

Information deliberation action

PUBLIC LIFE FOUNDATION OF OWENSBORO



Annual Report 2012

Information

In 2012, our 16th year, the Public Life Foundation of Owensboro (PLFO) continued to inform, engage and involve citizens in public issues that face our community, region, state and nation.

From downtown redevelopment to land use, public health to fiscal responsibility, PLFO helped citizens conceptualize, organize, finance and sustain a wide range of worthy initiatives.

2013 will be an exciting year of transition as we expand grantmaking to support youth and education causes.

A summary of our 2012 activities:

Information

Issue Briefs/Discussion Guides:

- “A Nation in Debt: How Can We Pay the Bills?” (National Issues Forum)
- “What to do with the state office building property?”
- “Proposed strip mine in Daviess County”
- “Weight of the Nation” (HBO)

Articles:

- Zeroing in on Owensboro’s next big thing
- When should the people have a say?
- Logsdon Center will serve nonprofits, foster grass roots action
- PRIDE symposium points to importance of gateways, first impressions
- Showcase connects citizens to economic development efforts
- Community health plan involved hundreds
- Strip mining opponents mobilize
- The collective wisdom of the people
- Owensboro Area World Affairs Council connects Owensboro to the world



A Nation in Debt: How Can We Pay the Bills?

FORUM RESULTS

On December 1, Public Life Foundation of Owensboro hosted a public forum on one of the most pressing issues of our time: A Nation in Debt: How Can We Pay the Bills?

Format
Participants were randomly assigned seats to improve the likelihood that they would be required to discuss the issues. Following the introductions and general ideas, participants selected a voter that focused on the key points included in the issue booklet. Each voter featured a national legislator and a candidate. There were three discussion periods and a final open forum. The issue booklet was distributed with each voter, strategies and feedback collected from each voter, strategies and feedback. This was followed by an open forum and polling through the use of electronic ballots.

When the forum concluded, participants were required to select one candidate to vote upon for them to continue to lead. There were sample scenarios highlighting candidates as well as how to contact elected officials to share their views.

Who participated?
Fifty-four residents participated in the dialogue and deliberation. Of participants in the polling:
Sixty-four percent of the participants were male, 36 percent were female.
Only two percent of the participants were under 30 years of age. Forty-eight percent were 40 or older, and 48 percent were between 40 and 65. Seven percent were between 15 and 30 years of age.
Fifty-four percent of the participants live in the city of Owensboro. Forty percent live in Daviess County outside Owensboro. Seven percent live outside the county.

Source of Information
Participants received an issue booklet that provided background material, data, trends, and three options for addressing the issue. Written materials, the strategies and booklets were included. The booklets were distributed to participants. Written materials, the National Issues Forum, a private, nonprofit, registration organization through the financial support of the Kettering Foundation.

DEBT

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A SCREENING OF

THE WEIGHT OF THE NATION

CONFRONTING AMERICA'S DEBTY EPIDEMIC

Event Schedule

Date	Time	Location
October 1, 2, 3, & 4	8pm - 9pm	1st Lt. Heston Center
October 16, 17, 18, & 19	7pm - 8pm	Owensboro Family YMCA
October 19, 21, 22, & November 1	5:30pm - 7:30pm	1st Lt. Heston Center
October 19, 18, & November 1	7:30pm - 9:30pm	Grace Free Church South Department - 4231 1st Street
October 19, 22, 23, & November 5	7pm - 8pm	Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church - Park Hill
October 19, 22, 23, & November 5	5:30pm - 7:30pm	Southern Care Elementary School
October 19, 22, 23, & November 12	10am - 5pm	OWSG HealthPark
October 19, 22, 23, & November 18	6:30pm - 8:30pm	First Baptist Church - Division St.
October 22, 23, & November 1, 12	8pm - 9pm	Methodist Catholic Church - Park Hill
October 22, 23, & November 1, 12	6:30pm - 8:30pm	Zion United Church of Christ
October 22, 23, & November 1, 12	8:30pm - 10:30pm	1st Lt. Heston Center
October 22, 23, & November 1, 12, 15	8:30pm - 10:30pm	1st Lt. Heston Center
November 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17	8:30pm - 10:30pm	Off High School and City Club - 1100 1st St
November 14, 15, 16, 17, 20	5:30pm - 7:30pm	Owensboro Area Community Center

