I am pleased to share this annual report that highlights the progress on major initiatives underway at the Robinson Community Learning Center of the University of Notre Dame. Community Engagement has been a particular theme this year as Notre Dame instituted a study on its internal and external involvement in the community. We look forward to the results of this research coming together in a new Strategic Plan for Community Engagement in the 2009-10 school year. To coordinate this process, the University announced the hiring of an Associate Vice President for Public Affairs, Mr. Tim Sexton, who began in June, 2009. Mr. Sexton is tasked with coordinating the University’s community and government engagement activities. He comes with much community experience from St. Joseph Regional Medical Center, and board membership at the Northeast Neighborhood Revitalization Organization.

CommUniversity Day – Working with leaders from Notre Dame’s Student Government, Center for Social Concerns, and the City of South Bend, RCLC staff supported the first ever “CommUniversity Day” to promote better relationships, engagement, and civic pride in the local community. Over 500 students and residents cleaned, painted, and collected food from their base at the Robinson Center.

NENC 2008-09 Back to school picnic – Probably our best yet, thanks to the leadership of NENC residents, Student Government, Student Affairs, and the Center for Social Concerns. Over 350 residents and students came to the Center to meet and greet the new school year together! We look forward to breaking new records in September, 2009, and as always, we welcome your feedback and involvement!
RCLC Background

**RCLC History**
The RCLC was launched in February, 2001 as an off-campus educational initiative of Notre Dame in partnership with Northeast Neighborhood residents of South Bend. While RCLC staff report to the Office of Public Affairs and Communication at Notre Dame, programs are overseen by a Program Advisory Board comprised of residents, program partners, ND faculty/staff, and students.

**Mission Statement**
The Robinson Community Learning Center welcomes community and Notre Dame partners that strengthen the Northeast Neighborhood of South Bend through relationship building and educational opportunities. By promoting innovation and excellence, the Center builds individual capacity and enhances existing systems throughout South Bend.

**RCLC Staff**

- **Ellen Kyes**
  Prevention Programs, Take Ten

- **Marguerite Taylor**
  Adult Programs

- **Christy Burgess**
  Volunteer & Performing Arts Coordinator

- **Andy Kostielney**
  Youth Justice Programs

- **Judy Odusch**
  Administration & Hospitality

- **Luther Tyson**
  Technology & Entrepreneurship

- **Velshonna Luckey:**
  Children’s Programs

- **Jay Caponigro: Director**
  (left to right)

**2008-09 Program Advisory Board Members**

- Solomon Anderson
- Mary Beckman
- Irene Cour
- DreShawn Hannah
- G. David Moss
- Alice Wilson
- Darice Austin-Phillips
- Jasmine Brown*
- Jim Frabutt
- Greg Long
- Melissa Paulsen
- Christyne Woolridge
- Michael Ball*
- Anthony Byrd
- Stuart Greene
- Geoff Meyers
- Jackie Rucker

*Co-Chairs

*The Robinson Community Learning Center is a department under the leadership of Ms. Jan Botz, Vice President of Public Affairs and Communication at the University of Notre Dame. See more about Notre Dame’s local outreach efforts at [www.nd.edu](http://www.nd.edu).*
Goal 1: HOSPITALITY
Create a setting that serves as a place of gathering and interaction among neighborhood residents, ND students & staff, and community partners.

Hosting Innovative Programs

**SUPERNOVA CLUB**
Club members took a break this academic year, but resumed activities in Summer, 09. Under the direction of Dr. Phil Sakimoto, ND Physics Department, this science program gives children an opportunity to engage in an interactive learning process in math and science exploring astro-physics and astronomy. 2009 visits included Michigan State University and Impressions 5.

**LEGO ROBOTIC LEAGUE**
The RCLC iRobotics team had an excellent debut in their first year of competition. The team consisted of nine student ranging from ages 9 to 14. The FIRST Lego League program is rigorous and our youth rose to the occasion, qualifying to compete at the state level. With generous support from Notre Dame’s Office of Student Affairs, and under great direction by coaches “Dr. D” (G. David Moss), Tom Apker, and Ms. Velshonna. The group researched climate concerns (flooding), developed an innovative solution, and then built & programmed their robot. The group met with experts in the area of their research included meeting with professionals at WNDU, South Bend Sewer and Water facility, and Whispering Springs water bottling company. The students also presented their solution for eliminating floods to SB Mayor Stephen Luecke. This effort demonstrated our inner-city youth are motivated to succeed in the critical fields of science, technology, engineering and math if given proper support!

