

*Financial Report*

*Strive Incorporated*

*June 30, 2017*



*Financial Report*

*Strive Incorporated*

*June 30, 2017*

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**Strive Incorporated**  
New Orleans, Louisiana

June 30, 2017

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**FINANCIAL SECTION**

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

To the Board of Directors,  
Strive Incorporated,  
New Orleans, Louisiana.

### **Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Strive Incorporated ("Strive") (a nonprofit organization), which comprise the statement of financial position as of June 30, 2017, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

### **Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### **Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

## **Opinion**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Strive Incorporated as of June 30, 2017, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

## **Other Matter**

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The accompanying supplemental information (on Schedules 1 and 2) is presented for the purposes of additional analysis and the information on Schedule 2 is required by Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513(A)(3); the information on the schedules is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

## **Other Reporting Requirements by Government Auditing Standards**

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated November 16, 2017 on our consideration of Strive's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance with the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards in considering Strive's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

*Bourgeois Bennett, L.L.C.*

Certified Public Accountants.

New Orleans, Louisiana,  
November 16, 2017.

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

**Strive Incorporated**  
New Orleans, Louisiana

June 30, 2017

**ASSETS****Assets**

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 941,087
Accounts and other receivables	132,592
Inventory	1,312
Prepaid expenses and other assets	10,337
Investments	344,154
Funds held by Greater New Orleans Foundation	153,932
Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation	<u>770,735</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 2,354,149</u>

**LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS****Liabilities**

Accounts payable	\$ 13,371
Accrued salaries and leave	55,998
Other liabilities	<u>7,737</u>
Total liabilities	<u>77,106</u>

**Net Assets**

Unrestricted	
Board designated	15,000
Undesignated	<u>2,107,382</u>
	2,122,382
Temporarily restricted	<u>154,661</u>
Total net assets	<u>2,277,043</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 2,354,149</u>

See notes to financial statements.

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES****Strive Incorporated**  
New Orleans, Louisiana

For the year ended June 30, 2017

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Temporarily Restricted</u>	<u>Totals</u>
<b>Revenues and Other Support</b>			
Contracts for services - Miller Manor	\$ 380,166	\$ -	\$ 380,166
Contracts for services - Project Strive	729,139	-	729,139
Contracts for services - Supported Independent Living	646,775	-	646,775
Other	39,605	-	39,605
Workshop income	10,221	-	10,221
Investment income	1,408	-	1,408
Investment income on funds held by Greater New Orleans Foundation:			
Interest income	-	1,043	1,043
Realized and unrealized gains, net	-	12,101	12,101
	<u>1,807,314</u>	<u>13,144</u>	<u>1,820,458</u>
Total revenues and other support			
	1,807,314	13,144	1,820,458
<b>Net Assets Released From Restrictions</b>			
Satisfaction of purpose restrictions	<u>6,913</u>	<u>(6,913)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total revenues, other support, and net assets released from restrictions	<u>1,814,227</u>	<u>6,231</u>	<u>1,820,458</u>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Program services:			
Miller Manor	342,278	-	342,278
Project Strive	689,437	-	689,437
Supported Independent Living	566,712	-	566,712
Management and general	<u>230,703</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>230,703</u>
Total expenses	<u>1,829,130</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,829,130</u>
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	(14,903)	6,231	(8,672)
<b>Net Assets</b>			
Beginning of year	<u>2,137,285</u>	<u>148,430</u>	<u>2,285,715</u>
End of year	<u>\$ 2,122,382</u>	<u>\$ 154,661</u>	<u>\$ 2,277,043</u>

See notes to financial statements.

**STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES****Strive Incorporated**

New Orleans, Louisiana

For the year ended June 30, 2017

	Program Services			Totals	Management And General	Totals
	Community Housing (Miller Manor)	Daycare And Workshop (Project Strive)	Separate Housing (Supported Independent Living)			
Salaries	\$ 146,148	\$ 406,042	\$ 464,101	\$ 1,016,291	\$ 93,312	\$ 1,109,603
Payroll taxes	11,600	34,295	38,051	83,946	7,141	91,087
Administrative supplies	1,035	7,719	3,959	12,713	10,469	23,182
Bed tax expense	35,369	-	-	35,369	-	35,369
Insurance	32,017	90,538	43,288	165,843	10,952	176,795
Maintenance and repairs	40,048	39,592	3,328	82,968	8,471	91,439
Meals	10,654	4,428	-	15,082	497	15,579
Other expenses	1,962	9,045	484	11,491	2,787	14,278
Professional fees and contract services	5,007	2,441	-	7,448	87,096	94,544
Project costs	5,782	7,161	1,382	14,325	-	14,325
Staff training	261	1,377	1,922	3,560	-	3,560
Transportation	1,576	12,569	-	14,145	401	14,546
Utilities and telephone	11,898	30,554	504	42,956	5,830	48,786
Workshop expense	36,000	-	-	36,000	-	36,000
Total expenses before depreciation	339,357	645,761	557,019	1,542,137	226,956	1,769,093
Depreciation of property and equipment	2,921	43,676	9,693	56,290	3,747	60,037
Total expenses	<u>\$ 342,278</u>	<u>\$ 689,437</u>	<u>\$ 566,712</u>	<u>\$ 1,598,427</u>	<u>\$ 230,703</u>	<u>\$ 1,829,130</u>

See notes to financial statements.

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**

**Strive Incorporated**  
New Orleans, Louisiana

For the year ended June 30, 2017

<b>Cash Flows From Operating Activities</b>	
Change in net assets	\$ (8,672)
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash provided by operating activities:	
Unrealized loss on investments	4,886
Depreciation	60,037
Investment gain on funds held at Greater New Orleans Foundation, net of withdrawals and other activities	(5,748)
Increase in accounts and other receivables	(4,287)
Decrease in inventory	910
Decrease in prepaid expenses and other assets	23,976
Increase in accounts payable, accrued salaries, leave, and other	<u>2,755</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>73,857</u>
<b>Cash Flows From Investing Activities</b>	
Purchases of investments	<u>(13,336)</u>
<b>Net Increase In Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>	60,521
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>	
Beginning of year	<u>880,566</u>
End of year	<u>\$ 941,087</u>

See notes to financial statements.

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**Strive Incorporated**  
New Orleans, Louisiana

June 30, 2017

**Note 1 - NATURE OF ACTIVITIES**

Strive Incorporated ("Strive"), formerly Sophie L. Gumbel Guild, is a voluntary health and welfare organization providing housing, training, and recreational services to adults with developmental disabilities. Strive provides housing for adults in Miller Manor and Supervised Independent Living, day care and training for adults through Project Strive. The majority of Strive's revenue is derived from contracts for services with the State of Louisiana and private contracts with businesses in the New Orleans metropolitan area.

**Note 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES****a. Organization and Income Taxes**

Strive is a nonprofit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Louisiana in 1964. It is exempt from Federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (the "Code"), and qualifies as an organization that is not a private foundation as defined in Section 509(a) of the Code. It is also exempt from Louisiana income tax under the authority of R.S.47:121(5).

**b. Basis of Accounting**

The financial statements of Strive are prepared on the accrual basis of accounting.

**c. Financial Statement Presentation**

Net assets, revenues, and expenses are based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions. Accordingly, the net assets of Strive and changes therein are classified and reported as follows:

**Note 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

**c. Financial Statement Presentation (Continued)**

**Unrestricted Net Assets:**

**Undesignated** - Contracts for services, contributions, and other revenues and expenditures of funds for the general operation of its programs.

**Board Designated** - Net assets that are not to be used for general operations, but rather to be used for specific expenditures that are approved by the Board of Directors.

**Temporarily Restricted Net Assets** - Contributions and other revenues specifically authorized by the donor or grantor to be used for specific purposes or to benefit specific accounting periods.

**Permanently Restricted Net Assets** - Contributions and other revenues specifically authorized by the donor or grantor to be maintained in perpetuity. Generally donors of these assets permit use of all or part of the income earned on related cash and investments for general or specific purposes. As of June 30, 2017, Strive does not have any permanently restricted net assets.

**d. Use of Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**e. Cash and Cash Equivalents**

For purposes of reporting cash flows, Strive considers all highly liquid investments in money market funds and investments available for current use with initial maturities of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

**Note 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

**f. Contributions and Revenue Recognition**

Contributions are recorded as unrestricted, temporarily restricted, or permanently restricted support, depending on the existence or nature of any donor restrictions. Support that is restricted by a donor is reported as an increase in temporarily or permanently restricted net assets, depending on the nature of the restrictions. When a restriction expires (that is, when a stipulated time restriction ends or a purpose restriction is accomplished), temporarily restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets and reported in the statement of activities as net assets released from restrictions. Donor restricted contributions whose restrictions are met in the same reporting periods are reported as unrestricted support.

