for his many gifts throughout 2011 and the Tucker Law Group. Your gifts allow us to buy mentees' books for college, provide laptops, and develop programs for their benefit. You can make an on line donation at <http://www.zoeza.org/supportcontributions.html>

We wish all of our mentees, mentors and supporters the best this holiday season.

Sincerely,



Phillip W. Cuffey
Executive Director