

New York Life Foundation Awards \$150,000 To Six Local Nonprofits Dedicated To Helping At-Risk Youth Fulfill Academic Potential

2006 Award Program Recognizes Nonprofit Organizations That Nurture Children In New York City And Westchester

NEW YORK, N.Y., March 21, 2006 — The New York Life Foundation announced \$150,000 in grants to winners of the 2006 New York Life Foundation Award Program and honored the six recipient organizations at a luncheon ceremony last week. Representing Westchester County and each of the five boroughs of New York City, the winning organizations, which will each receive a \$25,000 grant, offer programs that support the Foundation's Nurturing the Children initiative. Each program focuses on educational enhancement for youth by helping them to succeed in school, preparing them for higher education or the workplace, and equipping them to be responsible citizens.

"We're pleased to recognize the recipients of the 2006 New York Life Foundation Award Program for their outstanding efforts," said Fred Sievert, president of New York Life. "Each one of these organizations enriches the lives of children by providing structured programs that reinforce basic skills and the importance of education."

"This award acknowledges smaller nonprofit organizations that haven't let their size stop them from making a strong commitment to improving the lives of youth," said Peter Bushyeager, president of the New York Life Foundation. "Each of our Award winners provides vital services within the community that improve the quality of life for our young people."

The Award winners are:

- **Bronx:** Directions for Youth's *Map for Life*, is an in-school dropout prevention and college awareness program for high school students who are on the verge of leaving school or failing their coursework;
- **Brooklyn:** Youth Empowerment Mission's Blossom Program for Girls helps at-risk Bedford-Stuyvesant girls complete their secondary education and prepares them for higher education and careers;
- **Manhattan:** Harlem RBI's *Team Enrichment* program is a year-round after-school/summer initiative that works with youngsters to ensure they graduate from high school in four years and matriculate to a four-year college or university;
- **Queens:** Jacob Riis Neighborhood Settlement's *Our Kids* after-school and summer program helps young children achieve academically through educational activities that build their literacy, technology and math skills five days a week, 52 weeks a year;
- **Staten Island:** Project Hospitality's *Eyeopeners* program serves Latino, Caribbean and African youth who have recently immigrated to the United States. The program breaks down barriers between the ethnic groups, teaches youth to become leaders in their communities and offers after-school homework help; and
- **Westchester County:** The Foundation for the Public Schools of the Tarrytowns' *Dual Language Program* builds foreign language skills among both English- and Spanish-speaking children while also fostering multicultural awareness.

The Awards are presented annually to recognize programs that support the Foundation's *Nurturing the Children* initiative. For each of the six nonprofits to receive the \$25,000 in support, they must have an operating budget that does not exceed \$5 million.

About The New York Life Foundation

The New York Life Foundation is the major vehicle through which New York Life Insurance Company channels contributions to national and local nonprofit organizations. Through its Nurturing the Children initiative, the Foundation supports organizations, programs and services that target young people, particularly in the areas of mentoring, safe places to learn and grow, and educational enhancement opportunities.