**g. Allowance For Uncollectible Accounts**

Services rendered to clients are paid through third parties. A receivable is recorded for third-party reimbursements which have not been collected. An allowance for doubtful accounts is recorded based on management's estimate and includes all receivables over one year old. As of June 30, 2017, all accounts over one year old have been written off and there is no allowance as management deems all accounts to be collectible.

**h. Inventory**

Inventory is stated at lower of cost using the first-in, first-out method or market.

**i. Investments**

Strive records investments in certificates of deposit, collateralized mortgage obligations, and mutual funds at fair market value in the Statement of Financial Position. Unrealized gains and losses on investments are included in the change in net assets in the accompanying Statement of Activities. Unrealized gains and losses on investments are recorded as increases or decreases in unrestricted net assets unless their use is temporarily or permanently restricted by explicit donor stipulations or law. Interest earned on investments is reported based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions. Realized gains and losses on the sales of securities are determined using the specific-identification method. A decline in the fair value of investments below cost that is deemed to be other than temporary results in a charge to the change in net assets, and the establishment of a new cost basis for the investment.

**Note 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

**i. Investments (Continued)**

Pooled accounts managed by the Greater New Orleans Foundation are reported at fair market value, including any pro rata gains and losses.

**j. Property and Equipment**

Property and equipment are recorded at cost. Donated property is recorded at its fair market value at the date of donation. Only items greater than \$1,500 are considered for capitalization. Repairs and maintenance are charged to expense as incurred; major renewals and replacements and betterments are capitalized. Depreciation is provided over the estimated useful life of each class of depreciable asset and is computed on the straight-line method.

**k. Functional Expenses**

The costs of providing the various programs and other activities are summarized in the Statement of Functional Expenses. Certain expenses have been allocated among the programs and supporting services based on management's estimate of the costs involved.

**l. Tax Matters**

Accounting standards provide detailed guidance for financial statement recognition, measurement, and disclosure of uncertain tax positions recognized in an entity's financial statements. These standards require an entity to recognize the financial statement impact of a tax position when it is more likely than not that the position will not be sustained upon examination. As of June 30, 2017, management of Strive believes that it has no uncertain tax positions that qualify for either recognition or disclosure in the financial statements. Tax years June 30, 2014 and later remain subject to examination by the taxing authorities.

**m. Subsequent Events**

Management evaluates events occurring subsequent to the date of financial statements in determining the accounting for and disclosure of transactions and events that effect the financial statements. Subsequent events have been evaluated through November 16, 2017, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

**Note 3 - DESIGNATED NET ASSETS**

Strive's Board of Directors approved the dedication of certain unrestricted net assets totaling \$15,000 for a new awning with signage.

**Note 4 - RESTRICTIONS ON NET ASSETS**

Temporarily restricted net assets are restricted by donors for specific purposes or designated for subsequent periods. Restrictions are considered to expire when payment for the designated purpose is made. Temporarily restricted net assets total \$154,661 as of June 30, 2017. This amount is restricted for the medical assistance of clients.

**Note 5 - INVESTMENTS**

Investments are stated at fair market value as of June 30, 2017 and consist of the following:

Description	Cost	Market Value	Excess of Cost Over Market
Certificates of deposit	\$ 50,614	\$ 50,614	\$ -
Fixed income securities:			
GNMA collateralized mortgage obligation	2,340	2,329	(11)
Mutual funds	302,121	291,211	(10,910)
Totals	<u>\$ 355,075</u>	<u>\$ 344,154</u>	<u>\$ (10,921)</u>
	Cost	Market Value	Excess of Cost Over Market
Balance as of June 30, 2017	<u>\$ 355,075</u>	<u>\$ 344,154</u>	\$ (10,921)
Balance as of June 30, 2016	<u>\$ 341,739</u>	<u>\$ 335,704</u>	(6,035)
Increase in unrealized depreciation			(4,886)
Dividend income			5,983
Interest			<u>311</u>
Investment income, net			<u>\$ 1,408</u>

**Note 6 - FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS**

The framework for measuring fair value provides a fair value hierarchy which prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in the active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy under the Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification Topic 820, Fair Value Measurements are described as follows:

Level 1 - Inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that Strive has the ability to access.

Level 2 - Inputs to the valuation methodology include:

- quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets;
- quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets;
- inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability; and/or
- inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means.

If the asset or liability has a specified (contractual) term, the Level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.

Level 3 - Inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement.

