



When spider webs unite they can tie up the lion”

In these unsettling times when citizens across the Nation are faced with hunger, unemployment, homelessness and educational barriers; when peace no longer reigns over our world; and where our cities and nation are threatened by clouds of suspicion, racial tension and insensitivity, how desperately we need the efforts of organizations and individuals dedicated to creating positive solutions for ALL people.

As we take on the responsibility for empowering communities and changing lives, we must also continue our vigilance in exposing those vestiges of disparities that have hampered the hope and future of many youth and adults.

We thank our corporate partners, sustaining members, Board members, volunteers and staff for their continuous support of our mission and efforts to serve the communities. You have truly been, and remain beacons of light and hope for a new day when *“vision and common purposes will unite the spider webs”*.

***At the end of each year, it is our beliefs that as our supporters contribute their time and funding, we too have a responsibility to report the outcomes and impact of their investments.***

This is our ***“Annual Report to the Community”***. As you read the report, we believe that you will gain a deeper understanding and vital information relevant to your Urban League and our mission of ***“enabling African Americans and other citizens to move toward self-reliance and into the social and economic mainstream”***.

We hope you will learn more about the League and how much of an integral component it is in the growth and development of Dallas. I ask each of you to join the League in a commitment to ***“build bridges that unite... rather than walls that separate”***.

Thanks again to all of you for allowing us to serve.

Beverly

**"Your Investment At Work In The Community"**



***IMS Graduation***



**Computer Graduation Class**

**IMS Project Coordinators**



***Technology***



***"Back on Your Feet"  
Entrepreneurial Program  
United Way, Urban League  
Dallas Black Chamber Collaboration***

**URBAN LEAGUE COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTERS:** Funded by the State under the Community Action Agency designation, the Centers (located in Garland, Irving, Pleasant Grove and the main office) assist families and individuals, who are at or below 125% of the poverty level, move out of poverty.



**Outcomes:**

- **2,868 families** received assistance including rental/mortgage assistance, food vouchers, utility payments and gasoline vouchers.
- **1,255 families** completed housing counseling/budget management.

**442 individuals** were assisted with free tax preparation through the VITA program, resulting in the participants receiving

**\$502,460.00 in tax refunds.**

- Over **1,060** youth received back-to-school supplies and **729** youth received Christmas toys and/or gift vouchers.
- **195** participants completed the computer/software on site training and **39 adults earned their GED.**



**Community Impact:** Community and corporations also received benefits from our efforts:

- **Area utility companies**, including water services, recovered over **\$265,132.00 in payments**, allowing these companies to retain customers.
- **Area financial institutions received over \$112,202.00** in mortgage payments, thus allowing over **\$1,100,000.00 in customer mortgages to remain on the books.**
- Through distribution of food and gasoline vouchers, area grocery stores received over **\$9,387.00 in purchases.**



**AKA's present over 3,000 can goods to Urban League of Greater Dallas**

## PROGRAM RESULTS 2007

While Wall Street may define a good investment as “a substantial financial gain on money or capital” the Urban League believes “it is the time and effort spent to enable citizens to reach self-reliance”. **EVERYDAY, WE INVEST IN THEIR SUCCESS.**

We are proud to report the investment outcomes to our corporate and community partners. **YOUR INVESTMENTS IN THE LEAGUE MADE IT HAPPEN.**

**INSTITUTE FOR MINORITY SUCCESS:** We believe all youth and adults deserve a second chance to reach their full potential, even after experiencing social obstacles. Our program works with out-of-school and/or adjudicated youth, older adults and ex-offenders. This year, thanks to a grant from NUL/DOL, the program expanded to specifically include displaced hurricane Katrina and Rita youth ages 18-24. Our programs and support services made it happen.



