ACEY Group pushes forward

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

What started seven years ago when 12 friends joined the Women's Fund to give back to their community, continues today as a committed, focused and diverse group of community women called the ACEY Group.

"I was asked to join the Women's Fund. I did not have \$1,200 to join as an individual member," says Dr. Betty Alexander, one of the group's founders. "They informed me that there were group memberships, as long as the group came up with a total of \$1,200. So I asked 12 of my friends to join with me and we formed one of the Women's Fund groups and one of the very first that was all African American."

The Women's Fund of Winston-Salem works to improve life for women and girls by building communities of female philanthropists. Memberships and donations allow the Fund to then make grants to local non-profits working to improve circumstances for women and

From the start, the ACEY group, was committed to doing more than just collecting money. They adopted a group mission to seek out and implement ways to meaningfully impact lives. That dedication has resulted in the group undertaking projects such as providing summer camp scholarships to girls, providing items and programs for seniors and providing programming for young girls transitioning through foster care. The group has hosted a conference for young girls and supported other non-profits. While these activities are not officially required for Women's Fund membership, ACEY group



The women of the ACEY Group.



Dr. Betty Alexander

members can't even picture their journey being any other way.

"Being a part of the Women's Fund, it is important to the ACEY Group not only to help provide grants to local programs but to be a part of the community by providing activities and services directly to women and girls," Dr. Alexander said. "It is important because the projects we address give a face to the issues in the community and we are dedicated to trying to bring about social changes by being visible philanthro-

Sabrina Slade, executive director of the Fund Women's

Winston-Salem, sees the ACEY Group as a valuable extension of the overall work of the organization and applauds the group's work in the community.

"Collective giving is at the heart of the Women's Fund of Winston-Salem,' Slade said. "We understand that together we are strategically positioned to address emerging issues impacting the economic security of women and girls in Forsyth County. Groups, like our ACEY Group, uplift the spirit of the Fund not only through their membership in the Fund but through their efforts to help girls transition out of foster care each year."

Member Carmelita Coleman was similarly drawn to ACEY, she says, and wanted to be a part of their strong desire to help

"The ACEY group is unique in that we have a group of professional women who have excelled in their respective professions who are humble hearted enough to truly desire serving and working with the girls of our community," she said.

The ACEY Group was founded on the principles

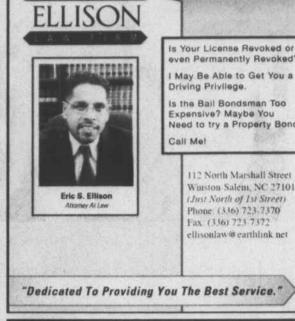
· Achievement in the education of women and girls about the power of philanthropy

· Commitment to connect with women and girls in the community

 Encourage esteem and empowerment of women and girls

· Yield women leaders

and philanthropists Last week, the group celebrated its 7th anniversary at an evening event at ESR open to members and friends. The occasion featured a reminder of the group's founding principles and a commitment to continued future good works.



en Permanently Revoked? I May Be Able to Get You a Driving Privilege.

is the Bail Bondsman Too Expensive? Maybe You Need to try a Property Bond.

112 North Marshall Street Winston Salem, NC 27101 (Just North of 1st Street) Phone: (336) 723-7370 Fax. (336) 723 7372 ellisonlaw@earthlink net







