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Media Coverage

DC Children and Youth Investment Trust Corporation

**Press Conference
June 27, 2006**

*Announcement of The Wallace Foundation's
\$8 Million Grant to the Trust*

Prepared by: The Hatcher Group
July 10, 2006



MEDIA ADVISORY

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MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR GRANT TO IMPROVE AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS FOR WASHINGTON, DC, STUDENTS

City, School, and Foundation Officials Set to Announce Grant on June 27

What: Press conference to announce major new investment to improve after-school programs for DC students

When: 11 a.m., June 27

Where: Kelly Miller Middle School
301 49th St., N.E.
Washington, DC (off East Capitol Street NE)

WASHINGTON, DC – The DC Children and Youth Investment Trust Corporation and top city and school district officials will announce that a national foundation is making a major investment to improve after-school programs for students in the District of Columbia.

The District is one of five cities nationwide chosen by the New York–based Wallace Foundation to participate in its Learning in Communities initiative, which aims to develop comprehensive systems for out-of-school learning with consistently high standards. The other cities are Providence, New York, Boston, and Chicago.

Speakers at the press conference include:

- **Greg Roberts**, President and CEO of the DC Children and Youth Investment Trust Corporation
- **Robert Bobb**, DC Administrator
- **Dr. Clifford B. Janey**, Superintendent of the DC Public Schools
- **Nancy Devine**, Director of Arts and Communities Programs at The Wallace Foundation

- **Maurice Kie**, a young man whose participation after school in the Life Pieces to Masterpieces program helped him stay on track to college

The initiative will begin in three pilot middle schools in January, and those schools will be announced at the press conference.

“We want to engage all students in the District in after-school programs that are safe, enriching and of the highest quality,” said Greg Roberts, president and CEO of the DC Children and Youth Investment Trust.

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The nonprofit DC Children and Youth Investment Trust Corporation works to increase the quality, quantity and accessibility of services for children, youth and families in the District of Columbia. The Trust Corporation disburses public and private funds to community organizations for out-of-school time programs, youth entrepreneurship programs, and early childhood development programs and parent centers. For more information, visit www.cyitc.org

The Wallace Foundation is an independent, national foundation dedicated to supporting and sharing effective ideas and practices that expand learning and enrichment opportunities for all people. Its three current objectives are strengthening education leadership to improve student achievement; enhancing out-of-school learning opportunities; and expanding participation in arts and culture. For more information, visit www.wallacefoundation.org



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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National Foundation Awards Local Nonprofit \$8 Million to Improve After-School Programs for DC Students

The Trust Seeks to Raise Additional \$8 Million to Improve Programs

WASHINGTON, DC – The DC Children and Youth Investment Trust Corporation (the Trust) announced today that The Wallace Foundation is investing up to \$8 million over three years to improve out-of-school programs for students in the District of Columbia.

The District is one of five cities chosen by the New York–based foundation to participate in its Learning in Communities initiative, which aims to develop comprehensive systems for out-of-school learning with consistently high standards. The other cities are Providence, New York, Boston, and Chicago.

The initiative will begin in three pilot middle schools in January and will serve a total of about 600 children. Those schools are Charles Hart Middle School, Kelly Miller Middle School, and Lincoln Middle School. More sites will be added in subsequent years. Ultimately, the goal is that all middle-school children in the District will have access to high-quality activities outside of the school day – in the afternoons, on weekends, and during the summer.

“A high-quality after-school program has the power to dramatically change a young person’s life,” said Greg Roberts, president and CEO of the Trust. “We believe this initiative will engage more students in the District in after-school programs that are safe, enriching and of the highest quality.”

Begun in 1999, the Trust is a nonprofit that works to increase the quality, quantity and accessibility of services for children, youth and families in the District of Columbia. It funds programs that serve about 10,000 children a year. The Wallace Foundation supports effective ideas and practices that strengthen education leadership, arts participation, and out-of-school learning.

Led by the Trust, this new initiative is a broad partnership of community agencies and groups, including the Mayor’s office and other branches of DC government, the DC Public School system, business leaders, local universities, private funders, parents, and

the community. Nearly 50 individuals from all sectors of the city have been involved in planning the initiative.

