

We announced our 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 Core Placements at the March general meeting. The Core Placement Selection process is rather new, but was thoroughly discussed and reviewed by past Advisory Councils as well as our Board of Directors over the last couple of years. The process was given much consideration, and it was determined that the best practice for FBJSL would be to reevaluate our Core Placements every two years. This is the second Core Placement Selection process, since it was originally rolled out for the 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 Core Placements.

The Core Placement Selection process is necessary in order to continue the growth of the League, and our ability to further extend our reach and our impact, to new agencies. When we opened up the process for Core Placement Applications this year, we had the wonderful dilemma that more than 20 amazing agencies applied! Clearly, we are not equipped at this time to support all 20 agencies with volunteers. Some very difficult decisions were made, and the current Board of Directors believes that we have selected six diverse agencies for membership to support over the next two league years.

This decision by no means affects membership's ability to continue to volunteer for agencies that are rolling off as past Core Placements; in fact we encourage our membership to do so. Volunteering for agencies which are not Core Placements will simply not count toward membership's 54 hour volunteer requirement. (However, many of our members already volunteer much more than the required number of hours. When membership reports their volunteer hours, they will only need to report the time spent with the official Core Placements).

We certainly want to continue our support of the wonderful agencies which were not selected as Core Placements this round. This may be accomplished by: tapping into our Sustainers as a resource, requesting support via a Provisional Project, coordinating with the Teen League on a project, requesting Sugar Plum funding, as well as supporting the

agencies' various events and fundraisers. The agencies which were not selected as Core Placements this time are certainly eligible to reapply when the process begins again in two years.

Our hope is that as we continue this process every two years, both the agencies and our membership will become more accustomed to the process. We are confident that the agencies which have been selected will offer many wonderful and meaningful volunteer opportunities for FBJSL membership!

** Save the date for our Core Placement Fair before the April 4th General Meeting where you'll get to meet all of the Core Placements before you renew your membership.