More than 199 people representing 113 programs from as far away as Quincy, IL and Milwaukee came together the weekend of November 10th to attend the "My frustration is lack of time and people to get our program really going. But you've given some really good ideas which should help!"

"My frustration is lack of time and people to get our program really going. But you've given some really good ideas which should help!"

This was the first conference co-sponsored by the Chicago Public Schools School Partners Program and conference participants represented schools all over Chicago, as well as tutor/mentor program leaders, community leaders, volunteers and staff from several of Chicago's neighborhood libraries. One participant said "It was great getting information on relevant books and ideas for building this into a real business-run program." Another said, "I am responsible for setting up programs in Detroit, Indianapolis, St. Paul, Cincinatti, Cleveland and Dayton. This was great!"

"That's the purpose of the T/MC and these conferences" said the T/MC's leader, Dan Bassill. "We not only want to share information — we want to gather information from the people who attend. It is the only way we can constantly compare our individual programs to the work others do. It is the only way we can challenge ourselves to constantly improve our product."

Bassill went on, "We really want to thank Tim Henry of Mercy Home for Boys & Girls, for co-chairing the last three conferences, and for the many others who helped organize this conference, as well as last fall's citywide recruiting campaign. As each program realizes how much they can borrow from each other, more and more program leaders are pitching in to help us improve the quality of these events. That is why the Chicago Public Schools are getting involved. This is a way to help schools develop better tutoring, mentoring and school to work programs, too."

For more information on how you can be part of the T/MC, or to visit the T/MC Library, call 312-467-2889.
EDITORIAL: A Lesson from Texaco

Will $176.1 million settlement cause corporate America to invest differently in workplace diversity training programs?

A recent Chicago Tribune article said "To most firms, dealing with diversity seems to be a sideline issue. Will the $176.1 million bill charged recently to Texaco Inc. cause more firms to be more visible in dealing with attitudes that stereotype, separate and stifle their workers?" it questioned.

Why do we care? What has this to do with tutor/mentor programs? Read on, please.

The Chicago Tribune article talked about the growth industry which has emerged in recent years to help companies "manage diversity." The article said "a lot of corporations are not getting a good return on their investment."

We have quoted many statistics in this newsletter showing the cost of poverty and its impact on a company's bottom line. We've also quoted stories such as which say a "volunteer program improves the quality of life in the community, but it also improves corporate morale." Just recently at the National Education Day breakfast, James Boris, CEO of EVEREN Securities outlined a vision of corporate involvement with young people which ultimately led to the corporation hiring those young people. "What other program can give us such a loyal employee."

When I came to Chicago to join a major retail corporation in 1972, I came from a small town, with small town values and stereotypes. In 25 years of working with African American children I have learned to work with volunteers from hundreds of different business, race, religious, age and occupation backgrounds. I have experienced diversity training firsthand, through daily contact and communication with people from widely different backgrounds. This "training" has enabled me to better understand, relate to, and assist the people that I work with and for. I've even had one of my Black associates comment, "You are more Black than they are," referring to some African Americans we both knew. While I appreciate the statement, I realize that the learning process is never over. I am grateful for the opportunities I have received in the past 25 years, but the real lesson is that diversity training is a lifelong process.

With this personal growth has come professional growth. Anyone in a large corporation knows how difficult it is to get information, either from your own boss and/or subordinates, or from other branches of the company. Yet for me, my network included every CEO from 1975 until the present, along with most janitors, security officials, mail room clerks, and a wide variety of managers through out the breadth and depth of the organization. In addition, it included similar people in hundreds of other companies throughout the Chicago region, including competitors, along with members of Chicago's different ethnic and religious communities.

I've been encouraging corporations, big and small, to involve themselves in a tutor/mentor program for years, mostly by emphasizing the benefit to the children, the lower cost of prevention vs the high cost of poverty, and the benefit to our democracy of creating equal learning and work opportunities for all of our children.

However, one-on-one tutor/mentor programs, where volunteers meet with children week after week throughout the school year, often for many years, offer the best diversity training program any company might invest in. Because as volunteers from widely different backgrounds, ages and races come together to focus their attention on children, they work in an informal environment which enables them to get to know each other. This is more than a series of workshops which "talk the talk." It's more than a few videos or books on the subject. Tutor/mentor programs reduce stereotypes and bring people of difference together every day of the week.

