

Education

Total: \$1,167,500

Grant amounts listed were paid in 2005. Future funding [denoted in italics] for multi-year projects is contingent upon fulfillment of the terms of the grant and review by the Fund.

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Youth Leadership

East Bay Conservation Corps K-5 Charter School - \$50,000

Fiscal Sponsor: East Bay Conservation Corps

Younger children, when given appropriate guidance and opportunities, can make important contributions to their school communities. Students at the East Bay Conservation Corps' charter elementary school are participating in schoolwide service learning projects geared toward teaching individual and collective responsibility for educational improvements.

Grant Amount: \$50,000 [2004], \$50,000 [2005]**Project Dates:** 09/27/2004 through 09/26/2006

Jamestown Community Center - \$30,000

In the fall of 2005 three Mission District schools will reopen with major changes in staffing, instructional programs, and student and school policies. These schools have been tapped by the district's Dream Schools initiative, a major overhaul of the lowest performing schools. Jamestown Community Center (Jamestown), in collaboration with three other long-standing organizations serving the Mission District, are organizing their clientele of youth and parents to give input into the redesign of their schools. Because the district is moving forward on a tight timeline, this project is an expeditious response by Jamestown and its collaborators to engage stakeholders (other than educators) who are directly invested in the future direction of these schools.

Grant Amount: \$30,000 [2005]**Project Dates:** 02/01/2005 through 08/31/2005

Movement Strategy Center - \$50,000

Youth organizing groups in Oakland are interested in strengthening their capacities to bring parent participation into youth activism geared toward improving underperforming schools. Movement Strategy Center is convening a group of youth organizing agencies that want to pursue intergenerational approaches to advocating for public school reform. These agencies will learn about best practices for how to effectively integrate parents into youth organizing projects, and provide peer support to each other as they gain experience in working with youth and parents.

Grant Amount: \$50,000 [2005]**Project Dates:** 04/07/2005 through 04/06/2006

Oakland Kids First - \$55,000

Oakland Kids First (OKF) supports youth-to-youth organizing focused on educational improvement in three Oakland high schools. Its most recent efforts have included a multi-faceted youth assessment of these schools, as well as school-level campaigns to implement peer academic counseling programs. With this grant, OKF will refine and share more broadly its approaches for motivating and engaging youth to make their schools more effective. OKF will conduct an extensive series of trainings open to youth-serving groups and school personnel, refine its approach to strengthening youths' understanding of decision making and policy development in public education, and publish a guide that summarizes these tools for youth engagement.

Grant Amount: \$55,000 [2005], \$45,000 [2006], \$35,000 [2007]

Project Dates: 09/14/2005 through 09/13/2008

Youth Leadership and School Change Project - \$25,000

Fiscal Sponsor: Small Schools for Equity

This grant assists the youth action program's components geared toward building a positive, student-centered learning environment: student leadership training; mini-grants for student-initiated projects; and a peer-to-peer disciplinary council. June Jordan is using a portion of this grant to create outreach materials that describe and analyze its model for how students play a central role in creating a school that holds high expectations and builds a sense of community. The materials will be shared with students and staff at other San Francisco high schools, particularly those that are interested in strengthening student leadership.

Grant Amount: \$25,000 [2005]

Project Dates: 12/10/2004 through 12/09/2005

Youth Voice in Public Education Improvement - \$50,000

Fiscal Sponsor: Youth in Focus

Students are keen experts about their own educational experiences. Youth In Focus (YIF) uses a step-by-step research process to help students analyze their experiences, so that their insights can inform program and policy development. YIF is supporting student research groups in Oakland and San Francisco, focused around the creation of small high schools.

Grant Amount: \$75,000 [2004], \$50,000 [2005]

Project Dates: 06/16/2004 through 08/15/2006

Youth Together - \$75,000

Experiencing a state takeover of their district, youth organizations in Oakland are recognizing the need to ensure that youth voices are helping to shape district-level reforms and policies. Youth Together will ramp up its district-level work, ensuring that youth organizing efforts at school sites are aligned with districtwide actions and campaigns, bringing youth input into the overhaul of the district's central office, and developing a cadre of educators interested in promoting student voice throughout the district.

