

Dear Friend of Aviva,

On Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, Aviva's Board of Directors and Leadership Staff gathered to begin planning for the next 3-5 years. While planning has always been a part of our work, this marked the first time that Board and Staff—governance and implementation—came together to plan on an agency wide level.

Throughout the day, there was a great spirit, characterized by high energy and interaction. We were challenged to reflect on the meaning of Aviva's mission and share our thoughts with one another. From that point, working in small and large groups, we identified these as the core values of Aviva: ***service, hope, compassion and unconditional respect.***

We discussed the factors and attitudes that might threaten Aviva's future ability to pursue its mission. And, to keep ourselves in balance, we talked about the opportunities available to Aviva to grow and deepen its mission.

Looking ahead, we agreed on five strategic travelling directions:

- Develop a Parent Aide Program
- Expand the Volunteer Services Program
- Develop new sources of funds and other resources
- Increase advocacy in the community through greater public exposure
- Research new program possibilities, especially in areas where gaps in service exist

Board member Shelley Smith and Staff member Cindy Lingel will be writing our "Vision Statement", based on our experiences on that day. We will share this with you online and through our newsletter.

We hope you will be enthusiastic partners with us in the months and years ahead!

Sincerely,

Bob Heslinga  
Executive Director