

In the Loop

News and updates
about Storieswork
this month

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A surprise beginning in 2012!

We were contacted by BUS 52, a non-profit group that documents, photographs, and publicizes organizations using innovative methods to effect community change. BUS 52 is run by six recent college graduates who are traveling in an old school bus to all fifty states this year. StoriesWork is the second such organization they chose in North Carolina. On Thursday, January 19, 2012, BUS 52 set up cameras, lighting and audio equipment and interviewed Executive Director Lenora Ucko, Administrator Margaret McWhorter, Board Director Peter Anlyan, and new Board Member, David Schmidt. BUS 52 also photographed testimonials from participants of past StoriesWork programs: Angela Martinez of the Durham Crisis Response Center, Adrian Neely of the Criminal Justice Resource Center, and Jannie Cozart of the Durham Center for Senior Life. As an extra bonus, StoriesWork presented a sample interactive storytelling session complete with storytellers and a live audience, a full program! Watch for the resulting StoriesWork video from BUS 52.

On Tuesday, January 17, 2012, we held our Board and Volunteer appreciation dinner. Lively conversation, lasagna, salad, and fun was had by all.

The next round of Intergenerational Storytelling runs from February through April 2012. Ex-offenders from Criminal Justice Resource Center and seniors at the Durham Center for Senior Life are eagerly looking forward to this Spring series. And at StoriesWork, we are adding new stories and topics to spur everyone's imagination.

We are now getting our reading enhancement program underway. We were contacted by Amanda Fleishman Wilson of the Sheppard's House UMC afterschool program and asked to introduce interactive storytelling into their Spring program. We hope to encourage speaking, reading and writing among young people lagging in these skills. We will keep you posted about the program.

Finally, we applied for the Peace Corp Prize offered to a North Carolina community-based nonprofit that demonstrates the ideals of the Peace Corps - promoting cross-cultural understanding. Hope we succeed!

Let's see what next month will bring!