*year of college.*

### **Outcomes:**

- **944** participants were served;
- **517** advanced 1.5 grade levels while **219** passed two or more sections of the GED exam and are continuing the class;
- **79 completed and received their GED;**
- **136 were placed on viable jobs and internships.**
- **64 were former offenders.**
- **14 entered their first**

**Community Impact:** In addition to the individual impact, the Dallas community benefited with:

- Over **\$2,154,000.00** back in the community from the **136** new tax paying citizens.
- **Tax payers saved over \$2,240,000.00 on the cost of recidivism.**



**Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Dwaine R. Caraway**  
**Addressing our youth on his campaign**  
**“Combating Sagging Pants”**



**TECHNOLOGY TRAINING:** We are continuing to bridge the “digital divide” that still exists in our community. Participants were able to receive continuing education college credits with completion of the course work

**Outcomes:**

- In partnership with El Centro Community College, **1,050** citizens completed the courses. Participants represented diverse geographical areas (Dallas, Duncanville, Lancaster, Mesquite, Terrell, and Cedar Hill) and ethnicities. Among the three instructors there was a combined total of **31,500** contact hours for all 30 hour courses.
- Through our centers in Garland, Irving and Pleasant Grove (CSBG), an additional **195** citizens completed the computer/software classes

**HOUSING SERVICES:** An increased number of area citizens’ experienced financial difficulties due to loss of employment. Our housing services provided emergency assistance for rent, mortgage and utility payments to help participants maintain their homes. First time homebuyer education provided the foundation for participants to realize the American dream of home ownership.

**Outcomes:**

- **120** families received financial assistance with mortgage, rent, utilities and food.
- **56** families in danger of losing their homes, received mortgage default and other counseling services and an additional **2,291** callers received telephone counseling and referral.
- **53** senior citizens received Home Equity Conversion Mortgages with an additional **1,285** families receiving holiday food baskets and back to school assistance.
- **364** individuals attended Homebuyer Education classes;
- **60 families** bought their first home through our Homebuyer’s Education classes and down payment assistance.

**Community Impact:** Our community and corporate partners were also beneficiaries of the League’s efforts as **utility companies recovered over \$374,500** in payments that allowed the companies to retain customers; **area financial institutions booked over \$7,800,000.00** in mortgage loans from the 60 families through the

Urban League. The *City/County/Dallas Public Schools will receive an average of \$165,000/year in additional property taxes.*

**Outcomes (Residential):**

- **198 residents** received computer training at the League's on-site facility.
- **153** utilized the employment services.
- Over **679** participated in the special events (health and job fairs) and **45 youth** took advantage of the summer enrichment program activities.

**Outcomes (Homeless Veterans Program):**

The Urban League partnered with Dallas Metrocare and Dallas Veterans Affairs Medical Center to provide case management services to homeless veterans. The program is designed to assist veteran's reintegration into community living to the fullest extent possible.

- Provided classroom training (computer/employment) to **60 veterans**.
- Placed **19** veterans in housing.



**PROJECT 4 VICTORY (Re-entry Program):** Funded by the National Urban League and DOL, the program prepares previously incarcerated persons to re-enter society as productive citizens. Key measurements included, employment/employment retention, reduced recidivism and increased earnings. Housing, mentoring, work ready, life skills, anger management, vocational training, financial literacy and other supportive services were provided.

**Outcomes:** The agency served **344** previously incarcerated persons.

- **268 obtained viable employment with a 70% retention rate.**
- **110** participated in community service projects and mentor support..
- **The 2007 program recidivism rate was 12%**
- **42** enrolled in a vocational/trade school, with **12 receiving CDL license, 4 optical lab technician licenses** etc.
- **3** enrolled in college

**Community Impact:**

- With an average wage of **\$9.77/hr. our participants became tax paying citizens with over \$5,000,000.00 going back into the community.**
- **Citizen tax payers saved over \$9,380,000.00, the average cost of incarcerating the 268 persons the League helped.**





**EDUCATION/YOUTH SERVICES:** Education is not only the first step to a better career; it is the key to understanding the world and the important role each person plays within it. Our programs provide academic, technical, leadership and life skills enhancement programs for junior and senior high school students from low to moderate income families. Grade point averages are often B and below.