**Chess Club:**
In its 2nd year, NEN Chess Club met weekly with an average of 20 children participating. Through the dedication of Ms Molly Whelan and her family, youth made significant gains in experience and skill. Outside of Thursday evening Club activities, members regularly tested their skill against ND students, ND summer program participants and other volunteers, much to their surprise! Ms. Molly wove in instructional sessions, providing tactical and strategic lessons to improve understanding of the game. The Whelan Family’s contribution has been much appreciated and they will be missed when they leave the Northeast Neighborhood in summer, 2009. Chess Club is looking for new direction to resume meeting the first week in October, 2009.

15,218 Guests signed into the Center in 2008-09
Goal 2: EDUCATION
Establish educational opportunities to develop technical abilities, build life skills, and provide support/mentoring at all ages.

Robinson Center Youth Programs
by Velshonna Luckey

TUTORING:
During the school year, RCLC students are tutored by Notre Dame students Monday-Thursday. The receive the same tutors twice a week. The tutors work with them on their homework and the places where they may be academically challenged. The average student attendance was 82% for the academic year, and 90% for the summer program.

When parents were asked if the program achieved the outcome they expected, 100% of the parents said yes. Here are a few of their comments:
- This is the best program my children have ever been it. It is very structured and they learn to like school.
- The program re-enforced how important school is and being respectful to others, social skills, and working as a team.
- Velshonna has had such a profound positive influence over my family. Study habits have improved social skills, discipline, respect, and confidence.

Over 140 college students participated as tutors (97% Notre Dame, 3% Saint Mary’s). Tutors average attendance was 75%. End of the year surveys yielded the following responses:
- 100% agreed that the tutoring program was beneficial to the student they tutored.
- 100% agreed that they developed a positive relationship with the child they were tutoring.
- 98% agreed that their tutoring experience helped them become more aware of the local community and its needs.

In its first year as an Indiana-approved Supplemental Service Provider, the Center earned an overall “B.” 2008 post-tests of the twelve participants indicated reading gains in 100% of the youth. Sample assessments of 15 youth participating in a new three-month intensive reading program showed gains in 60% of participants in Spring, ‘09.

Summer Afternoon Program: 51 children participated in the RCLC afternoon summer program, which was full of creative learning experiences. Staff and volunteers designed a curriculum which involved the implementation of a mini economy. The RCLC currency was called RuCLiCs (pronounced: Roo-Clicks) which represented “U & I in the RCLC”. The children were responsible for making wise spending decisions, taking advantage of opportunities to earn money, and making deposits and withdrawals from the “bank”. The children also learned about the value of exercise, making healthy food choices, geography, problem solving strategies, and conflict resolution (through partner Youth Services Bureau). The program ended with a Family Celebration, where the children with awards and presentations to parents.
Goal 2: EDUCATION
Establish educational opportunities to develop technical abilities, build life skills, and provide support/mentoring at all ages.

Robinson Center Youth Programs
by Velshonna Lucke & Christy Burgess

Robinson Shakespeare Company:
The Robinson Shakespeare Company has matured in its second year into a thriving and dynamic part of the RCLC and the community. The RSC performed outreach scenes at Perley Elementary School, Art Beat 2008, Shake Scenes, the Arts and Letters Advisory Board, OPAC departments, & ND’s Board of Trustees.
Also, the RSC took part in the South Bend English Speaking Union’s Shakespeare Monologue Competition hosted by Notre Dame. Ages 8-18, the RSC students performed monologues and won 1st place in the Elementary, Middle School, and High School categories. The South Bend Representative, Tirshatha Jeffrey, then competed in the State-wide competition held in Indianapolis and won 2nd Runner-Up!
The RSC gave a performance of Shakespeare’s hilarious Comedy of Errors set in the roaring 20’s! The play was performed in the Annenburg Auditorium at the Snite Museum on May 29 with approximately 65 people in attendance. Following the success of the play, the RSC embarked on its second 5 week long Shakespeare Summer Camp. There were 21 participants in the camp and they studied; Shakespeare, text analysis, acting, dance, and stage combat. The culmination of the camp was a performance of Shakespeare’s romantic comedy The Merchant of Venice set in Italy in the 1950’s. Over 130 people were in attendance for the performance on July 11th.
The RSC also received recognition in the press with an insightful video segment by the South Bend Tribune, attention in the newspaper with Tirshatha’s win, and the RSC was featured in the article “The Art of Inclusion” printed in the ‘Arts Everywhere’ magazine and was reprinted in the magazine ‘Racing Towards Diversity’. RSC was generously supported by the Community Foundation of St. Joseph County, ArtsEverywhere Fund and private donors.

