Be The Change
An Advocate’s Guide to Making An Impact

Mary Beth Moore
White Hawk Advocacy

ROOTED IN
ADVOCACY
WINSTON-SALEM, NC
The Journey to Impact

- Knowing Your Purpose
- Defining the Mission
- Focusing on the Objective
- Navigating the Obstacles
- Building Support Networks

Parent Panel

- Medical Advocacy
- Education Advocacy
- Adulthood Advocacy
Knowing Your Purpose

“The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing.”

Edmund Burke
Know Your Purpose

• Build from your innate passion
• Create a belief statement
• Write down your success criteria
• Determine your strengths
• Identify your weaknesses
• List all known relevant truths
• Explore possible partnerships
• Start small but plan big
Defining the Mission

“Efforts and courage are not enough without purpose and direction.”

John F. Kennedy
Mom battles Wake schools, state over tea son how to eat

Dear Ms. Alndrews,

On November 4, 2013, the CFS (the Department received your instruction (the NCPD). You are disabled. Specifically, the son needs feeding therapy to assist him in feeding and swallowing.

Hereafter, we will refer to OCR under Section 504 of the regulation at 34 C.F.R. Part 104 programs and activities that are no longer Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act at 28 C.F.R. Part 15, disabilities by public entities, in whether they receive Federal assistance under Federal financial assistance.

When the Complainant’s son at NCPD had a policy which provided for a Consultation to the NC Department who was interested in an not further specified funding for NCPD to be a medical service. The policy was that the woman was believed the student should provide it.

The Department of Education’s son by P. James

Mom battles Wake County school district over special needs son

By ABALIND

A Wake County mother who claims her son has special needs is filing a lawsuit.

Mary Beth Anderwes, who lives in Cary, said she wants to fight for the child’s education.

Anderwes, who has a 3-year-old son, said she contacted the school system to see if her son had special needs.

However, she said the school system refused to provide special education services.

She said she was told her son would be able to attend regular school but would need additional support.

Anderwes said she is hoping to get her son the services he needs.

She added, “I just want to make sure he has the best education possible.”

Mom who fought Wake County to protect son files for school board

Welcome to White Hawk Advocacy! We are special education advocates who believe strongly in the power of inclusion and the need to advocate for our children.

Contact Us

Welcome to White Hawk Advocacy! We are special education advocates who believe strongly in the power of inclusion and the need to advocate for our children. We are passionate about helping families and individuals to succeed in the education system.

Mary Beth Anderwes is running for a seat on the Wake County Board of Education.

She said she wants to make sure that students with special needs are provided with the support they need.

Anderwes added, “I want to fight for the rights of our students.”

She also said she wants to make sure that the school system is providing the best possible education for all students.

She added, “I want to make sure that all students are given the opportunity to succeed.”

Anderwes said she hopes to make a difference in the lives of students with special needs.

She added, “I want to make sure that our students are provided with the support they need to succeed.”

About Us

White Hawk Advocacy is a non-profit organization that fights for the rights of students with special needs. We are dedicated to helping families and individuals to succeed in the education system.

Contact Us
Defining the Mission

• Create a list of problem statements
• Provide an ideal state for each problem
• Collect applicable laws, policies and the status quo
• Identify all persons and roles involved
• Note impact to identified persons
• Understand all organizations involved
• Describe progress and the desired end state
• Write a mission statement
Focusing on the Objective

“Every oak tree started out as a couple of nuts who stood their ground.”

Henry David Thoreau
APPROPRIATELY AMBITIOUS
Focusing on the Objective

• Ensure objective is aligned to the mission
• Write an objective impact statement
• Identify short-term and long-term outcomes
• Focus on human impact
• Determine the required skills and resources
• Know your stepping stones to achievement
• Identify existing threats to success
• Find allies and coordinate your efforts
• Don’t become distracted by outliers
Navigating the Obstacles

“Just because something doesn’t do what you planned it to do doesn’t mean it’s useless.”

Thomas Edison
Exclusion
Segregation
Integration

Autism  Behavior Support  Hearing Impaired  Intellectually Disabled  Multiple Disabilities  Visually Impaired
Navigating the Obstacles

• Be aware of codependency between culture and law
• Always educate
• Determine which obstacles actually matter
• Decide if you need to go over, through or around the obstacle
• Approach obstacles with the immediate objective in mind
• Use failure as an opportunity to reassess your situation
• Communicate simply
• Listen with intent
• Be resilient and don’t quit
Building Support Networks

“We must remember that one determined person can make a significant difference, and that a small group of determined people can change the course of history.”

Sonia Johnson
I am nobody
and I am everybody
Building Support Networks

You

- School Teachers
- Therapy Providers
- Respite Providers
- University Programs
- PTA Groups
- Other Families
- Social Media
- Advocacy Groups
- Medical Staff
- Religious Groups
- Elected Officials
- Community Programs
- Specialty Groups
- National Organizations
- Government Organizations
Parent Advocate Panel

Lori Palen: Medical
Kerry McCarthy Adams: Education
Margo Powell: Adulthood