“This generous grant from The Wallace Foundation will enable Trust and city leaders to help all students in our city achieve their fullest potential,” said DC Mayor Anthony Williams. “The only way we, as a city, can solve our problems is by tackling them together. And that’s what this initiative does.”

In addition to the \$8 million from the Wallace Foundation, the Trust plans to raise another \$8 million from local foundations and business leaders to expand the effort. That effort already has begun, and several private funders already have shown strong interest. By the fall, businesses also will be able to support the effort by encouraging employees to volunteer as mentors or tutors. The Trust also will seek partnerships with community organizations, such as local sports teams and a youth-oriented, hip-hop radio station.

The initiative is starting its pilot projects in middle schools because recent national research shows many urban children are “lost” during those years. One study shows that children entering middle school with even one of four risk factors have only a 10-percent chance of graduating from high school on time or at all. The four factors are: failing English, failing math, poor behavior, and truancy.

In the District of Columbia, middle-school children face additional challenges:

- 54 percent live in homes headed by single women
- 27 percent live below the poverty line; 60 percent live in families with annual incomes below \$50,000
- 22 percent live in homes where English is not the primary language
- 24 of the 27 public schools serving grades 6 to 8 failed to meet adequate yearly progress goals under the federal No Child Left Behind law
- 720 middle and junior high school students were picked up by DC police for truancy in 2004-05
- More than 735 students in grades 6 to 9 dropped out of DCPS in 2002-03

“As in all big cities, many of our children need additional supports beyond the school day,” said DC Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Clifford B. Janey. “The school system is committed to this exciting initiative because we know it will reinforce what youngsters are learning in school and help them succeed academically.”

National studies show that high-quality out-of-school-time programs can improve school attendance, graduation rates, test scores in reading, math, and English as well as cultivate positive attitudes toward school. Research also shows that such programs can reduce risky behaviors and increase children’s aspirations and decision-making skills.

The District has more than 150 programs that serve at least some middle-school students – programs ranging from academics to sports to arts to mentoring. But the District lacks the right out-of-school programs in the right places for the needs and interests of children and their families. Local research conducted for this initiative showed that 60 percent of children participate in out-of-school-time activities between one and five days a week. On average, students were spending only two days a week in

after-school activities, but indicated they likely would attend four days a week, if given the opportunity. Many community-based program providers also expressed a desire for higher-quality options for middle-school children.

This out-of-school-time initiative aims to build a more coordinated system to improve the quality of after-school and summer programs for all DC as well as to increase access to and enrollment in those programs.

“Cities across the country want better ways to provide high-quality out-of-school learning opportunities to children who need it most—through understanding need, aligning programs with those needs, and tracking participation,” said Nancy Devine, Director of Arts and Communities at The Wallace Foundation. “Washington, DC is already recognized as a leader in after-school, and we hope that this grant will help our nation’s capital move even closer to its goals, and provide useful lessons for other cities.”

The new out-of-school-time initiative will strengthen the District’s efforts in five key areas:

- Building closer partnerships among schools, other city agencies and community-based providers to achieve better outcomes for children
- Producing diverse high-quality programs that fit children’s needs and interests
- Developing quality standards for programs and training providers
- Assembling a database that will permit officials to match children with quality after-school programs and other services
- Conducting a communications campaign to build awareness of the value of after-school programs for students.

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The nonprofit DC Children and Youth Investment Trust Corporation works to increase the quality, quantity and accessibility of services for children, youth and families in the District of Columbia. The Trust disburses public and private funds to community organizations for out-of-school time programs, youth entrepreneurship programs, and early childhood development programs and parent centers. For more information, visit www.cyitc.org

The Wallace Foundation is an independent, national foundation dedicated to supporting and sharing effective ideas and practices that expand learning and enrichment opportunities for all people. Its three current objectives are strengthening education leadership to improve student achievement; enhancing out-of-school learning opportunities; and expanding participation in arts and culture. For more information, visit www.wallacefoundation.org

Print

The Washington Post

DISTRICT BRIEFING

Wednesday, June 28, 2006; B05

AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

\$8 Million Grant for 3 Middle Schools

After-school programs at three District middle schools will get a significant expansion through \$8 million in grant money that will be distributed over the next three years, officials at the nonprofit organization overseeing the programs said.