What is best, is that this diversity training did not cost my company a penny. Yes, they provided space and funds for program operations—never more than $50,000 a year. But in light of Texaco's multi-million dollar lesson, this has been a great investment.

It's never too late to start. There are hundreds of programs in Chicago and in other cities where employees can volunteer. There are hundreds of neighborhoods where programs are needed, where teams of company volunteers could provide the leadership for new efforts.

In an economy where every dollars has to work double and triple duty, what better investment can a company make than one which reduces the cost of poverty, reduces the cost of training employees who are not prepared to enter the work force, builds employee morale, and offers a low-cost, long-term, highly effective diversity training program in the mix.

NEW YEAR'S KIDS RESOLUTION
Just over four years ago Chicago and America became mobilized by race riots in Los Angeles and the death of a small boy in Chicago. Among the follow up commentary were the following statements:

7-Year-Old's Death at Cabrini Requires Action
"Demand it now! This isn't something you can let the other guy be indignant over. It's past time for you to take responsibility for solving the problems of Chicago."
Dennis A. Britton, Editor, Chicago Sun Times, Oct. 1992

"We are not very good as a country in dealing with long-term problems, except when they present themselves as a crisis."
(Stuart Eizenstat, domestic policy adviser to President Jimmy Carter)

"Many Americans hoped that, somehow, the stubborn dilemmas of crime and poverty that so dehumanize urban life would be tackled with a renewed public will. "Yet except for a flurry of local efforts, nothing much has happened."
(From Los Angeles Times article written by Jonathan Peterson.)

As Chicago enters 1997, the T/MC repeats these headlines in an effort to refocus and rededicate ourselves to our children and the dream that one day all children might be equal in hope, opportunity and motivation, along with equal access to quality in-school and after-school learning systems.

NOVEMBER 1996 LEND A HAND GRANT RECIPIENTS. CONGRATULATIONS!

The Chicago Bar Foundation awarded its third round of Lend-a-Hand Fund grants during the week of November 10, as part of Chicago's Tutor/Mentor Week, proclaimed by Mayor Richard Daley to help raise visibility, volunteers and dollars for Chicago's tutor/mentor programs.

Since November 1995 the Lend-a-Hand Fund has awarded $60,000 in grants to more than 25 of Chicago's tutor/mentor programs. November 1996 recipients:

$2,000 Grants:
St. Joseph Insight Tutoring Program
Epworth Tutoring Program
Cabrini-Green Tutoring Program, Inc.

$1,500 Grants:
Volunteers of America
Christopher House
Midtown Educational Foundation

$1,000 Grants:
Human Service Technologies
St. Chrisayostons Church Tutoring Program
Cluster Tutoring Program
Blue Gargoyle
Chicago Commons

Tutor/Mentor Week, November 7-14
Since November 1995, the Chicago Bar Foundation has awarded $60,000 in grants to 25 Chicago Tutor/Mentor programs.

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Tutor/Mentor Week, November 7-14
Since November 1995, the Chicago Bar Foundation has awarded $60,000 in grants to 25 Chicago Tutor/Mentor programs.
**T/MC NETWORK NEWS**

Send your news, announcements and training information to the T/MC, or fax it to 312-467-7542

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**the DO Something BRICK AWARD FOR COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP**

*Do Something*, a national non-profit organization that provides leadership training and financial resources to emerging young leaders building their communities, will award ten outstanding Americans under the age of thirty with *Do Something* BRICK Awards for Community Leadership. The BRICK Award will be given to those individuals who are successfully building communities and whose work is structured to have a lasting impact. The national grand prize winner will receive a $100,000 grant to continue his or her work in their community and the other nine winners will each receive a $10,000 grant. In addition to receiving the grants, all ten winners will be featured on an MTV special and in Mademoiselle Magazine.

Applications will be available after January 20, 1997 and must be received by *Do Something* by April 15, 1997. For information, call (312) 523-1175.

