

Lessons Learned

What I Wished I Would've Known When I Started

Cameka Crawford, Richardson ISD Education Foundation

Donna Wald, Carrollton Farmers Branch ISD Educational Foundation



Lessons Learned at a Glance

- **Get OK with Ambiguity**
- **We aren't Saving Lives – We Inspire Lives**
- **Partner with Your District**
- **Don't try to go this without a Network**
- **We are NOT Competitors**

Get OK with Ambiguity

- Learn
- Listen
- Calm down
- Change is a GOOD thing
- No new questions
- No dumb questions
- Learn your organization



Not Life Saving Work – Life Inspiring

- Paradigm Shift
- Prioritize
- Take Care of Yourself
- Your oxygen mask first
- Laugh



Partner with the District – No matter your Structure



- Structure may be different, but we serve the same goal
- Be a District Advocate
- Meet with your Superintendent
- Seek opportunities to meet with District Officials

No Need to Go This Alone

- TEFN Connections
- Ed Foundations in your region
- Other nonprofits in your community
- Identify all resources including your BoD



We aren't Competitors

- All Ships Rise with a High Tide
- Shared Donors
- Shared Volunteers
- One's success = Success for all
- Educate your BoD
- Share Successes



Questions? Thoughts? Advice?

