

# Lunch with a Leader Luncheon

February 24, 2012

Presented by



*The function of leadership is to produce more leaders,  
not more followers. -Ralph Nader*

# Lunch with a Leader

The goal of *The Support Group* is to provide inner city youth with experiences that will assist them reaching their full potential while arming them with tools needed for post-secondary education, the world of work and adulthood. As inner city youth continue to face extraordinary challenges via negative influences against gun violence and drugs, it is important that they know the difference between a leader and a follower.

Lunch with a Leader initiative affords high school students the opportunity to network with key businesses, faith based organizations and community leaders.

The objectives are to:

Build Leadership Skills

Improve Communication Skills

Learn Networking Skills

Obtain Career Advice



# Lunch with a Leader

This initiative will provide business leaders, faith-based organizations and community leaders the opportunity to share with more than 200 students the following:

- The importance of education in the 21st century
- Leadership qualities
- Critical thinking and decision making
- The importance of self-discipline
- Information on career options



# Student Selection and Opportunities

The Lunch With A Leader series is a 3-tiered program, with specific events occurring at quarterly intervals, and designed to evidence benchmarks of the student's progress. To help students understand their own individual responsibility in ensuring the success of this program, each student is required to enter into an *Agreement of Commitment and Communication* with The Support Group. The overall purpose of the Lunch With A leader is to assist students to get on track and stay on track for college, responsible adulthood and personal/professional success. As such, the student will be made aware of expectations that he/she are to meet in their journey toward that goal.

1. Each student must sign an Agreement of Communication. The agreement requires that each student will:
  - Exchange emails with a designated TSG staff once per month.
  - Write an entry in their (provided) journal once per week.
  - Participate in TSG designated field trips.
  - Participate in college and employment preparation activities.
2. Each student will attend the TSG "Mixer", a TSG networking event, which takes place approximately 3 months following the initial Lunch With A Leader event. The student will interact with leaders from the Chicago community.
3. Each student will attend the culminating Banquet, which will recognize the students' progress throughout their participation in the program, as well as the commitment of the leaders. Students will present essays of their experience.

**NOTE:** The progress of each LWL student will be monitored throughout the program year. This includes checking grades, attendance, tardiness, absenteeism, behavior, personal challenges as well as college and employment preparation activities.

# Deliverables and Anticipated Outcomes

By the completion of the Lunch With A Leader series, it is anticipated that our students will be Meaningfully impacted through individual support, exposure to professionals from the business sector and opportunities for interaction. The program's impact will be evidenced by:

- Student's active participation and engagement in program activities
- Measurable improvement in student's grades
- Student's progress in pursuing higher education (research colleges, complete applications for admission, apply for financial aid, etc.)
- Student's progress in employment preparation activities (resume writing, interviewing skills, etc.)
- Level of student's interaction with mentor
- Content and composition of student's essay
- Growth in maturity (approach with peers and adults, problem-solving, critical thinking etc.)
- Student's ability to address an audience (presentation skills)

# Student Feedback

*“At Lunch with a Leader, I learned how to be successful by being prepared for opportunities that will help to further my achievements.”*

*Daniel Velasco, Gwendolyn Brooks  
College Preparatory*



*“Lunch With A Leader reinforced that one should never give up no matter how hard things get.”*

*Devin Williams, Harper High School*

*“I learned I can make better decisions if I plan ahead and set goals for myself.”*

*Shamese Washington, Hirsch Metro*

*“I learned to always have a back up plan in case your first plan falls through.”*

*Ralph Chatman Jr., Percy L Julian*

# Leader Feedback

*“I liked interacting with the students and would love to participate in this event again.”*

*Frederick Ragsdale, Gourmet Clothing Company*

*“This was a great event and the kids from the schools were fantastic.”*

*Larry Rogers Jr., Power Rogers & Smith*

*“The students exhibited professionalism by acting like young adults.”*

*Earl Jones, Clear Channel*

*“This is a great opportunity to interact with youth.”*

*Bruce Herron, Invensys Controls*



# About the Support Group

***The Support Group*** (TSG) is a not for profit, 501 C 3, charitable organization, co-founded in 1991 by Bennie Henry. TSG provides substantive academic and athletic programs that serve at risk inner city youth. Our primary goal is to inspire young men and women to focus on their academic development and to become productive members of their communities.

Our mission is to create an overall balance that will provide the best opportunity for young men and women to excel. This is accomplished through education, test taking skills, athletic conditioning, and character building.

47 West Polk Street,  
Suite 100-222  
Chicago, Illinois 60605  
(312) 630-9188  
[www.thesupportgroup.org](http://www.thesupportgroup.org)

# Event Details

Friday, February 24, 2012

Apostolic Church of God

6320 S. Dorchester

10 am - 2 pm

Approximately **350** Students, previously representing Crane High School, Carver Military Academy, Whitney Young Magnet, Morgan Park High School, Marshall High School, Julian High School, Hyde Park Career Academy.

# Sponsorship Opportunities

## Title Sponsor - \$10,000

- Lunch with a Leader Series Lead Mentor - Covers all 3 Lunch with a Leader events:
  - Initial Lunch with a Leader
  - Mid-Program Mixer
  - Student Empowerment Event
- Prominent company logo placement on TSG website with link to your company's web page
- Company name/logo included in all press materials and social media sites as "Title Sponsor"
- Signage featuring company name/logo displayed prominently throughout event
- Opportunity for corporate representative to make opening remarks
- Corporate Representative to speak on Dias panel discussion
- Photo Opportunity
- Corporate Representative to host table of students
- Opportunity to provide branded giveaway items
  - Logo imprinted on backpacks & USB Drives
  - Logo imprinted on t-shirt, priority branding

# Sponsorship Opportunities

## Official Sponsor - \$5,000

- Lunch with a Leader Series Lead Mentor - Covers all 3 Lunch with a Leader events:
  - Initial Lunch with a Leader
  - Mid-Program Mixer
  - Student Empowerment Event
- Company logo placement on TSG website with link to your company's web page
- Company name/logo included in all press materials and social media sites
- Signage featuring company name/logo displayed
- Corporate Representative to speak on Dias panel discussion
- Corporate Representative to host table of students
- Photo Opportunity
- Opportunity to provide branded giveaway items
  - Logo imprinted on either calculators or dog tags
  - Logo imprinted on t-shirt, secondary branding

# Sponsorship Opportunities

## Table Sponsor - \$3,500

- Lunch with a Leader Series Lead Mentor - Covers all 3 Lunch with a Leader events:
  - Initial Lunch with a Leader
  - Mid-Program Mixer
  - Student Empowerment Event
- Company name/logo included in all press materials and social media sites
- Signage featuring company name/logo displayed
- Corporate Representative to host table of students
- Opportunity to provide branded giveaway items (additional costs may apply)

# For More Information

Bennie Henry

The Support Group

[bhenry@thesupportgroup.org](mailto:bhenry@thesupportgroup.org)

773-919-9979