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**NATIONAL ENGINEERS WEEK**

FEBRUARY 16-22, 1997. Learn about science outreach efforts, such as the Future City Design Competition, Engineer Poster-Essay Competition and the Friday, February 21 Engineers Week Luncheon. These competitions can be great learning and motivation activities in afterschool programs and the engineering profession can be a tremendous resource for volunteers to model and teach science/math at any program. Call Walter Linzing at (312) 831-3023 for information.

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Give Your Volunteers the Facts about Public Housing Redevelopment in Chicago. Efforts by both the CHA and HUD to change the face of public housing have resulted in plans to convert large developments into mixed-income communities through both redevelopment and/or rehabilitation. This effects the children you work with. ISSUE BRIEF is a series of fact sheets published by the Metropolitan Planning Council on the activities and progress of these developments. Add your organization to their mail list and educate your volunteers on these issues.

For information, call (312) 922-5616.

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**The Family History Project.** One of the innovative public school initiatives described during the December 12 Illinois Intergenerational Initiative meeting held at CPS headquarters was an innovative method for teaching social studies, created by Pat Bearden and Yolanda Simmons. The Project helps students make personal connections with American and global history by turning students on to learning about themselves, their families and communities, and their world. This could easily be part of an afterschool program, as well as in-school activities.

For information, call Pat or Yolanda at (312) 374-8580 or (312) 374-4750.

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**SCIENCE LINKAGES IN THE COMMUNITY (SLiC) Corner**

Science Linkages in the Community is dedicated to increasing the number of minorities and women who enter science and math careers. This means these children must be exposed to science and math at early ages and have life-long mentors who model and encourage these interests.

SLiC advocates for these types of involvements, and organizes and provides trainings that make it simpler for parents and programs to bring hands-on Science and Math activities to children.

The T/MC sees Science, Math and Technology as one important part of a total quality mentoring program. We’re pleased to be able to provide space on a regular basis in the T/MC REPORT and at T/MC Conferences for SLiC to connect with tutor/mentor program organizers.

If you want to participate in SLiC trainings or learn how you can add a science/math component to your program, call Tony Small at 312-915-8600.

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**1997 SLiC TRAINING SCHEDULE:**

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**FAT Friday — Mardi Gras On The River**

Lend A Hand to Chicago's Tutor/Mentor Programs - And have a great time doing it! Fat Friday is sponsored by the Chicago Bar Foundation and raises funds which support Chicago's tutor/mentor programs. Enjoy a night of music, a Cajun Buffet, Casino-style games, fabulous Raffle and Prizes, and help raise dollars for tutor/mentor programs, too. Tickets are $45 each. Call (312) 554-2069 for details.

Can't attend, but want to help? Send contributions to Lend A Hand Fund, c/o Chicago Bar Foundation, 321 South Plymouth Court, Chicago, IL 60604-3997

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*Friday, February 7th, 6PM to Midnight. At the University of Chicago Gleacher Center*
More than 20 organizations filled the Malcolm X College community room on Friday, November 15 to share information on their tutor/mentor programs and products and services. And while more than 113 groups attended the conference, we apologize to those who received their invitations too late to attend. Mark Elmore called from Plattsburgh, New York on November 21 to tell us he'd like to have attended and Octavia Crawford-Turner sent us her registration from Albion, Michigan...which she had received on Nov. 22.

While we can't control the mail, we will work to get notices out earlier, and we can tell you the next conference will be Friday and Saturday, May 2nd and 3rd. Mark your calendar now, and if you don't hear from us by mid

April, please call.

While we are on the subject of future conferences, we want to pose a few challenges. If you have suggestions for any of these, please call, write or fax your ideas to us ASAP!

1) Do you want to be a T/MC workshop presenter, or do you know of a great workshop which should be presented?

2) What topics should be presented to volunteers at the May conference to help them work with their students over the summer?

3) For corporations only — we need sponsors to help fund the conference. Can you help?

Dear Tutor/Mentor Connection

"Thank you for allowing the Chicago Police Department’s Public Housing Section the opportunity to attend the Tutor/Mentor Leadership Conference on Friday, November 15.

The topics addressed and information shared in the Management Tools class were especially valuable to our program. The time spent at the conference provided dynamic networking. The exchange of ideas and experiences among those in attendance allowed my staff to be better informed as to the challenges that await us and suggestions on how we might best approach them.

Again, we thank you for this opportunity."  

