



February 17, 2017

Board of Directors

- Dr. Robert D. Holsworth
Chairman
- Kenneth M. Dye
Vice Chairman
- Thomas M. Denson, III, CPA
Treasurer
-
- Jane M. Alford, M.Ed., CRC
- Dr. David L. Bailey, Jr.
- Kenneth D. Barker
- The Hon. Randolph A. Beales
- James W. Beamer
- Matthew P. Boshier, Esq.
- Congressman David A. Brat
- The Hon. Jean Cunningham, Esq.
- David W. Didawick, CPA
- Dr. Raymond J. Gargiulo
- Julian S. Hillery, III, CFA
- Andrea McDaniel
- Dr. Robyn L. McDougale
- Robert B. Maxwell, III, M.Ed.
- Dianne Reynolds-Cane, M.D.
- Paula Fisher Robinson, MPA
- Elsie L. Rose, CPA, CGMA
- Dr. Sarah H. Scarbrough
- Mayor Levar M. Stoney
- Senator Walter A. Stosch
- Stacey D. Strawn, M.A., Ed.H.D.

GRASP, A Virginia College Access Organization, Recognized by the Standards for Excellence Institute®

GLEN ALLEN, Va. GRreat Aspirations Scholarship Program, Inc. (GRASP) has been recognized by the Standards for Excellence Institute for successfully completing the Standards Basics requirements of their signature Standards for Excellence® program. GRASP was invited and sponsored by The Cameron Foundation and the former Partnership for Nonprofit Excellence to apply for Standards Basics designation which shows compliance with the Standards for Excellence®: An Ethics and Accountability Code for the Nonprofit Sector. GRASP is one of the few nonprofit organizations in Virginia to have achieved this designation.

The Standards for Excellence Institute evaluates fundamental values such as honesty, integrity, fairness, respect, trust, responsibility, and accountability, all of which are inherently important in the nonprofit world. GRASP’s programs and services, management, fundraising and financial practices were subjected to in-depth examination prior to earning recognition.

Betsy Heggie, CEO of GRASP stated, “GRASP is delighted to have achieved the Standards Basics requirements, as the designation provides the public and our donors with the knowledge that GRASP is operating in a prudent manner. We especially appreciate the support we received from The Cameron Foundation and the Partnership for Nonprofit Excellence throughout the application process.”

The Standards for Excellence Institute is committed to raising the level of principled and responsible practices within the nonprofit sector. The Institute offers a model for organizations to implement in their operating plans so they can gain a deeper understanding of their effectiveness, improve their decision-making and minimize risks. Nonprofits that adhere to the basic principles and practices of strong nonprofit management and governance can become formally recognized as fulfilling the Standards Basics requirements of the Standards for Excellence program. Standards Basics is the first step of this three-tiered process which is designed to culminate in full accreditation under the Standards for Excellence program.

About GRASP

GRASP is a tax exempt, charitable, college-access organization that assists students and families in obtaining funding for post-secondary education. GRASP’s goal is to ensure that every student has an equal opportunity for continuing education after high school, regardless of financial or social circumstances. GRASP advisors serve in 76 Virginia schools.

About the Standards for Excellence Institute

The Standards for Excellence originated as a special initiative of Maryland Nonprofits in 1998 and has since expanded into a national program to help nonprofit organizations

Betsy Heggie, MBA
Chief Executive Officer
bheggie@grasp4virginia.com
(804) 527-7717



achieve the highest benchmarks of ethics and accountability in nonprofit governance, management and operations. The program has been formally adopted by ten state, regional and national affiliate organizations, and is supported by nearly 100 Licensed Consultants and over 100 volunteers with professional experience in nonprofit governance and administration. Presently, over 200 individual nonprofit organizations are fully accredited or recognized as having completed a rigorous application and review process to demonstrate adherence to the Standards for Excellence: An Ethics and Accountability Code for the Nonprofit Sector. www.standardsforexcellence.org.

GRASP Media Contact:
Paula Buckley, 804.527.7705
pbuckley@grasp4virginia.com