The asset's fair value measurement level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Valuation techniques used need to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

- *Certificates of Deposit*: Valued at cost which approximates the market price. These are included in Level 1 of the fair value hierarchy.
- *Fixed Income Securities GNMA Collateralized Mortgage Obligation*: Valued at the closing price reported on the active market on which the individual securities are traded. These are included in Level 1 of the fair value hierarchy.

**Note 6 - FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (Continued)**

- *Mutual Funds*: Valued at the daily closing price as reported by the fund. Mutual funds held by Strive are open-end mutual funds that are registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission. These funds are required to publish their daily net asset value (NAV) and to transact at that price. The mutual funds held by Strive are deemed to be active traded. These are included in Level 1 of the value hierarchy.
- *Pooled Accounts managed by Greater New Orleans Foundation (GNOF)*: Valued at the NAV of the units of the pooled account. The NAV, as provided by GNOF, is used as a practical expedient to estimate fair value. The NAV is based on the fair value of the underlying investments held by the pooled account less its liabilities.

The methodologies described above may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. Furthermore, while Strive believes its valuation method is appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different fair value measurement at the reporting date.

As of June 30, 2017, assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis are comprised of, and determined as follows:

Description	Fair Value as of June 30, 2017	Based on		
		Quoted Prices in Active Markets (Level 1)	Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
Certificates of deposit	\$ 50,614	\$ 50,614	\$ -	\$ -
Fixed income securities:				
GNMA collateralized mortgage obligation	2,329	2,329	-	-
Mutual funds:				
Bond funds	291,211	291,211	-	-
Pooled accounts managed by Greater New Orleans Foundation	<u>153,932</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>153,932</u>	<u>-</u>
Totals	<u>\$ 498,086</u>	<u>\$ 344,154</u>	<u>\$ 153,932</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

As of June 30, 2017, there were no assets measured at fair values on a non-recurring basis.

**Note 7 - PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT**

As of June 30, 2017, the details of property and equipment were as follows:

Land		\$	190,630
Buildings and improvements			1,907,810
Furniture and equipment			75,797
Automotive equipment			116,186
			2,290,423
Less accumulated depreciation			1,519,688
Net property and equipment		\$	770,735

Depreciation expense for the year ended June 30, 2017 was \$60,037.

**Note 8 - RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES**

In general, investment securities are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, currency, credit, and market volatility. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is reasonably possible that changes in values of investments will occur in the near term and would materially affect the market value of investments held by Strive.

**Note 9 - CONCENTRATION OF CREDIT RISK**

Strive maintains its cash and investments accounts in various financial institutions where the accounts are insured by Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation up to \$250,000 per bank. As of June 30, 2017, approximately \$281,000 was in excess of the insured limits.

**Note 10 - BANK LINE OF CREDIT**

Strive has a line of credit up to \$50,000 with a local financial institution with an interest rate of 3.75% per annum. The line of credit is secured by a \$50,614 certificate of deposit, held by the same institution and expires on October 3, 2018. As of June 30, 2017, Strive had no outstanding borrowings under the line of credit and the full amount of the line of credit was available to Strive. This line of credit was required by the funding source.

**Note 11 - SIGNIFICANT CONTRACTS**

For the year ended June 30, 2017, approximately \$1,512,000 of contract revenue was from the Louisiana Medical Assistance Program. The State provides annual contracts to Strive which grant the State the right to audit program accounts and activities. Management believes that Strive is in compliance with the provisions of these contracts and that the findings of an audit, if any, would not have a material impact on the financial statements.

**Note 12 - RISK MANAGEMENT**

Strive is exposed to various risks of loss from torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; business interruption; errors and omissions; employee injuries and illnesses; natural disasters; and employee health and accident benefits. Commercial insurance coverage is purchased for claims arising from such matters. There were no settled claims that exceeded this commercial coverage during the year ended June 30, 2017.

**Note 13 - ECONOMIC DEPENDENCY**

Strive receives federal and state funding on a per diem per client/unit basis. Federal and state funds from the Department of Health and Human Services, which pass through the Louisiana State Department of Health and Hospitals Office of Family Security, Medical Assistance Program - Medicaid/Title XIX, are on a per diem basis. These payments, reported as residential and habilitation services, are considered payments for services as opposed to grant awards.

In addition, Strive receives state grants from the Department of Health and Hospitals Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities on a per diem basis.

If significant budget cuts are made at the federal, state, and/or local levels, the amount of the funds Strive receives could be reduced significantly and have an adverse impact on its operations. Management is not aware of any actions that will adversely affect the amount of funds Strive will receive in the next fiscal year.