Michael Tolliver, Commander  
Public Housing Section

T/MC Conference creates opportunities for leaders to share and learn from each other.

Mary Gonzales, who founded Mary’s Kids, shows “Wonderful Ways to Love a Child” at T/MC Confab.

T/MC CONFERENCE SPONSORS

For the T/MC conference to expand its range and quality, while keeping fees at $25 for two-days, and offering liberal scholarships to any who ask, we must increase corporate sponsorship. We thank these three companies who pitched in as conference sponsors this year:

• Helene Curtis, Inc.
• Motorola
• Studio Specialties Ltd.

THANKS TO CONFERENCE HOSTS

A big THANK YOU is owed the Chicago Public Schools School Partners Program and to Malcolm X College for hosting the November T/MC Leadership Conference. Without your openness and cooperation, these workshops could not have been held.

Next T/MC Conference  
May 2nd and 3rd, 1997

Call 312-467-2889 for early registration
discount information
The ratings are in! The 6th T/MC Conference met expectations, and some of the most common comments raved about the networking and suggested the workshops could probably be twice as long to cover the many areas. One participant suggested that one topic “could be a whole day workshop.”

Thanks to more than 30 program leaders and educators, who each VOLUNTEERED THEIR TIME, the conference was able to help more than 100 programs borrow ideas which might help Chicago's children have a brighter learning opportunity in the future.

Speakers ranged from Dr. Edward E. Gordon, President, Imperial Tutoring and Educational Services, who served as keynote speaker and presented a workshop titled, “The Nuts and Bolts of Developmental Tutoring” to Alan Melchior, from the Center for Human Resources at Brandeis University who described the Quantum Opportunities Program, which shows us that total quality tutoring and mentoring programs can work, if they are done with a full range of services and commitment.

Other speakers included Marybeth Vander Weele, author of “Reclaiming Our Schools”, and Jim Palos, Executive Director of the Midtown Educational Foundation, who shared fund raising strategies which have made Midtown one of Chicago’s most successful tutor/mentor programs.

Tony Small of Science Linkages in the Community (SLIC) provided hands-on demonstrations of how programs and parents can bring science into their programs, while volunteers from the Teachers Academy for Mathematics and Science again presented a fascinating workshop showing how volunteers and parents can incorporate science and math into learning programs.

Other speakers included Julie Miller, the Director of Public Affairs for the Cook County Circuit Court in Chicago, who introduced Little Red Driving Hood, and Maria Ray, M.A., a licensed psychotherapist who is affiliated with The Rush Center for Women's Medicine.

Art Spoons, who has been involved with tutoring for 17 years and now serves on the board of the CLUSTER Tutoring Program on Chicago's West Side, presented a "how-to" reading workshop while Renee Tucker, the City Program Coordinator for Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Metropolitan Chicago presented an interactive workshop exploring students' value systems through their family structure.

Each of our speakers donated their time. Some of our presenters have been sent to all public libraries and to almost one thousand businesses and all public schools. We're happy to find stories showing how the Directory and T/MC recruiting efforts are helping volunteers, and parents, find neighborhood programs. If you have stories to share through the T/MC REPORT, fax your story to us at 312-467-7542.
Building Management and Marketing Skills — A Formula For Success

ANNOUNCEMENT

TUTOR’S TRAIN-THE TRAINER-WORKSHOP

A special 8-hour (one-day) training program will be presented by Dr. Edward Gordon, President of Imperial Tutoring and Educational Services, on Thursday, April 3, 1997.

At the end of this training program tutors will be able to:
1. Begin the diagnosis of student learning problems.
2. Develop a successful remedial tutoring program based on their diagnosis.
3. Understand learning disability terminology and how to spot specific learning problems.
4. Construct a written student portfolio that records observations and student progress.
5. Begin using these skills after practicing them during a team workshop exercise.

The workshop will be held at Cabrini Connections, 535 W. Chicago Avenue, beginning at 8:30AM on April 3, 1997.

Class size is limited to 30. A minimum of 20 must enroll for the class to be held.

FEE: $50 per person. To register, call Imperial Tutoring at 312-881-3700.

Registration deadline: March 14.