Grant Amount: \$75,000 [2005], \$75,000 [2006]

Project Dates: 04/07/2005 through 04/06/2007

Parent Organizing

Berkeley Organizing Congregations for Action - \$30,000

Berkeley Organizing Congregations for Action (BOCA), composed of 12 local congregations, received a previous grant to ramp up parent and youth participation in expanding educational opportunities for low-income students in Berkeley's public schools. This grant focuses on developing and formalizing parent-teacher committees at five schools, addressing parents' concerns about the transition from middle to high school, and monitoring the opening of two small schools within Berkeley High.

Grant Amount: \$30,000 [2005]

Project Dates: 08/24/2005 through 08/23/2006

Parent Leadership and Engagement Academy - \$50,000

Fiscal Sponsor: California Tomorrow

In response to the changing landscape of schools in the West Oakland neighborhood, the Parent Leadership and Engagement Academy (PLEA) is training cohorts of parents to become more meaningfully involved in the redesign of existing schools that are low-performing. This grant supports PLEA's efforts to bring together parents of different backgrounds in a neighborhood where racial tensions run high. PLEA is also coordinating a neighborhood-based parent task force which will monitor Oakland Unified School District's plans and advise their reform initiatives.

Grant Amount: \$50,000 [2005], \$50,000 [2006]

Project Dates: 04/04/2005 through 04/03/2007

Childhood Matters - \$16,500

Childhood Matters (CM) broadcasts a call-in parent education radio show in English and Spanish every Sunday morning on two Bay Area stations. The goal of the shows is to facilitate thoughtful, accessible public conversations about parenting for a broad audience. The shows, hosted by two experienced professionals working with children and families, take up a wide range of parenting-related topics, such as discipline, sibling relationships, and homework supervision. CM will produce and broadcast two radio shows and four public service announcements that focus on how parents can make a difference in improving their local schools and districts.

Grant Amount: \$16,500 [2005]

Project Dates: 03/01/2005 through 12/31/2005

Chinese for Affirmative Action - \$50,000

Chinese parents in San Francisco's Visitacion Valley neighborhood are becoming active advocates for their children's educations. Chinese for Affirmative Action (CAA) is continuing to develop the leadership capacity of these parents, many of whom are monolingual, through helping them to become more knowledgeable about and involved in school-level and district-level policy changes. CAA will facilitate regular discussions with participants, conduct leadership and skill-building trainings, and provide advocacy support.

Grant Amount: \$50,000 [2005], \$50,000 [2006]

Project Dates: 04/04/2005 through 04/03/2007

Note: *Conditional*

Coleman Children and Youth Services - \$60,000

Parent Advocates for Youth (PAY), a program of Coleman Advocates for Children and Youth, works to ensure that parents' views inform school- and district-level policies. With a previous grant, Coleman implemented a new method for reaching parents at three low-performing schools. Training and coaching provided to groups of parents in neighborhood settings has resulted in new parent-associations, strong parent representation on school site councils, and parent-to-parent communication across the three schools. Coleman will continue to expand efforts to help parents strengthen their leadership skills and ensure that parents from the three schools are connected to parents at other schools.

Grant Amount: \$60,000 [2005], \$60,000 [2006]

Project Dates: 12/07/2005 through 12/07/2007

Aim High Academy - \$26,000

Fiscal Sponsor: Every Child Can Learn Foundation

Aim High Academy (Aim High) opened in 2003 as a newly designed middle school in San Francisco Unified School District. It draws students mainly from four neighborhoods spread out in the southeast section of the city. Aim High started a parent center that is conducting a needs assessment among the parent body, developing a parent leadership council, disseminating information through a newsletter, and collaborating with outside parent support organizations. With this grant, Aim High is focusing on how best to reach and engage parents, including using home visits by teachers and parent-teacher forums in neighborhood settings.

Grant Amount: \$26,000 [2005]

Project Dates: 12/01/2005 through 06/30/2006

Jamestown Community Center - \$50,000

Jamestown Community Center (Jamestown), in partnership with Columbia Park Boys and Girls Club, Mission Learning Center, and St. John's Education Threshold Center, is strengthening parent and youth voice and participation at three Mission District schools undergoing major restructuring. With this grant, Jamestown will help build a foundation for parent and youth engagement in the three schools through mobilizing and building parents' skills and understandings

about school reform, and providing student leadership opportunities. Jamestown will also publish a guide to parent and community involvement in school reform based on their experience with this project.