**Outcomes:**

- Over **2,179** parents and in-school students participated in the department's programs which included college fairs, SAT preparation, career fairs, Achievement Matters celebration, GET \$SMART Financial Literacy, etc.
- **136 seniors/juniors** completed the EDGE year long program.
- Awarded **25 college scholarships to area graduating seniors through the Pepsi Diamond Scholars, Budweiser, Allstate and Minyards program.**

**Allstate and Minyards program.**

- Approximately **50 new savings accounts** were opened by students completing the GET \$SMART financial literacy program.
- **Through a partnership with United Way, the education department implemented the Parent Academy: Destination Graduation in three (3) DISD high schools and two (2) Collin County high schools.**



**HEALTH SERVICES:** Our goal is to keep our communities healthy through education and by addressing unhealthy lifestyles. Our focus is prevention through street outreach, community health fairs, case management services and facilitation of free medical programs. In addition, a part of the health program is designed to provide culturally sensitive age appropriate abstinence education to youth and adults to reduce risky behavior.

**Outcomes:** In collaboration with the Texas Department of Health, Dallas County Health, Parkland Health Care System, UT Southwestern Medical Center (Dallas/Galveston), Methodist Hospital, VA Hospital, La Sima and other community partners, we accomplished the following:

- **Link-to-Care:** Provided case management, primary care and medication linkages to **97 re-entry individuals** in addition to housing, employment and GED referrals. **1060 additional individuals were referred to other League services.**
- **Prevention Case Management:** Provided **103 clients** with one to one risk reduction counseling.
- **Community Promise:** Provided outreach services to **3820 contacts** through various outreach efforts. Recruited **51 peer advocates** and developed **8 Role Model stories of peer advocates that reflected the stage of change in the community.**
- **Citywide HIV/STD Program (Abstinence):** Served over **755 unduplicated teenagers** providing HIV/STD prevention education, negotiation skills and peer pressure skills. An additional **275 students completed the 12 weeks abstinence curriculum funded by the State.**
- A total of **1,374 individuals** received One Time Abstinence Education Training.
- **SAMHSA/CSAP Program:** This program is designed to assist re-entry clients to overcome substance abuse issues and become productive citizens. The program reached **4,430 individuals** through health fairs, educational presentations, street outreach etc. including **492 youth of which 15 were IDUs.**



testing, and hosted the community wide celebration during National Black HIV Day.

- Partnered with Fortitude Health & Wellness to provide nutrition education, screenings for obesity, diabetes, hypertension etc. to over **5,500 individuals.**

**Community Impact:** A reduction in the number of teenage pregnancies; healthier lifestyles which reduce the number of sick days taken by employees and the medical cost to treat preventable illnesses and diseases; decrease in the spread of STDs in the community.

**EMPLOYMENT:** Preparing a competent workforce is a priority goal for the League. By providing job readiness, technical training, counseling, placement/referrals and ongoing support, our participants are able to take another step toward self-reliance. An increased number of our participants are the results of company closings and layoffs.

**Outcomes:**

- **1,239 individuals** received workforce training/re-training including supportive services, i.e. bus passes, clothes.
- **9 career fairs** were held with approximately **2014 individuals in attendance**.
- **535** citizens obtained employment.

**Community Impact:** With an average wage of **\$10.67/hr.** for many of the **535 new workers**, over **\$9,600,000.00** went back into the communities.

**Although we may not think of the indirect community/company benefits, our new employees now have the purchasing power for food, clothes, cars (which impact the bank car loans) in addition to paying their share of the state and local sales taxes.**

**RESIDENTIAL/SENIOR SERVICES:** Last year, in an effort to more efficiently operate two important programs, the League combined the services into one department, Residential/Senior Services. We recognize that older citizens are faced with a myriad of challenges including, but not limited to, a need to supplement their income and for many, the responsibility of raising their grand-children. Our seniors/grandparent program provides the support and resources necessary for our senior caregivers. In addition, under a contract with Southwest Housing, we provided educational, technical, life skills and social services to residents of Mission Trails and Sierra Vista.

**Outcomes (Seniors):** Working with our area partners, Dallas Area Agency on Aging, City of Dallas, AARP, DISD and others, the League provided:

- **119** individuals participated in support group training, advocacy for benefit informational rights and awareness.
- **143 seniors** received case management services, including counseling and benefits check-ups.
- An additional **327 older adults** received, holiday assistance, technical training (through the League's computer classes), prescription drug services etc.