Support Center of Chicago Winter Workshop Catalog Available

Tutor/mentor programs are a business and the more we learn to effectively manage our business, the more effective we will be in doing everything needed to help children become successful adults.

If you are looking for high quality, affordable management training and business consultation, call the Support Center of Chicago at (773) 539-4741 for a catalog.

Workshops range from Management and Planning topics such as “Motivating Your Board to Action and Managing a Small Nonprofit” to Human Resource Development topics, such as “Helping People Achieve Results and Leadership and Motivation”.

Workshops also teach Fund Raising, Financial Management, Marketing and Research and Computer skills.

It takes many years for a tutor/mentor program to help a child successfully complete high school and enter the work force. For any non-profit to survive this long it must learn good business and marketing practices.

The Support Center is one resource readily available to help programs build these skills, so call now for a catalog of available workshops.

Where Else Can Programs find Affordable Training?

VisionChicago is another resource where program leaders can participate in regularly scheduled leadership training at an affordable cost. Many of you have already participated in leadership workshops presented by Cheryl Cornelius at T/MC Conferences. A full range of management support services are available from VisionChicago. Call Cheryl at (312) 322-3000.

The Institute on Disability and Human Development (IDHD) at The University of Illinois at Chicago also offers a regular schedule of workshops teaching successful strategies for working with children and young adults. For instance, on January 30-31 they offer a two-day workshop to teach advanced techniques of behavior modification approaches to challenging behavior. Call Kathryn Moery at (312) 413-3027 for a list of Spring workshops.

AVA (Association of Volunteer Administrators) also offers monthly networking and an annual AVA Conference to help nonprofit leaders network and share successful practices. Call (312) 906-2494.

The Hidden Source of Management Skills — Your Volunteers!

Tutor/Mentor programs have a rich resource right at their fingertips — if they can learn to use it. Programs which are able to recruit volunteers from business groups have the potential to transfer business skills to their organization through their volunteers.

This process starts with your first volunteers and involves data management and marketing. When you recruit a volunteer, ask him/her to fill out a skills/background inventory, listing work skills, hobbies and place of employment. Put this on your computer, then when you need help which requires a particular skill, search your volunteer list for volunteers who have that skill. This makes asking for help much easier, because when the job matches the interest, the volunteer is more likely to say yes.

As your volunteers become more involved in projects which improve the quality of your program, they are more likely to recruit friends from their workplace, church, social circle and/or alumni group to join them at your program. This adds more volunteers — and different skills — to your data base.

Soon you begin to be able to compartmentalize these skills into program needs areas, which become volunteer-led committees. For instance, marketing, advertising, writing backgrounds provide volunteers for recruiting, writing newsletters, producing annual reports, and developing training manuals.

Accountants and lawyers can help with your books and financial management.

People with management and/or supervisory backgrounds can help organize your events and parties, which will help you to your program and help volunteers and students bond to each other.

Computer programmers can not only help you set up a database, but these and all of your volunteers soon become recruiters not only of people, but of equipment, dollars and programs you need to constantly improve the range and quality of services it takes to help a child become a successful adult.

This is a process which increases in value from year to year. As you create opportunities for volunteers to share the vision and responsibility of your program, more will stay with you longer and more of their skills and background will be transferred to you and the children you work with. It only takes one volunteer to start this process. Start it today.

TEAMS FORMING TO HELP HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES TRANSITION TO ADULT LIFE

The UIC Institute on Disability and Human Development is recruiting adults with disabilities, family members, school and community partners to participate in community-based transition teams. The Mentor-of-Mentors Statewide Transition Project will train family, school and community partners to help high school students with disabilities transition to adult independent living.

No cost to participants and stipends to reimburse expenses are available.

Call Kathryn Moery, (312) 413-3027.

from page 1

founder and president. We knew the T/MC product was something people would respond to if we just gave them the chance. We also knew that only a single-purpose non-profit could give the day-to-day, year-to-year focus this movement needs.

As the 1996 T/MC results show (see page 8), people have responded. The challenge has been finding enough money to keep up with the rapid increase in demand for TMC support.

"The T/MC is not a simple concept. It is comprehensive, and that's what it works," says Bassill, "That also means it takes time for supporters to understand and build a commitment to finance it. The Gaylord & Dorothy Donnelley Foundation's first grant three years ago was for $2,000. Last year it was $5,000, so this year's grant is a major commitment from them, and for us."