Grant Amount: \$50,000 [2005], \$50,000 [2006]

Project Dates: 09/14/2005 through 09/14/2007

Small Schools Initiative - \$70,000

Fiscal Sponsor: Oakland Community Organizations

Oakland Community Organizations (OCO), a federation of 40 congregations and allied groups, has been an instrumental partner of the Oakland Unified School District in developing small, autonomous schools as a lever for educational reform. OCO uses a leadership development model that supports parents and community members to serve on school design teams and school site councils, understand school reform issues and practices, and develop constructive relationships with educators. OCO will strengthen community involvement in establishing additional new, small schools; restructuring existing high schools into small learning communities; and urging the district to adopt policies and processes that are more responsive to the needs of low-performing schools.

Grant Amount: \$70,000 [2005], \$70,000 [2006]

Project Dates: 06/29/2005 through 06/28/2007

Parent Institute for Quality Education - \$15,000

Parent Institute for Quality Education (Parent Institute) promotes parent involvement in schools through a program that helps parents understand the critical role they play in education and the importance of expressing high expectations to their children. The program also covers how to establish open communications with school staff and navigate the school system, and outlines the requirements for college eligibility. Parent Institute will provide training to Oakland parents, with a focus on reaching Asian/Pacific Islander and African American families.

Grant Amount: \$15,000 [2005]

Project Dates: 12/16/2005 through 07/31/2006

Building Equity Together Parent and Community Support Program - \$40,000

Fiscal Sponsor: Parents for Public Schools of San Francisco, Inc.

Many parents find it challenging to navigate the bureaucracy within a large urban school district. To remedy the greater difficulties facing low-income and/or immigrant parents, Parents for Public Schools is offering information and support accessible to these parents in the southeast neighborhoods of San Francisco, so that they can take advantage of the district's resources and offerings that benefit their children.

Grant Amount: \$40,000 [2004], \$40,000 [2005]

Project Dates: 09/27/2004 through 09/26/2006

Bay Area Parent Leadership Action Network - \$40,000

Fiscal Sponsor: San Francisco Foundation Community Initiative Funds

The Bay Area Parent Leadership Action Network (PLAN) links 60 parent organizations throughout the Bay Area dedicated to working for authentic parent participation in improving public services and institutions, particularly as they affect low-income families. PLAN is focusing heavily on local and state issues and policies regarding public education, by holding workshops and trainings, and providing opportunities for networking to groups working with parents. PLAN will implement a training-of-trainers program for a parent leadership curriculum specifically focused on public education issues.

Grant Amount: \$40,000 [2005], \$40,000 [2006]

Project Dates: 06/27/2005 through 06/26/2007

Support for Families of Children with Disabilities - \$20,000

San Francisco Unified School District has a state-mandated advisory group that advises the district on planning and operating special education programs. A

majority of the advisory group must be parents of students in special education programs in San Francisco. Support for Families of Children with Disabilities (Support for Families), an information clearinghouse and support center for children with disabilities, donates logistical support to this advisory group. In order to strengthen the effectiveness of this group, Support for Families will facilitate a year-long strategic planning process, with a particular emphasis on better engaging low-income parents and parents of color who have children with special needs.

Grant Amount: \$20,000 [2005]

Project Dates: 04/22/2005 through 06/30/2006

United Way of the Bay Area - \$15,000

Gaining accurate, easy-to-understand school information and becoming skilled at working with school personnel are two key needs expressed by immigrant and low-income parents. United Way of the Bay Area convened a group of parent-serving organizations to address these needs; this group will host and facilitate a four-part series to train Bay Area parents on increasing parent participation in schools, with an emphasis on building strong relationships with school staff. Each full-day session will involve 80 to 100 parents and staff of parent organizations. This grant underwrites a portion of the meeting costs.

Grant Amount: \$15,000 [2005]

Project Dates: 08/29/2005 through 08/28/2006

Community Partnerships

Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now - \$60,000

Fiscal Sponsor: American Institute for Social Justice

Low-performing schools struggle to provide adequate attention and support to new teachers, so that they are effective in the classroom and develop a commitment to stay and improve their schools. Local chapters of ACORN, which have a short but strong track record in organizing residents around school improvement, will launch a project to link community members and teachers with the goal of supporting and retaining new teachers in low-performing schools in San Francisco and Oakland. Four local universities are collaborating with ACORN to provide additional support to new teachers.

Grant Amount: \$60,000 [2005], \$60,000 [2006]

Project Dates: 07/05/2005 through 07/04/2007

San Francisco Education Fund - \$50,000

The San Francisco Education Fund (Ed Fund) is continuing a project on sustaining a first-rate teaching force and expanding its public engagement efforts to include citywide discussions on how to strengthen public schools. Teacher effectiveness and retention will be addressed through publishing research findings, developing teacher appreciation activities, and helping craft a district master plan for professional development. The citywide conversations are designed to generate broad interest in tackling the problems of public education.