Fun Fridays:
Notre Dame Residence Halls and Clubs partnered with the RCLC in providing 14 “Fun Fridays;” days filled with entertaining activities for the Center’s children. This year, leaders stepped up from Stanford, Zahm & Farley Halls, as well as the Minority Pre-Med Society to organize activities and recruit volunteers for each Friday. Stanford & Zahm covered multiple days, bringing a new students each time. At least 15 volunteers attended each time!

ND Department of Athletics - RecSports:
24-40 children grades K–5 participated in recreational sports twice per week. Programming took place on campus at the Stepan Center or activities were set-up on site. Activities included obstacle course routines, basketball, exercise through play, and more. Over the summer, children visited Healthworks and learned physical games to exercise all the organs through healthy play.
Goal 2: EDUCATION

Establish educational opportunities to develop technical abilities, build life skills, and provide support/mentoring at all ages.

Take Ten
by Ellen Kyes

Overview:

Take Ten is a violence prevention, conflict resolution program with a school-based curriculum focused on teaching students the necessary skills to be able to handle conflict in a peaceful way. Take Ten provides youth with the tools to “Talk it Out, Walk it Out or Wait it Out” as alternatives to violence, and builds their capacity to make better, more positive choices. Take Ten was engaged in three school districts in the 2008-2009 school year (South Bend Community School Corporation, School City of Mishawaka and the Diocese of Ft. Wayne-South Bend). This number included Mishawaka High School, a new school for the program, with a tailored method of delivery to freshmen aimed at improving graduation rates. Over all the districts, Take Ten volunteers worked directly with approximately 1,500 local students each week at 14 schools, with an indirect impact between 7,000 and 8,000 students at Take Ten schools. Not only has Take Ten expanded into new schools during 2008-2009, the program also grew along with the Boys and Girls Clubs of St. Joseph County, currently in all six of their locations, serving an average of 892 children per week. Both the Boys and Girls Clubs and the Center for the Homeless collaborate with Take Ten through annual staff trainings and involvement in Take Ten contests and events throughout the year.

Festival:

Take Ten held its annual festival on April 30, 2009 at the Stepan Center on the Notre Dame campus. Over 325 children were in attendance, joined by South Bend Police Chief Darryl Boykins and South Bend School Superintendent Jim Kapsa (below). The Notre Dame First Class Steppers provided the entertainment, and everyone had a fun afternoon. The children, as always, enjoyed the opportunity to interact with hundreds of other children from the local area who have also participated in Take Ten during the past school year and have learned to solve their conflicts in a peaceful way.

Teachers Manual:

Take Ten’s new “teacher manual” for the primary grades was piloted during this 2008-2009 school year at Darden and Perley Primary Centers. Teachers and students were pre and post-tested on the curriculum, and in addition, the teachers provided additional, practical feedback through questions at the end of each chapter. Since the chapters not only include the curriculum but indicators as to which social skill(s) and state academic standards are taught or reinforced within, Take Ten is anxious to evaluate the teacher-implemented version of the program and to assess educators’ responses by Fall, 2009.
Goal 2: EDUCATION
To establish educational opportunities to develop technical abilities, build life skills, and provide support/mentoring at all ages.

Take Ten (cont’d)

Evaluation: Trends from the 2007-08 assessment are encouraging for ongoing implementation of Take Ten in Michiana schools. Significant findings in the primary schools illustrate that dismantling the belief that violence is acceptable takes time and yet, in itself, is positive growth. For example:

- Current research reveals that Take Ten participants in grades 3-6 improved in their emotional management skills, particularly when presented scenarios regarding concern and empathy for others.
- Re-building norms for healthy conflict resolution takes longer, but has been demonstrated in the significant change in youth with multi-year experience with Take Ten. This suggests that a long-term commitment by administrators to include the Take Ten curriculum will have the strongest impact on violence in their schools.