If you or your organization would like to learn more about the T/MC, or draw upon T/MC resources to help improve your own tutor/mentor program, or start a new one, please call Dan at (312) 467-2889.
INVOLVE! CHICAGO TUTOR/MENTOR WEEK PARTY A SUCCESS!
OVER 200 ATTENDED. $1,745 DONATED TO LEND A HAND.

For the past three years Tutor/Mentor Week has grown and this year, Involve! Chicago added a new fun, and fund-raising event—a Disco party. The group is committed to developing future events to help fund T/MC programs. If you want to get involved with Involve! Chicago, call (773) 975-2473.

Meet the 1996 Involve! Chicago team:
Markley Raining
Margie Bice
Jennifer Eber
John Gnoepelius
Tim Greene
Kirk Kepley
Lynn McPhee
Gretchen Meltzer
Robert Mestman
Michael
Oshaughnessy
Meghan Otis
Allison Shapiro
Matt Stoudt
Brigitta Witt
HAPPY NEW YEAR

Tim Greene (left), a management consultant at Deloitte & Touche, hands a check for the Chicago Bar Foundation (CBF) Lend-a-Hand Fund to Donald Hubert, president of the Chicago Bar Association (CBA) and co-chair of the Lend-a-Hand Advisory Board. Looking on are Elizabeth Densmore, director of the Chicago Bar Foundation, and Daniel F. Bassill, head of the Tutor/Mentor Connection (T/MC), a sponsor of the Fund.

Tutor/Mentor Week, November 11-16, 1996

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Chicago Bar Foundation and Cabrini Connections will join together to promote Tutor/Mentor Week, November 11-16, 1996, to raise awareness and support for programs providing tutoring and mentoring throughout Chicago, and

WHEREAS, the Lend A Hand Program, sponsored by the Chicago Bar Association/Foundation, seeks to recruit volunteers to provide tutoring and mentoring to children throughout the city and to coordinate a fund-raising program which will generate critical funds needed to support these efforts citywide; and

WHEREAS, the highlights of Tutor/Mentor Week include an evening gala, sponsored by Involve! Chicago, to raise money for the Lend A Hand Program; a leadership conference, sponsored by Cabrini Connections, to train and develop mentors and program administrators; and presentation of grant awards to exemplary programs; and

WHEREAS, tutors and mentors can make important contributions to the academic and social development of young people, provide a valuable support network for them and serve as role models for future academic and professional success;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD M. DALEY, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO, do hereby proclaim November 11-16, 1996 to be TUTOR/MENTOR WEEK IN CHICAGO, and urge all Chiagoans to support the important work of organizations that provide tutors and mentors for young people throughout our city.

Dated this 4th day of November, 1996

Richard M. Daley
Mayor, City of Chicago

HELP SUPPORT THE T/MC - YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS MAKE THE T/MC POSSIBLE

Donations from individuals, foundations and corporations allow the T/MC to provide these services at little or no cost:

- Quarterly T/MC REPORT
- Spring and Fall T/MC Leadership Conferences
- T/MC Chicago Programs Directory
- Citywide Volunteer Recruitment Campaign
- T/MC Research, Library and one-on-one consulting and referrals

Workplace donations also help fund these efforts. Look for Code Number 7023 in your 1996-97 CFC campaign handbook. Thank YOU!

I support the work of Cabrini Connections and the Tutor/Mentor Connection

Name: __________________ Phone: __________________

Address: __________________ Apt # __________________

City/State: __________________ Zip Code: __________________

Company or Organization: __________________

Cabrini Connections is a 501 (c)(3) tax-exempt non profit. Every gift is tax-deductible, however, it's a good idea to work with your tax advisor to determine the best option for giving.

Mail your contribution to Cabrini Connections, 535 W. Chicago Ave., 21N, Chicago, IL 60671
1996 Tutor/Mentor Connection Results

"Make education the number one priority. An educated child is the best thing we can give our city. We’re holding everybody responsible."

Mayor Daley, National Education Day breakfast address, Nov. 21, 1996

NO CAUSE OFFERS A CORPORATION AS MUCH REASON TO BE INVOLVED, ALONG WITH MARKETABLE "GOOD WILL" AS THE EDUCATION OF AMERICA'S CHILDREN

Each year since 1994, Tutor/Mentor Connection (T/MC) media have reached audiences of over 5.4 million with print, TV and radio messages intended to build visibility, volunteers and dollars for Chicago's tutor/mentor programs. In 1996 the T/MC delivered a calendar of events along with an ongoing communications and networking program as part of its effort to help build a total quality after-school learning system to help at-risk children throughout Chicago become more successful in schools and in preparation for work. It is clear from news reports that the public schools cannot accomplish this task by themselves.

Here is a summary of T/MC results:

May 15-16, 1996 — Two hundred and twenty-three leaders, friends and volunteers from more than 100 tutor/mentor programs gathered to share ideas, learn new techniques and promote effective tutoring, mentoring and school-to-work practices at the 5th Tutor/Mentor Connection Leadership Conference which was co-sponsored by the University of Illinois at Chicago.

August/Sept. 1996 — More than 60 programs and ten area businesses participated in the T/MC’s second annual Citywide Volunteer Recruitment Campaign, "What a Difference a Day Makes!", with Merri Dee of WGN-TV serving as campaign spokesperson. More than 400 individuals, a 300 per cent increase from 1995, turned out for one of seven volunteer fairs held at sites around the city, ranging from the Aon Corporation offices in Uptown, to Borders Books and Music on Michigan Avenue, to the Evergreen Plaza Shopping Center on the Southwest part of the city. In addition, promotions ran on Access TV throughout August and September and 28 different media reports appeared in various Chicagoland papers. Copies of the 4th T/MC Chicago Programs Directory were distributed to 2000 individuals companies, schools, libraries and churches, and to an additional 300 people who called the T/MC hotline established especially for the campaign.

Nov. 15-16, 1996 — Nearly 200 leaders and volunteers from over 110 tutor/mentor programs met at Malcolm X College for the T/MC’s 6th Tutor/Mentor Leadership Conference. Co-sponsored by Chicago Public Schools, this was the first conference attended by large numbers of teachers and school administrators.

Nov. 11-16, 1996 — Mayor Daley proclaims this the city’s third Annual Tutor/Mentor Week, recognizing leaders, volunteers and children participating in Chicago’s 250 afterschool tutoring, mentoring and school-to-work programs. During the week the Chicago Bar Foundation awarded $19,000 in grants to tutor/mentor programs, making its total contribution for the year $39,000. Furthermore, Involve/Chicago, a dedicated group of young professionals, hosted its first Friday Night tutor/mentor week party and raised $1,700 which it donated to the CBF Lend-A-Hand Fund. On November 21, the Mayor gave a boost to the tutoring and mentoring movement during a National Education Day Breakfast with more than 20 of the city’s business leaders.

In addition to these major events, the T/MC REPORT has reached more than 5,500 readers quarterly, including business leaders, educators and volunteers from around the country. The T/MC also issued its 4th Edition T/MC Programs Directory, listing more than 250 Chicago tutor/mentor programs, along with support and resource groups and national tutor/mentor programs.

The result is that more tutor/mentor program leaders are talking to each other than ever before. Organizations such as the Chicago Bar Foundation, with 22,000 member lawyers, are recruiting and placing teams of volunteers at neighborhood programs, while developing funding resources and other programs, which create learning opportunities for children most neglected from these experiences.

Finally, the T/MC has provided referrals to hundreds of volunteers and parents looking to find tutor/mentor programs, and to hundreds of program and community leaders looking for help in expanding, improving and starting a new program. And, as the T/MC has grown in Chicago, it has become a model for other cities, with leaders from Milwaukee, Kansas City, Seattle, Cleveland and many Illinois cities, joining in the T/MC conferences or drawing upon one-on-one T/MC consultations.

In 1997 the T/MC will repeat its slate of events, continue to produce the T/MC REPORT and T/MC Directory and strive even harder to bring more visibility, volunteers and dollars to Chicago’s tutor/mentor programs.

Corporations, alumni, civic and religious groups are encouraged to become involved with individual programs, or as sponsors of the entire slate of events.

Call today. Make a difference for a lifetime.

Cabrini Connections

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