Screening Details:
These dates are for the screening. The screening of THE WEIGHT OF THE NATION is a feature documentary series, featuring case studies and interviews with leading experts and both individuals and families struggling with obesity. This series explores the facts and myths of the urgent public health issue. Obesity has clearly become the health crisis of our time, and despite the best efforts of our government, it is still not being solved.

HE WEIGHT OF THE NATION is a presentation of HBO and the Institute of Medicine (IOM), in consultation with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and produced by the Atlantic Center for Health Communication.

Screening Details:
Screening will be held from 7:30pm - 9:30pm. The screening will be held at the Owensboro Area Community Center, 1100 1st Street, Owensboro, KY 40302. For more information, please contact Shelby Nichols, PLFO at 270-680-2282 or shelnichols@plfo.org

From the Cover

Zeroing in on Owensboro's NEXT BIG THING

“From 2008 to 2010 Owensboro completed several strategic planning initiatives in order to guide government. They led directly to the focus on downtown development, the Downtown Planning Group’s incentive program, and the reimagining of city government and services to reflect the fast-changing local environment. A new strategic planning initiative is needed in 2012 and 2013 to coincide with the opening of the logsdon center and to propel the city and county to the next stage of the program as a center of opportunity.”

— Beth Schneider, Author of the *Cities Rising* report

What is “the next big thing” for Owensboro-Daviess County? What can we rely around as a community? What project, program or process can give us a distinctive as a community? Which community goal is most ambitious and also attainable?

Projects
A new hospital is under construction, so in an expanded medical path, downtown hotel and convention center, the new a progressive Centre for Business and Research (our first business incubator). Which are our next big projects?

Logsdon Center will serve nonprofits, foster grass roots action

Once funds are secured to complete equipping and furnishing the facility, the Former Lee Logsdon Community Center will serve as Owensboro-Daviess County’s first nonprofit resource center.

Located at President’s Plaza, a senior housing facility located behind the Springs medical complex, the facility will offer quality local nonprofit work space with computer, internet access, use of other equipment and supplies, conference room, multi-purpose room and kitchen for luncheon and other meetings, storage space for organizational files, continuing education programs for nonprofits, etc.

Nonprofits and other citizens groups will benefit from: Services, collaboration and networking. Community benefits include:
• strategic, more efficient, more sustainable community organizations (currently 30 percent of nonprofit organizations dissolve each year)
• cost sharing to reduce the proliferation of duplicate for emerging nonprofits
• more collaboration and cooperation among nonprofits

“The Logsdon Center will monumentalize our visionary leader, Ron Logsdon, and foster collaboration and enable us to flourish from one another.”

Anthony Bohring, Executive Director
Martha Clark CPA, Board Member Owensboro Chamber of Commerce

“Others we can do so little, together we can do so much.”

The \$5 million, 60,000-sq-ft center is part of a new downtown development project by the Owensboro Area Community Services (OACS), which is a partnership between the city and the community. The Logsdon Center comprises 1,500 square feet and will have up to 20 workstations. AACS and Woodrow have made additional contributions for tables, chairs, catering kitchen, information technology, and more. AACS is also contributing significant in-kind support and a number of volunteers to assist with the project. The Public Life Foundation of Owensboro and First Laurens and Augusta High School Educational Foundation have provided support and leadership as well. Approximately \$100,000 is needed to purchase equipment and furniture.