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

**SCHEDULE OF PROGRAM SERVICE ACTIVITIES****Strive Incorporated**  
New Orleans, Louisiana

For the year ended June 30, 2017

	<u>Community Housing (Miller Manor)</u>	<u>Daycare And Workshop (Project Strive)</u>	<u>Separate Housing (Supported Independent Living)</u>	<u>Totals</u>
<b>Revenues and Other Support</b>				
Contracts	\$ 380,166	\$ 729,139	\$ 646,775	\$ 1,756,080
Other	-	39,605	-	39,605
Workshop income	-	10,221	-	10,221
Investment income on funds held by Greater New Orleans Foundation:				
Interest income	1,043	-	-	1,043
Realized and unrealized gains, net	<u>12,101</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,101</u>
Total revenues and other support	393,310	778,965	646,775	1,819,050
<b>Program Expenses</b>	<u>342,278</u>	<u>689,437</u>	<u>566,712</u>	<u>1,598,427</u>
<b>Increase in Net Assets Before Administrative Expenses</b>	<u>\$ 51,032</u>	<u>\$ 89,528</u>	<u>\$ 80,063</u>	<u>\$ 220,623</u>

**SCHEDULE OF COMPENSATION, BENEFITS, AND OTHER  
PAYMENTS TO AGENCY HEAD OR CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

**Strive Incorporated**  
New Orleans, Louisiana

For the year ended June 30, 2017

**Agency Head Name:** Denise Jett Washington, Executive Director

**Purpose**

Salary (includes \$2,166 of bonus)	\$ 75,428
Benefits - insurance	0
Benefits - retirement	0
Benefits - other	0
Car allowance	0
Vehicle provided by government	0
Per diem	0
Reimbursements	0
Travel	0
Registration fees	0
Conference travel	0
Continuing professional education fees	0
Housing	0
Unvouchered expenses	0
Special meals	0
	<hr/>
	<b>\$ 75,428</b>

**SPECIAL REPORTS OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS**

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON  
INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL  
REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER  
MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL  
STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

To the Board of Directors,  
Strive Incorporated,  
New Orleans, Louisiana.

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financials statements of Strive Incorporated ("Strive") (a nonprofit organization), which comprise the statement of financial position as of June 30, 2017, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated November 16, 2017.

**Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we consider Strive's internal control over financial reporting ("internal control") to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Strive's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Strive's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of the internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified. We did identify certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses that we consider to be significant deficiencies.

2017-01 - Preparation of Financial Statements and Disclosures  
2017-02 - Internal Control Structure

### **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Strive's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.

### **Strive's Response to Findings**

Strive's response to the findings identified in our audit is described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses. Strive's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

### **Purpose of this Report**

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of Strive's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards in considering Strive's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



Certified Public Accountants.

New Orleans, Louisiana,  
November 16, 2017.

## SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES

**Strive Incorporated**  
New Orleans, Louisiana

For the year ended June 30, 2017

### Section I - Summary of Auditor's Report

#### a) Financial Statements

Type of auditor's report issued: Unmodified

- Material weakness(es) identified?  Yes  No
- Significant deficiency(ies) identified?  Yes  None reported

Noncompliance material to consolidated financial statements noted?  Yes  No

#### b) Federal Awards

Strive Incorporated did not expend more than \$750,000 in Federal awards during the year ended June 30, 2017, and therefore, was exempt from the audit requirements under Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance).

### Section II - Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and Compliance and Other Matters Material to the Basic Financial Statements

#### Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

##### 2017-01 Preparation of Financial Statements and Disclosures

**Criteria** - Adequate internal controls in relation to financial reporting require Strive to have the ability to prepare its own financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP), including all required footnote disclosures, or detect misstatements or errors in statements prepared by others.

**Section II - Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and Compliance and Other Matters Material to the Basic Financial Statements (Continued)**

**Internal Control Over Financial Reporting (Continued)**

**2017-01 Preparation of Financial Statements and Disclosures (Continued)**

**Condition** - Financial statements and required disclosures were not prepared by Strive.

**Context** - The financial statements were prepared by the auditors.

**Effect** - The independent auditor cannot be part of Strive's internal control over financial reporting.

**Cause** - The management of Strive has not determined a need for a financial person possessing the required expertise for cost benefit reasons.

**Recommendation** - Management and those charged with governance can mitigate the lack of expertise in preparing financial statements by carefully reviewing the financial statements, including disclosures.

**Views of Responsible Officials of the Auditee - When There is a Disagreement With the Finding, to the Extent Practical** - None.

