

550 DUDLEY STREET . ROXBURY, MA 02119

AUTUMN 2009

Dear Friends,

It's been a busy summer at Project Hope! The Children's Center cheered the graduation of students to kindergarten, and we expanded pathways for low-income community members to obtain jobs. And summer wouldn't be complete without a Red Sox game for our families! By expanding their horizons, we are helping families increase their potential. We are grateful for partners like you that support these opportunities.

Margaret Leonard

Project Hope Families Receive Star Treatment at Fenway

The **Highland Street Foundation** and **Red Sox Foundation** provided a night filled with memories and once in a lifetime opportunities for families at Project Hope. Through their generous donation, Project Hope families were able to experience a Boston dream – attending Red Sox batting practice, a VIP Fenway Park tour, tasty treats, and the excitement of the game.



Project Hope on the field at Fenway!

For some of the children it was their first trip. Erica, a 5-year-old niece of an Adult Learner Program student, was amazed by the size of Fenway Park, and asked, "Is every person in the world in this place?" The other children thrilled at participating in the wave, and cheered the Red Sox on loudly. Shaketta, a Project Hope student working towards her GED, explained, "I never thought I'd get this opportunity – seeing the players, going on the Monster, seeing a game. This has been a magical night." ❖



Ready for the game to start and some ice cream!

Watch for Project Hope on WCVB-Channel 5 this Autumn



Save the Date

Project Hope's
7th Annual
Rise & Shine Breakfast

April 29, 2010
Boston Harbor Hotel



News Anchor, Ed Harding, laughing with some of the children at the Shelter.

The Channel 5 News team visited Project Hope's Family Shelter to film Public Service Announcements for the United Way. These PSAs, which will run from September through November, will shine the light on homelessness and brighten the futures of these families. ❖

Look for the PSAs on Channel 5 to air from Sept to Nov.

New Program PREPs People for Jobs

The **Professional Readiness & Employment Program (PREP)** kicked off this summer as the third training track offered by Project Hope's Employer Partnerships. PREP is a practical workshop series designed to enhance and improve career development skills.

The workshops are designed to help participants develop a professional profile, boost confidence, and improve job-readiness skills. Skills range from interviewing techniques to writing a resume to understanding workplace expectations.

PREP will build on Employer Partnerships' 7-year history of collaboration with Boston's largest hospitals to train and place community members into jobs that pay a living wage.

This program will set our participants apart from other applicants and help them compete in today's increasingly challenging job market. The PREP program was made possible by seed funding from **The Florence V. Burden Foundation**. ❖

Children's Center Celebrates its Graduates



The smile of a proud graduate!

Each graduate was presented with a brand **NEW** backpack full of school supplies and a new outfit for the first day of school. They are excited and now kindergarten ready! ❖

The Project Hope Children's Center hosted a wonderful graduation in August to celebrate 5 graduates. This is an important time in each graduate's life as they leave ready to continue their academic journey in kindergarten.



A graduate ready for school with her new backpack.

*Thank You **Mintz Levin** for providing the wonderful backpacks for our graduates!*

New web features...

Visit www.prohope.org to watch our **Sources of Strength** video and learn how we created our Speakers Bureau.

To join our e-newsletter list, visit the "Contact" page on our website.

This newsletter is printed with earth friendly materials, renewable paper, and soy-based inks.



The Sky is the Limit for this Lifetime Learner



Claudette continues her professional development and education in the child care field.

Claudette never misses an opportunity to learn about how to teach pre-school children. In 2008, two years after joining Project Hope's **Family Child Care Business Enterprise (FCCBE)** network, she earned her nationally recognized Child Development Associate credential by attending every professional development day, every course Cambridge College taught on site at Project Hope, and by seeking additional courses offered off site as well.

With 6 children in her home-based child care, Claudette's hands are full. But her mind is always creating pathways to engage and motivate learning and to support the multi-cultural diversity of the children in her care. ❖

Claudette's story began at Project Hope because of you, our partners. Multiply this story by hundreds, by the number of people we serve, and you see the impact your support has on the families at Project Hope.

Double the Impact of Your Gift to Families like Claudette's

A generous family has agreed to match every donation we receive towards the FCCBE program up to \$25,000.

To make your donation count **double**, donate online at www.prohope.org and mention

FCCBE or contact Elizabeth Zarrella at 617-442-1880 x203 or ezarrella@prohope.org.