270-680-2282 | shelnichols@plfo.org

- Do we need stricter voter identification laws?
- Public deliberation and our community “wish list”
- Recent air quality rankings, health implications
- Family Court advocates still pushing
- Pursue civic engagement to generate public knowledge, not public input
- Citizens examine the obesity epidemic
- City faces important decisions on power generation
- Excerpts from AI Cross presentation on politics and the media
- Dental Clinic meets pressing needs
- AmericaSPEAKS founder heads new institute

Videotape Interviews:

- Local advocates/activists share their experience, offer tips

Film:

- “carbon nation,” Peter Byck

Lecture:

- AI Cross, University of Kentucky Institute of Rural Journalism and Community Issues, *Courier-Journal* columnist – partnered with the Owensboro Women’s Network

Blog:

- AmericaSPEAKS Blog, post on the outcomes from Owensboro’s “We the People” Town Meetings

Deliberation

Public Dialogue:

- “A Nation in Debt: How Can We Pay the Bills?” (National Issues Forum)
- “What to do about the state office building property?”
- “Enhancing our new community entrance” – a PRIDE symposium
- “Weight of the Nation” – examining the obesity epidemic through 36 public viewings and discussions (HBO discussion guide)

From the Cover

Do we need stricter voter identification laws?

A wave of new voter identification legislation is occurring throughout the U.S. in time to have an impact on the upcoming presidential election – a critical election that could affect our national direction on health care, taxes, the budget, the vision for our country and more.

Voter identification across the U.S.

According to Ballotpedia (updated August 2012), 15 states now require photo identification and 30 states have non-photo requirements.

Valid forms of photo ID often include:

- A valid driver's license
- Military identification
- A state identification card
- United States passport
- Student identification

If valid identification is not provided, most states have provisional ballots. Voters must sign an affidavit of identity and their vote is counted once their affidavit is confirmed, typically within a few days.

Mississippi, South Carolina and Texas are among the states with new strict photo ID laws that may take effect before the November 2012 election.

Expected turnout

Local officials expect a voter turnout for the November 2012 presidential election (although new voter identification laws in Texas and Florida were unveiled recently). Other new laws may take effect in 2014 or after, under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act.

Legislation is pending in 32 states for new voter ID programs in 14 states, proposals to strengthen existing voter ID laws in 10 states, and bills in one state to amend the new voter ID laws passed in 2011.

Family court advocates still pushing

For more than a decade, local officials have seen 72 family courts established across the Commonwealth – and nearly all of them are in conservative red-state Danvers County.

A family court is recommended by local judges, attorneys, social workers, police officers and other officials. It would bring about a more consistent, streamlined judicial process and case management, including juvenile, guardian, foster parents, teachers, corrections and more – working as a team to improve the prospects for families at risk in crisis.

Spain to accommodate a family court could be a challenge in Danvers County. The 2012 Danvers County Judicial Center was near capacity when it opened in 1998. The court would require another floor of the Judicial Center – said Danvers County District Court Judge Lisa Jones. “The current facility was not designed to house two levels of courts, and security has changed so much that we need to re-evaluate the structure,” she added.

Efforts have been made to secure state funds for a new Danvers County Judicial Center compatible to housing in March 2014 a total of \$20 million, Danvers County District Court Judge Lisa Jones. The County District Court Judge Lisa Jones. “The current facility was not designed to house two levels of courts, and security has changed so much that we need to re-evaluate the structure,” she added.

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Community faces important decisions on power generation

The Science Application International Corporation (SAIC) study and Owensboro Municipal Utilities (OMU) have your Integrated Resource Plan are expected in May. When these reports are released, the City of Owensboro, owner of OMU and the Great South Power Station, will consider recommendations from SAIC consultants and OMU staff.

The OMU board and its municipal owner must decide on the future of the Smith Station given our community's power needs, the age and condition of the facility, replacement or refurbishing costs, demand-pressure on prices, concerns about meeting deficits, the need to meet environmental and residential customers, impact on economic development and jobs, compliance to health and environmental regulations and more.