A consistent theme emerged from the primary, intermediate, and high school surveys. The research indicated that a significant number of children felt that school was not safe, and further, teens in high school felt that they were threatened by conflict in their schools. (Battell Elementary in Mishawaka is an exception; harassment and discipline problems were rated at only a moderate level.) Such similar results across ages and grade levels suggest a real need that violence prevention programming like Take Ten should be implemented consistently across all grades and schools and positively reinforced by all adults in the school environment. The 2008-09 assessment is on-going, and is expected to yield data by 9/1/09.

Comic Book II:
The second edition of the Take Ten comic book, “The Take Ten Crew and the High School Dance Faceoff” was launched in December 2008. At an event held at the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore, including the South Bend Chief of Police, the South Bend Community School Superintendent, Notre Dame’s Vice President for Public Affairs & Communication and others, Take Ten introduced the new team of talented artists and authors who made this book a reality. This latest edition addresses the insidious and pervasive problem of bullying inside the issues of popularity and cliques. The students involved all come from South Bend and Mishawaka schools and were in grades 4-8 when they spent a week of workshops creating the book. Nearly 1,400 Take Ten comic books have been sold to date.

Technology Training
By Luther Tyson
Technology training at the RCLC centered on the use of Personal Computers (PC’s) using Windows XP Professional™ as their Operating System and Microsoft Office 2007™ as the primary Application software. This year, the RCLC offered computer training in two extended Training Cycles (Fall and Spring):

1. **Introduction to Personal Computers** is designed for the new user or for persons considering the purchase of a new computer. In addition to the basics of using the Start Menu and navigating through Windows Vista, 31 students completed exercises in:
   a. advanced internet search techniques,
   b. the use of the windows media Player for “burning” CD’s
   c. digital photo downloading and editing

2. **Intermediate MS Office Professional Seminar** is for the experienced user. The emphasis for the six participants was on practical application of existing knowledge of Microsoft applications.

3. **Assessment:** Student feedback was generally positive. On a scale of 1-4 with “4” being the most favorable, only two end-of-class surveys from all four classes had a “2” in any category.
Goal 2: EDUCATION
Establish educational opportunities to develop technical abilities, build life skills, and provide support/mentoring at all ages.

Youth Financial Literacy & Entrepreneurship

By Luther Tyson

Youth Entrepreneurship:
Financial Literacy training offered by the Robinson Center in 2008-09 had four main components, supported largely through a grant from the US Small Business Administration.
1. Summer 08 Biz Camp (10 participants)
2. Academic Year BizTech Class (17 participants)
3. Summer 09 Adult BizCamp (6 participants)
4. RCLC Summer Youth Program (54 participants)
5. Robinson Enterprises (13 on roster)

Each component includes curriculum that addresses:
- The psychological dimension of money; Core Competencies (including selected modules from the MoneySmart™ Curriculum developed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) and supplied by our partners at Key Bank of Northern Indiana.
- Entrepreneurship Training: Basic curriculum developed by the Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE),

Overall, The Robinson Center provided financial literacy training to 87 persons in the 2008-09 school year of which the vast majority were high school students (Clay, Riley, Adams, Washington, Marian). Dr. Peter Miller, Assistant Professor, Foundations and Leadership with Duquesne University is the project evaluator. His assessment of the impact of the program is expected to be released in the fall of 2009.

Robinson Enterprises 2008-09 Entrepreneurs:
Entrepreneurship training culminates in a business plan contest known as the Invention Convention. A pool of 29 initial students was eventually reduced to 6 finalists who competed on April 2nd, 2009 at ND’s Mendoza College of Business. Under the direction of Jessica McManus Warnell, a faculty member assigned by Dean Carolyn Woo to support this community training program, the competition was hosted, facilitated and judged by ND undergraduate and MBA students.

The winners in 2009 were:

1st Place: DEOZE Dance Studio, presented by Bryonna Cane. This is a fitness program that combines African Dance and music with exercise to create a fun and healthy environment for teenage girls.

2nd Place: Fashion Companion, presented by Natalie Peterson. This business offers personal shopping services for busy women between the ages of 18 and 45, combined with fashion consulting.

3rd Place: A R Translation Services, presented by Alfredo Rangel. This business offers document translation for Mexican immigrants seeking citizenship and visa help, as well as written English-to-Spanish document translation for businesses.

Honorable Mention:
RainScape, presented by Paul Grabill. RainScape provides an environmentally friendly alternative for handling runoff water in business and residential areas.

TJ’s Way, presented by Trevor Brown. This is a mobile, classroom based seminar series offered to local schools to deliver training in basic banking and financial literacy.

