

550 DUDLEY STREET . ROXBURY, MA 02119

AUTUMN 2008

Dear Friends,

These days are filled with grim financial predictors that create deep concern in all of us. So how fortunate we are to be able to share some "good news" with you in this newsletter. You will read about miracles happening in the lives of families because of their resourcefulness and the commitment of so many of our partners who open doors and create access to opportunities. How grateful we are to all of you.

Margaret A. Leonard

Business Partners Make Multi-level Contributions

Project Hope is fortunate to have strong ties to Boston's business community. Our partners share their resources on many levels; offering their professional expertise, participating in volunteer engagements, sponsoring events and making in-kind and monetary donations. "We are taking volunteering to the next level, beyond a few hours of service and going home at the end of the day," states Robyn Eastwood, Development and External Affairs Manager. "Our partners are getting to know our families personally, helping them improve their lives, and staying involved to make sure success happens."

Our business partners strengthen our programs and move us toward our goal: working with families to move out of poverty. Here are a few current examples of how businesses interact with us.

Loomis, Sayles & Company

Through on-site classroom instruction on "Communication with Presence" with investment professionals at their downtown headquarters, Project Hope participants are amazed to learn how proper use of language, eye contact and preparation of difficult answers truly affect an interview. These are invaluable lessons for our participants during their job search.

To further help our trainees make a good impression, Loomis employees conduct a professional clothing drive. The results are



Excitement is palpable as Community Partners in Health Professions trainees prepare to board the Loomis bus to take them to their mock interviews.

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Unleashing a Powerhouse

Isabel's world was once as small as the tiny apartment where she lovingly cared for her son. It was



Isabel Herasme

for him that she came to the States, to raise him in a "land of opportunity", not expecting that she, too, could

be fortunate. Her world began to expand the day she began her training in our **Family Child Care Business Enterprise** program.

Building on her experiences as a mother and her college education received in Santo Domingo, Isabel aced the training and became a successful childcare provider within the Project Hope network. But through that training Isabel understood she had more talents to develop and share. Encouraged by her mentors at Project Hope, she began to dream of new horizons where she could educate other providers.

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Business Partnerships continued

striking: a black pantsuit, with briefcase and fashion accessories, has the capacity to transform a person's total presentation, including posture and gait.

In addition to sponsoring employee engagements and hiring Gabriel Associates as consultants for the communications instruction at Project Hope, Loomis Sayles also makes substantial financial contributions to sustain and develop our programs.

State Street Corporation and Boston Private Bank & Trust

State Street came to 550 Dudley Street for *Community Care Day* sponsored by United Way of



Peter Mullen of State Street offered practical tips on how to save money.

Massachusetts Bay last year. The Boston Private Bank & Trust did the honors this year.

Each workshop gave our Adult Learners the background they needed to make informed choices in key areas of their lives. It is just one day each year, but one very powerful day.

We are grateful for the many years of funding from State Street, in particular for their support of our Family Child Care

Business Enterprise program since 2003.

Staples

Nothing stops Staples employees from keeping a commitment. When Staples employees hear of a need, they respond. We owe them so much for their hard work during the Makeover, yet it was the employees who chose *us* to receive a donation when Staples opened a new building last year. Staples employees, thank you for choosing us, and for remembering our families.

Mintz Levin

Mintz Levin, a generous sponsor of *Rise & Shine*, has been at our side for many years, donating backpacks full of school supplies for our pre-school grads and holiday gifts for our families, and providing pro bono legal services to some of our families. Most importantly, through one employee's dedicated service on our Board of Directors and as chair of our Advisory Council, they continually contribute to the overall guidance and reach of the agency. Thank you, John Markey. ❖

We appreciate the many modes of contributions, monetary, in-kind and volunteer, that describe our partnerships. To truly create change for our families we need your engagement and financial support. Each of you is an invaluable source of our strength.

To find ways for your company to become involved, contact:
reastwood@prohope.org.

New web features...

Go to www.prohope.org to learn how to invite a speaker to your next event and to view our latest videos on our YouTube page.

Unleashing a Powerhouse continued
Building on Strength

In addition to taking ESOL classes each Saturday, Isabel enrolled in evening classes held at Project Hope, offered through our academic partnership with Cambridge College. After earning 9 college credits, she secured her Child Development Associate credential in 2007.



Designed by Isabel, printed in Spanish & English, every family receives a record of class outings.

Newly confident in her abilities, Isabel responded to a call for papers and was *chosen to address the National Association of Family Child Care* in Chicago, in 2008 on "How to Keep Children Healthy". To keep children personally safe, she became a Trainer on "Talking About Touching". Everything Isabel touches becomes a gift for others. ❖

Isabel's story began here at Project Hope because of you, our partners in mission. Multiply this story by hundreds, by the number of people we serve, and you will see how the extended family of Hope is a powerful agent of change.

Donor Wall

We are launching a donor wall to commemorate the generous support bestowed to Project Hope by individual and institutional donors.

If you would like to learn more about gift recognition levels to memorialize your commitment to Project Hope, please contact Terry Moynahan at 617-442-1880 x229 or tmoynehan@prohope.org.

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