Grant Amount: \$50,000 [2005], \$100,000 [2006], \$50,000 [2007]

Project Dates: 12/07/2005 through 12/06/2007

Note: *Conditional*

San Francisco School Volunteers - \$50,000

For 17 years, San Francisco School Volunteers has tapped into the diverse resource base of the city's business community to benefit public school students through its Allies in Education (Allies) program. Allies develops and supports partnerships between schools and businesses, providing a structure for large corporations and small businesses to send volunteers into classrooms on a regular basis. In 2006, San Francisco School Volunteers will assess and develop strategies for strengthening Allies.

Grant Amount: \$50,000 [2005]

Project Dates: 12/07/2005 through 12/07/2006

School Partnerships with the Community

San Francisco Beacons Initiative - \$75,000

Fiscal Sponsor: Every Child Can Learn Foundation

Located throughout San Francisco, eight school-based Beacon Centers currently reach 5,000 underserved youth and 1,000 adults through an array of programs and services. The Centers are expanding parent and community participation to improve the environment and learning conditions at their host schools.

Grant Amount: \$75,000 [2004], \$75,000 [2005]

Project Dates: 09/28/2004 through 09/27/2006

Justice Matters Institute - \$15,000

As key figures in student learning, public school teachers and parents rarely have opportunities for meaningful exchanges about how to develop deeper relationships that support children's school experiences. Justice Matters Institute is using this grant to pilot a study group made up of teachers and parents from San Francisco public schools. Study group participants will analyze the barriers to open communication, learn about best practices in parent-teacher relations, and review district policies and programs that can strengthen collaboration between them.

Grant Amount: \$15,000 [2005]

Project Dates: 09/15/2005 through 05/15/2006

Helpers Engaged in Reaching Oakland's Excelling Schools - \$35,000

Fiscal Sponsor: Marcus A. Foster Educational Institute

HEROES brings volunteers and community resources into the Oakland public schools, and is the official volunteer placement program for the Oakland Unified School District. Through its Adopt-A-School program, HEROES matches local businesses and community organizations with schools and ensures smooth partnerships by facilitating communications and providing needed assistance. In addition to supporting program costs, this grant enables HEROES to obtain outside technical assistance for developing a multi-year strategic plan.

Grant Amount: \$35,000 [2005]

Project Dates: 12/14/2005 through 12/14/2006

Omega Boys Club - \$10,000

A nationally recognized organization specializing in violence and conflict prevention, Omega Boys Club (Omega) celebrates 25 years of experience in helping to turn around the lives of both incarcerated youth and youth engaging in violence and other risky behaviors. In 2000, Omega began a school training program in which the majority of the school staff receives training in and follow-up support on Omega's violence prevention strategies tailored to creating a positive school climate aimed at raising student achievement. This grant supports the training program at a San Francisco elementary school where Omega is conducting a project evaluation.

Grant Amount: \$10,000 [2005]

Project Dates: 10/19/2005 through 10/19/2006

Park Day School, Inc. - \$35,000

Park Day School (Park Day), a private school, has been engaged in community outreach to local public schools for the last 13 years, conducting book drives, recruiting volunteers, and providing curriculum support for public school teachers. This grant supports Park Day's efforts to form a larger network of private schools partnering with Oakland's public schools. A specific focus will be support for three new small public schools designed to serve low-achieving students. Park Day will begin by providing fundraising advice, facilitating teacher exchanges and discussions, and sponsoring joint student activities. Park Day will also reach out to other private schools, provide training on partnership strategies, and connect them with public schools.

Grant Amount: \$35,000 [2005], \$35,000 [2006]

Project Dates: 09/14/2005 through 09/13/2007

Women's Educational Media - \$20,000

Women's Educational Media produces and distributes documentaries and teaching materials on social justice and diversity. With this grant, Women's Educational Media will pilot and evaluate Respect for All, a project to address bullying and violence at a public middle school by working closely with school personnel to assess data on the school climate; convening a permanent anti-bullying committee that includes all stakeholders; conducting core training for students, teachers, and parents; and providing ongoing consultation.

Grant Amount: \$20,000 [2005]

Project Dates: 12/02/2005 through 12/02/2006