Options for public dialogue: What should the City do with the Smith Station? What are the options? How do we make a point to inform and engage the public in a meaningful dialogue before important decisions are made?

Apparent options:

- 1 Continue to operate and upgrade the Great South Station to meet environmental regulations with minimal cost.
- 2 Replace one or both of the Smith station boilers with natural gas.
- 3 Build or buy a natural gas generation facility to replace all or part of the Great South Station.
- 4 Replace the Smith station and purchase power from other providers.
- 5 Transition to generate renewable energy sources.
- 6 Some combination of the above.

For each of these options, there are costs, pros and cons, consequences and trade-offs.

Dental Clinic meets pressing needs

The Community Dental Clinic was established in 2009 to address unmet oral health needs of the community. The Public Life Foundation of Owensboro is proud to have had a leadership role in establishing the clinic.

The clinic serves low-income adults without a dental provider using a sliding scale fee schedule. The clinic also accepts patients on Medicaid managed care programs.

Dr. Brandon Taylor is the Clinical Director. The staff also includes a full-time assistant dental, patient-care, dental hygiene, office manager, three dental assistants, and a part-time front office. The clinic provides a wide range of services including exams, oral health education, preventive care, X-rays, root canals, and restorations.

Governed by a volunteer board of directors chaired currently by Stan Dean of Blueberry Behavioral Services, the clinic is a proud recipient of numerous awards and recognition. The board includes two dentists, representatives of Owensboro Medical Health System, Great South District Health, plus a certified public accountant, attorney, educator, social worker and more.

Since the opening, the clinic can point to impressive results:

- More than 6,000 patients treated representing 20 percent of patients
- \$2.2 million of care
- \$1.3 million of charitable care
- More than \$60,000 in community support through fundraising
- A recent (2012) \$150,000 expansion/renovation doubled the clinic's available treatment rooms from three to six.

“We expect to surpass a million in charity care in 2013,” Dr. Taylor said.

carbon nation

A documentary by Peter Byck

“carbon nation” movie screening

Thursday, November 1 at 7:00 p.m.

Owensboro Community & Technical College

Advanced Technology Center
4500 New Hartford Road

ADMISSION IS FREE

Director Peter Byck (from Louisville) will attend and participate in a Q&A session & answer audience following the film presentation.

Watch the trailer at www.carbonnationmovie.com

Three of the dozen and given more about climate change? Carbon nation: An inspirational, non-partisan, big hit film that shows leading climate change leaders the necessary, realistic and energy security and economic health & clean environments.

Narrated by Bill Kurtis, the cast includes Richard Gere, CBS' Walter Cronkite, Thomas L. Friedman (The New York Times), former CIA Director James Woolsey, New Jersey Governor Chris Christie, Col. Dan Nagin, U.S. Army Chief, Steven Levitt (University of Chicago), Steve Nouri (Mayor of Lake View), Cliff Edwards

Join us! It will be a fun, enlightening and interesting night. Let's get inspired!

For more info contact: Kathy Stroud, kathy.stroud@pfs.org or 800-2882

Sponsored by the Public Life Foundation of Owensboro

STUFF YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT GOVERNMENT & POLITICS

(Including Your Role as a Citizen and How to Make Sense of Media Messages)

with AI Cross

Institute of Rural Journalism & Community Issues
University of Kentucky

Columnist with Louisville Courier-Journal

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 6:30 P.M.