Socializing for a Cause, presented by Natasha Wright. This plan described a non-profit service that organized social events to raise money for breast cancer research and other charitable causes.
Goal 2: EDUCATION
Establish educational opportunities to develop technical abilities, build life skills, and provide support/mentoring at all ages.

Robinson Center Adult Programs
By Marguerite Taylor

Computer Clubs
Two Seniors Computer Clubs operate on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, respectively, with a combined membership of 25. Clubs commence on the “first Tuesday” after Labor Day and, apart from Christmas Break, operate continuously with little or no membership turnover until the “last Thursday” before Memorial Day every year.

Book Club
Eleven seniors met throughout the year (28 weeks!) to explore the themes found in the novel Cane River, by Lalita Tademy.

“This is a uniquely nurturing, intelligent and reflective group. Participating has been a wonderful experience.”
--Club Member

Lunch & Learn Lecture Series for Seniors
The Robinson Center and Notre Dame Downtown co-sponsor this series on the 4th Monday of each month. Lunch is provided through our generous sponsors, notably the Milton Fund of the Community Foundation of St. Joseph County. A different speaker is invited each month to discuss issues relevant to seniors, generally in the areas of living at home, security, legal issues, taxes, and protection from fraud and deception.

496 seniors participated in 10 Lunch and Learn events in 2008-09, down from 586 last year. Of 295 evaluations submitted, 48% of participants rated the sessions “Excellent” and 38% rated them “Very Good.” The remaining 14% judged the sessions either “Good” or “Fair.”

Community Experience Partnership
The purpose of the project was to train an interview team, comprised of local seniors (under the direction of ND Psychology Chair Cindy Bergeman) to assess the potential for civic engagement in the Northeast Neighborhood of South Bend. The particular focus was to identify programs, policies, organizations and strategies that enhance the civic engagement of older adults, and the barriers that may prevent full and productive community involvement. The interview team was able to make 578 calls, and interviewed 92 individuals (a response rate of 16%). Of the individuals reached by phone, 44% provided information. The interviewees were 92 individuals over the age of 60 residing in the Northeast Neighborhood.

Generally, project partners recognize from the research that there is a challenge with matching more vulnerable seniors with engagement opportunities that meet the needs of both the agency / employer and the adult. Salaried opportunities have not demonstrated effectiveness yet, either because the agency or the senior is not equally benefitting from the program (not win/win).

Clearly, intermediary organizations that provide support, training, and matching opportunities with seniors and organizations are needed to improve the impact of engagement in our community. A couple of local efforts were identified in our research, and these suggest our county has some capacity already in place. However, as funding remains restricted, agencies will need to look for creative partnership opportunities to expand capacity to more effectively engage the growing senior population in our county, especially those more vulnerable in these economic times.
Goal 2: EDUCATION

Establish educational opportunities to develop technical abilities, build life skills, and provide support/mentoring at all ages.

Youth Justice Project
By Andy Kostielney

Program Description
The Youth Justice Project (YJP) provides a community-based alternative to prosecution of youth offenders. Based on the principles of restorative justice, the YJP believes in holding youth accountable, but doing so with compassion. Relationships and building personal capacity are at the core of the program. The way youths interact with themselves, their family and friends, and their community are pivotal for them to successfully complete the process and grow as individuals. Restorative justice represents an increasingly popular approach to wrong-doing that focuses on the harm caused by crime. Unlike the traditional justice system, restorative practices stress offender accountability, victim participation, and community involvement.

Program Highlights
* Continued relationship with Alesha D. Seroczynski PhD, and the Reading for Life program that looks to increase moral development through literature. (24 participants)
* Partnered with Notre Dame’s Psychology Department to serve as a practicum placement site, allowing participants the opportunity to receive individual and family counseling. (78 participants)
* Collaborated with Clay High School and the St. Joseph County Community Foundation to create the High School Mediation Initiative aimed at reducing school violence, suspensions, and expulsions. (12 participants)
* Worked with the Juvenile Justice Center & St. Joseph County Community Corrections to receive a 2-year grant from the IN Department of Corrections. 2008 Data from the JJC indicates that individuals who successfully completed the YJP recidivated at a rate of 18% less (12 month timeframe) than those who completed the traditional informal adjustment process.