**2017-02 Internal Control Structure**

**Criteria** - The internal control structure should be designed to contain the following:

1. Check signing authority designated to specified individuals in charge of governance to ensure the propriety of all disbursements.
2. Preparation of annual Board approved budgets to provide a mechanism for those in charge of governance to determine the financial strength of Strive and to provide information for decision making.

**Condition** - Strive's internal control structure can be improved under its current design as check signing authority has not been delegated to certain individuals in charge of governance and annual Board approved budgets are not being prepared by those in charge of governance.

**Section II - Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and Compliance and Other Matters Material to the Basic Financial Statements (Continued)**

**Internal Control Over Financial Reporting (Continued)**

**2017-02 Internal Control Structure (Continued)**

**Context** - Systematic.

**Effect** - A weak system of internal controls currently exists. The current internal control structure could lead to errors or irregularities which may not be detected by those in charge of governance.

**Cause** - The management of Strive and those charged with governance had not determined that there was a need for these procedures.

**Recommendation** - Strive should design a system of controls to address the following: 1) granting of check signing authority to certain individuals in charge of governance and discontinue the use of a rubber check stamp for check signing and 2) obtaining Board approval for an annual budget.

**Views Of Responsible Officials Of The Auditee - When There is a Disagreement With the Finding, to the External Protocol** - None.

**Compliance and Other Matters**

There were no findings reported during the audit for the year ended June 30, 2017 related to compliance and other matters.

**Section III - Internal Control and Compliance Material to Federal Awards**

Strive Incorporated did not expend more than \$750,000 in Federal awards during the year ended June 30, 2017, and therefore, was exempt from the audit requirements under Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance).

**REPORTS BY MANAGEMENT**

## **SCHEDULE OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS AND RESPONSES**

**Strive Incorporated**  
New Orleans, Louisiana

For the year ended June 30, 2017

### **Section I - Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and Compliance and Other Matters Material to the Financial Statements**

#### **Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

##### **2016-01 Preparation of Financial Statements and Disclosures**

**Recommendation** - Management and those charged with governance can mitigate the lack of expertise in preparing financial statements by carefully reviewing the financial statements including disclosures.

**Current Status** - Unresolved. Management and those in charge with governance will carefully review audited financial statements and related disclosures. For cost benefit reasons, management will rely on the independent auditor to identify related disclosures and prepare the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. See 2017-01.

##### **2016-02 Internal Control Structure**

**Recommendation** - Strive should design a system of controls to address the following: 1) granting of check signing authority to certain individuals in charge of governance and discontinue the use of a rubber check stamp for check signing and 2) obtaining Board approval for an annual budget.

**Current Status** - Unresolved. See 2017-02.

#### **Compliance and Other Matters**

There were no findings reported during the audit for the year ended June 30, 2016 related to compliance and other matters.

**Section II - Internal Control and Compliance Material to Federal Awards**

Strive Incorporated did not expend more than \$750,000 in Federal awards during the year ended June 30, 2016, and therefore, was exempt from the audit requirements under Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance).

**Section III - Management Letter**

A management letter was not issued in connection with the audit for the year ended June 30, 2016.

## **MANAGEMENT'S CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN**

**Strive Incorporated**  
New Orleans, Louisiana

For the year ended June 30, 2017

### **Section I - Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and Compliance and Other Matters Material to the Basic Financial Statements**

#### **Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

##### **2017-01 Preparation of Financial Statements and Disclosures**

**Recommendation** - Management and those charged with governance can mitigate the lack of expertise in preparing financial statements by carefully reviewing the financial statements, including disclosures.

**Management's Corrective Action** - Management and those charged with governance will carefully review audited financial statements and related disclosures. For cost benefit reasons, management will rely on the independent auditor to identify related disclosures and prepare the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

##### **2017-02 Internal Control Structure**

**Recommendation** - Strive should design a system of controls to address the following: 1) granting of check signing authority to certain individuals in charge of governance and discontinue the use of a rubber check stamp for check signing and 2) obtaining Board approval for an annual budget.

**Management's Corrective Action** - Management and those charged with governance will implement a system of internal controls to address the proper check signing authority and approved annual budgets.

**Section II - Internal Control and Compliance Material to the Federal Awards**

Strive Incorporated did not expend more than \$750,000 in Federal awards during the year ended June 30, 2017, and therefore, was exempt from the audit requirements under Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance).

**Section III - Management Letter**

A management letter was not issued in connection with the audit of the financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2017.