Owensboro Museum of Science and History, Wendell Ford Center

Sponsored by: Public Life Foundation of Owensboro, The Greater Owensboro Women's Network, American Association of University Women, Democratic Women's Club, Republican Women's Club

WHAT TO DO WITH Second & Frederica

COMMUNITY FORUM PARTICIPANT GUIDE

APRIL 12, 2012 5:30PM RIVERPARK CENTER

The former state office building at the southeast corner of Second and Frederica Street is a viable and strategic component of the downtown redevelopment plan. The 92,400 square foot (now-vacant) parcel includes the 38 year old state office building (150,000 usable square feet) and 81 off-street parking spaces. The building and property were acquired by the City of Owensboro in 2010, and the 217 state employees were relocated to a new building in Heritage Park. The Second and Frederica Street property is near the planned Hampton Inn, convention center, Courthouse lawn, Riverfront Courtyard and Theater's Park.

ORIGINAL PLAN

The Middle River Corporation (the land developer selected by the City of Owensboro) planned to redevelop parcel parcel building, with Hampton Inn at Second and Frederica Street, the site of the former state office building.

HOTEL SITE CHANGES

What is to be done with the site? What are the options and the need for resolution work on the property the Brown Corporation would be best prepared to address in a timely fashion? This is the recommendation of the Brown Corporation, attorney and architect.

PRIDE

First Impressions:

Creating a Beautiful New Community Entrance

You are invited to attend this symposium on

May 23, 2012
11:30am - 2:00pm

Western Kentucky University, Owensboro

Presenters:

- Lois Gordon-Jerry Davidson, Phil Fortinger, ECRS, Fort Lauderdale, Florida (Design firm for the downtown Owensboro plan)

Panel discussion:

A panel discussion will follow the presentations.

The panel will include:

- Morgan McLean, landscape architect who PRIDE helped to develop a plan for the new entrance to Owensboro from the Nashville Bridge
- State highway department representative
- Local citizens and advocates for aesthetic improvements

Registration is free. Seating is limited.

Please RSVP by May 18th to kathy.stroud@pfs.org or 800-2882.

Kathy Stroud, Emcee and Moderator

Action

Project/Program/Organizational Support:

- “We the People” Leadership Council
- Business and Industry Showcase Series (Region Of Opportunity Team)
- Interagency Task Force
- Citizens for Good Government
- Community scholarship initiative
- Community Dental Clinic
- Ron Logsdon Community Center (nonprofit resource center)
- Goodfellows Club

Networking and Collaboration:

- Lawrence and Augusta Hager Educational Foundation
- Kentucky Youth Advocates (Blueprint Committee, Benefits Access Initiative and Race Matters)
- Friedell Committee on Health System Transformation
- Kentucky Voices for Health
- Owensboro Medical Health System
- Green River District Health
- Kentucky Grantmakers
- Kentucky Philanthropy Initiative
- Healthy Horizons
- Owensboro Neighborhood Alliances

Financial support:

- AmericaSPEAKS
- Cliff Hagan Boys and Girls Club
- Community Campus
- Foundation for DCPS
- Girls Inc.
- H L Neblett Community Center
- Kentucky Campus Compact (voter registration/turnout)
- Kentucky Philanthropy Initiative
- Kiwanis Club (Logsdon memorial)
- NAACP
- Owensboro Human Relations Commission
- Owensboro Area World Affairs Council
- Regional Alliance for Education
- Ron Logsdon Community Center (nonprofit resource center)

Administration

Foundation Assets

As of December 31, 2012 foundation assets totaled \$7.5 million

Structure and Classification

The foundation is a private, family foundation, established by John and Marjorie Hager. The Foundation is an operating foundation as opposed to a grantmaking foundation. However, in 2013, the Foundation plans to expand its grantmaking activities.

Operating Budget

In 2012, the Foundation devoted \$366,820 to its programs, projects, operating overhead and staff.

Staff

Rodney Berry ● President

Kathy Strobel ● Office Manager and Board Secretary

Shelly Nichols ● Director of Civic Engagement

Board of Directors

Sally Hager Wood ● Chair

Bruce Hager ● Vice-Chair

Susie Hager Alford ● Treasurer

Rodney Berry

Stewart Hager

William Speciale



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