Case Status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Case Status</th>
<th>08-09</th>
<th>07-08</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cases Completed</td>
<td>73 (89%)</td>
<td>32 (78%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cases Failed</td>
<td>8 (10%)</td>
<td>9 (22%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dismissed</td>
<td>1 (1%)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Gender

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>08-09</th>
<th>07-08</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Types of Offenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Types of Offenses</th>
<th>07-08</th>
<th>08-09</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vandalism</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theft</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fighting</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

08-09 Participant Age Breakdown

- 11-12: 12%
- 13-14: 9%
- 15-16: 24%
- 17-18: 23%

Participant Ethnicity

- African American: 07-08: 0, 08-09: 105
- Caucasian: 07-08: 159, 08-09: 0
Goal 3: PARTNERSHIP
Provide space and support for programs through health care, business, school, and community organizations that promote education and enhance the quality of life.

Promoting Partnerships
By Marguerite Taylor & Judy Odusch

Piano & Music:
Twenty-two students worked weekly with nine instructors managed by Darlene Catello, of Notre Dame’s Department of Music.

The classes are consistently full, due to sound instructors recruited by John Blacklow & Daniel Schlosberg and affordable fees offset through the generous support of the Music Department & the College of Arts & Letters.

Yoga:
Through an enduring partnership with Notre Dame’s RecSports department, a certified yoga instructor is provided for a Monday evening class. A total of 103 participants registered for four sessions this past academic year. For the second year, 100% of survey participants consistently rate the instructor as “excellent.” And while some would prefer a larger facility, 97% consider the facility and equipment sufficient.

Health:
St. Joseph Regional Medical Center provides a Nurse four hours per day, two days per month, typically seeing about 10 people per day. In addition, 25 people received Flu Shots from SJRMC staff this past year though this annual service. Also through St. Joseph Regional Medical Center, a Mobile Medical Unit (MMU) provides a broad range of health screenings and services from the RCLC parking lot in every month with a 5th Monday.

Since the Center’s opening, we have enjoyed a partnership with the South Bend Community School Corporation, which provides on-site instruction for adults in the areas of English and GED preparation. 2008-09 At a Glance:

English as a Second Language:
46 beginning and intermediate adult English students
- 36 advanced one or more levels on standardized CASAS tests (78%)
- 13 of 16 parents / grandparents increased involvement with their children’s literacy or education (81%). Fifteen increased involvement with children’s educational activities (93%).
- 46 improved citizenship skills, including how to function in the community as well as knowledge of the U.S. Government (100%). One student passed her citizenship test.

There were no advanced adult English students at the Robinson Center site this year.

GED:
31 Adults participated in GED preparation classes (total of 140 class hours provided)
- Two of four students reached their goal of passing the GED (50%)
- 90% of students made significant educational grade level gains on standardized tests
- Two of three met their goal of entering postsecondary education or training (67%)
Goal 4: CIVIC ENGAGEMENT
Foster active citizenship and a commitment to community building among the Center’s partners & participants.

A Sampling of our organizational Guests in 2008-09

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Friends of the Snite</th>
<th>NENC Annual Meeting</th>
<th>Eastside Reunion Committee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AARP Tax Assistance</td>
<td>NNRO-South Bend Heritage</td>
<td>LAKOTA Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quarknet</td>
<td>Martin Luther King Men’s Club</td>
<td>American Red Cross</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INDOT</td>
<td>OPAC Division Meeting</td>
<td>SB School Corp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campus Community Advisory Council</td>
<td>NDeRC (Notre Dame extended Research Community)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TURNING OVER A NEW LEAF:
Over 125 college volunteers raked 63 lawns for Northeast Neighborhood seniors on November 15, 2008. The event was sponsored by Circle K of Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s, and Iron Sharpens Iron through ND Campus Ministry.

CommUniversity Day:
Over 500 Notre Dame students and nearly 200 residents participated in this first-ever collaborative project driven by ND Student Government in collaboration with RCLC staff.

HOCKEY @ the RCLC
The Notre Dame Hockey Team volunteered to create a Hockey Club with the RCLC students, during their busy hockey season. Twenty-four students, ranging from 1st – 9th grade learned the fundamentals of hockey that included; the rules, how to use the stick and shoot the puck, and good sportsmanship. The hockey players also brought the RCLC students to the Joyce Center to teach them how to ice skate and gave them a pizza party. The students practiced and did drills outside when weather permitted and inside when it snowed. Senior Luke Lucyk won the 2009 Chris Zorich Award from the Athletic Department for his leadership in this project.

RCLC in Print: