

Wexford Ridge teens help keep teens in school

For far too many American teens, high school ends not with graduation but with incarceration. The juvenile court system, which was created in the early 20th century in an effort to rehabilitate juveniles who broke the law, now often just acts as a transition point between high school and prison. Juvenile offenders emerge, not as rehabilitated citizens, but as hardened criminals. And, as is the case with most social problems, this one falls disproportionately on children from minority and/or low income backgrounds.



Youth involved in Teen BuildUp participate in a group activity at the Wexford Ridge Neighborhood Center.

In 2005, The Fund issued a grant of \$12,000 to the Wexford Ridge Neighborhood Center (WRNC) to extend the capacity of their Teen Build-Up (TBU), a youth-run organizing project that seeks to educate young people about issues like police harassment, teen sexual health, and juvenile justice and to empower them to become agents of change in their communities. Through conferences, trainings, and street outreach, participants explore alternatives to discipline models that take students out

of school or otherwise alienate students from the education process.



An architect's sketch of the new Lussier Community Education Center.

In particular, the WRNC is taking action against the widely disproportionate treatment of youth of color at Memorial High School on Madison's Far West Side, in the Wexford Ridge neighborhood. Youth of color are singled out more often for questioning, for suspension, and for arrests from school.

Teen Build-Up has been a stunning success in its three years of operation. It now has a core leadership group of fifteen youths from three area high schools and reaches out to over 200 middle school and high school students in Dane County.

The Wexford Ridge Neighborhood Center is growing on the whole as well. They are in the process of erecting a new building, the Lussier Community Education Center. It will be situated on the campus of Jefferson Middle School and Memorial High School. The new building will vastly expand WRNC's potential to offer opportunities to local residents.

In this Issue...

P. 2: Sustained Giving

P. 3: The Fund turns 25!

P. 4: Karen Campbell honored

Ways to Donate

Gifts of Cash

The Fund accepts cash, checks, MasterCard, VISA and American Express. Electronic fund transfer is available for monthly or quarterly pledges. Secure online donations can also be made at www.wcfund.org.

Workplace Giving

Many employers make Community Shares of Wisconsin or Community Shares of Greater Milwaukee part of their charitable payroll deduction programs. Contributions made through these programs benefit the Fund as well as other non-profit organizations.

Stock & Securities

You can avoid capital gains taxes while receiving a tax deduction by giving a gift of stock or securities.

Donor Advised Giving

As a donor, you can make gifts to particular groups or areas of interest.

Planned Giving

Bequests and other Planned Giving mechanisms are a powerful way to leave a lasting legacy of devotion to change.

Contributions are fully tax-deductible in accordance with the law.

For more information on making a donation, contact Bruce Moffat, Executive Director, at 608.251.6834.

Sustaining Change

A Message from Bruce Moffat
Wisconsin Community Fund Executive Director



By now you know that Wisconsin Community Fund has been celebrating its 25th Anniversary this year. Any such milestone provides a time to not only look back, but also forward to the future: in our case, the *next* 25 years.

Discussions of the future, in turn, usually include the matter of financial sustainability. One of the best – and easiest – ways our donors can contribute to the financial health of the Fund over time is to become a **Partner in Change**. By signing up for the Partners in Change Pledge Program, you effectively support our social change grantmaking work the whole year round, typically on a monthly or quarterly basis. Whether you choose to give \$10 per month or several hundred, you're helping provide the Fund with a more predictable funding stream throughout the year.

Becoming a Partner in Change couldn't be easier. Simply contact Cindy Fesemyer at (608) 251-6834 or cindy@wcfund.org and let her know your preferred giving amounts and frequency and your preferred method of payment (Electronic Fund Transfer or major credit card).

Additionally, the envelope in this newsletter lets you spell out your own sustaining gift. **Please consider becoming a Partner in Change today!**

Donor Profile: Carolyn Haack



Meet Carolyn Haack, a department store administrator and a Wisconsin Community Fund **Partner in Change** monthly donor. We asked Carolyn a few questions about her background in social justice and how The Fund meets her needs.

The Fund: How did you first become involved in social justice activism?

Carolyn Haack: I'm a 60's kid—in college in the late 60's and early 70's, Operation Breadbasket was just beginning, the Vietnam Altercation was moving into full swing—anyone with half a heart became concerned with social justice. Me, too!

The Fund: How did you first learn about The Fund?

CH: My late husband was a development professional and loved the model of the national network with strong regional affiliates. Not to mention the good work.

The Fund: What specific philanthropic interests does The

Fund satisfy for you?

CH: Getting a lot done for a modest investment; empowering individuals and/or small groups to make significant changes in their immediate areas of influence which can (and do!) ripple out to the larger society. Being able to help folks TRY SOMETHING rather than be submerged in gloom. Not everything works, but we learn from every initiative.

The Fund: How does sustained giving to Wisconsin Community Fund fit into your broader philanthropy?

CH: While I do support some large programs such as ACLU, it's individuals who are going to change the world. I can't evaluate the credibility of applicants, but The Fund and the Funding Exchange can. I feel like my contributions are producing practical results overall, seeding pilot projects which often become models to put to work in similar situations elsewhere. The 'sustained' part just makes sure I do what I intend to do. By making the contribution automatically and regularly, I give both enough and not more than I "can" to the organizations I want to support. And it makes it easier to decline solicitations from groups I either don't want to support or need to investigate further before making a commitment.

Wisconsin Community Fund celebrates 25 years!



Funding Cycle Grantmaking Process

Letter of Intent

To be considered for submission of a full grant proposal, groups are asked to answer a series of questions in a letter of intent. These questions are included in the request for proposals and timelines of the funding cycle at www.wcfund.org and can be mailed and e-mailed to groups.

Grant Proposal Packet

Based on the Letter of Intent, groups will be sent a WCF Grant Proposal Packet and invited to submit a proposal

On-Site Visit

The Grants Allocation Committee reads all proposals and based on their discussions, 15-20 groups are given an on-site visit by members of the Committee, WCF staff and the Board of Directors.

Decision

The Grants Allocation Committee and the Board of Directors meet to respectively determine and confirm the new grantees for the current funding cycle. Congratulatory letters are sent out along with contracts to the new grantees.

For further information about the grantmaking process, contact:
Betsy Lawrence, Director of Program Services
608.251.6834
betsy@wcfund.org

Top: Bruce Moffat, Executive Director, welcomes partygoers at Milwaukee's Public Market, April 9, 2008.

Middle: Award winners: Constance Clark (left) and Christine Neumann-Ortiz (right). Constance is the founding director of the African American Children's Theatre in Milwaukee. She received the Jack Rosenberg Award for lifetime commitment to social justice. Christine is the founding director of Voces de la Frontera. She received the Wisconsin Community Fund Outstanding Grantee of the Year award.

Bottom: Three of our six founders at the Edgewater Hotel in Madison, April 10, 2008: from left to right, Dale Wiehoff, Amy Pincus Merwin and Helen Boley. Not pictured are Grant Abert, George Pillsbury and Nancy Ward.



Wisconsin Community Fund
1202 Williamson Street, Suite D
Madison, WI 53703

Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Madison, WI
Permit No.2956

WISCONSIN COMMUNITY FUND

Address Service Requested

Wisconsin Community
Fund Supports Grassroots
Organizations Working for Social
Justice.

Board of Directors

President: Don Katz
Vice President: Karen Campbell
Secretary: Kathy Ronco
Treasurer: Cathy Miller
President Emeritus: Nan Cheney
Julie Andersen
Maria Flores
Paul Harrison
Monica Macaulay
Carolina Soza

Grant Allocation Committee

Barb Alvarado
Julie Andersen
Howard Caplan
Andrew Gokee
David Granados
Tony Ingram
Cynthia Lin
Roberto Miranda
Lori Nitzel
Betty Salamun
Donna Vukelich

Staff

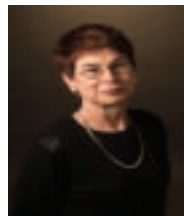
Executive Director: Bruce Moffat
Director of Program Services: Betsy Lawrence
Development Manager: Cindy Fesemyer
Bookkeeper: Barb Kneer
Student Worker: Chris Jones

1202 Williamson Street, Suite D
Madison, Wisconsin 53703
608.251.6834
608.251.6846 (Fax)

info@wcfund.org

www.wcfund.org

Planned Parenthood honors Karen Campbell



The resume of Karen Campbell, the Vice-president of Wisconsin Community Fund's Board of Directors, recently got a little longer. Karen has been active in Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin, culminating in her selection as President of the Board. Karen was named the 2007 Central Region Volunteer of the Year. She subsequently learned she'd been selected National Volunteer of the Year. Karen, her family and her friends were on hand when she received her award in late March in Washington, D.C. during Planned Parenthood's national conference.

Karen has a long trajectory of social activism and nonprofit leadership, particularly on issues of concern to women. Shortly after moving to Milwaukee in 1996, she became involved with both Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin and Community Shares of Greater Milwaukee. In addition, Karen chairs Milwaukee's cooperative Woodland Pattern Book Center.

We at Wisconsin Community Fund consider ourselves fortunate to count Karen among our volunteer leaders. We join her other nonprofit colleagues in congratulating her on her well-deserved awards.