The grant awarded by the Wallace Foundation will go to after-school programs at Hart Middle School in Southeast and Kelly Miller and Lincoln middle schools in Northeast. The money will be used to expand and introduce art, music, sports and academic-enrichment programs at the schools, said Greg Roberts, president and chief executive of D.C. Children and Youth Investment Trust Corp.

-- V. Dion Haynes



LOCAL

Schools get \$8M for after-school programs

[PDF](#) | [Email](#)

Mike Rupert, The Examiner

Jun 28, 2006 4:00 AM (6 hrs ago)

WASHINGTON - A private national foundation is investing \$8 million over the next three years to a District nonprofit to improve out-of-school programs for city students, officials announced Tuesday.

The Wallace Foundation, a New York-based independent education foundation, is giving the money to the D.C. Children and Youth Investment Trust Corp., a local nonprofit agency that serves 10,000 children, to fund middle school programs throughout the city.

City and school officials said the initiative will begin in three pilot middle schools — Charles Hart Middle School, Kelly Miller Middle School and Lincoln Middle School — in January serving a total of about 600 children. Officials said the ultimate goal is to add more sites every year until all middle schools have programs in the afternoons, on weekends, and during the summer.

The initiative is starting its pilot projects in middle schools because recent national research shows many urban children are “lost” during those years, officials said.

“As in all big cities, many of our children need additional supports beyond the school day,” said D.C. Public Schools Superintendent Clifford Janey. “The school system is committed to this exciting initiative because we know it will reinforce what youngsters are learning in school and help them succeed academically.”

The D.C. Children and Youth Investment Trust Corporation plans to raise an additional \$8 million through public and private money to expand the initiative.

“The only way we, as a city, can solve our problems is by tackling them together,” Mayor Anthony Williams said. “And that’s what this initiative does.”

mrupert@dcexaminer.com

Examiner



Published June 30, 2006, page 2, of the weekly Washington Hispanic

Programa piloto se inicia en tres escuelas
Destinan miles de dólares a programas
“Después de clases” en Washington DC



De Izq. A Der. Maurice Kie, que dio su testimonio sobre lo útil que fue asistir a los programas después de clases. Junto a Clifford Janey, superintendente de educación de DC, Nancy Devine de la Fundación Wallace, Robert Bobb, funcionario del gobierno de DC y Greg Roberts, presidente y CEO de The Trust.
Foto: Adrián Meshad/Washington Hispanic.

Mitzi Macias
WASHINGTON HISPANIC

Más de 600 estudiantes de las escuelas intermedias del Distrito de Columbia se beneficiarán con más y mejores programas “Después de clases” gracias a una millonaria donación que permitirá la implementación de un plan piloto por un período de tres a cinco años.

El programa denominado “YES DC” es posible gracias a una donación de ocho millones de dólares otorgada por la Fundación Wallace y que será administrada en el Distrito de Columbia por la Corporación de Inversión Confiable para la Niñez y la Juventud en DC (The Trust) en alianza con el gobierno de Washington DC, entre otras agencias comunitarias.

“Creemos que la mejor forma de apoyar a la juventud es ofreciéndole actividades seguras y académicamente provechosas especialmente durante los grados de la escuela intermedia”, dijo a *Washington Hispanic* Greg Roberts, presidente y CEO de The Trust.

“Según las últimas investigaciones los estudiantes toman importantes decisiones sobre su futuro escolar cuando se encuentran en esta etapa de transición y se ha descubierto que precisamente cuando están en la escuela intermedia es que deciden si continuar o abandonar la escuela, por tanto son ellos los que merecen mayor atención”, agregó Roberts

Las escuelas intermedias elegidas son Charles Hart, Kelly Miller y Lincoln. El Distrito de Columbia es una de las cinco ciudades elegidas por la Fundación Wallace a nivel nacional para poner en marcha el programa piloto que tiene como objetivo ofrecer actividades de calidad después de clases, así como también los fines de semana y durante la temporada de verano.

El programa piloto tendrá tres años de duración, período durante cada escuela recibirá un millón de dólares anuales para subvencionar el costo de los programas que se ofrecerán de manera gratuita a los estudiantes que se encuentren en el nivel intermedio.

“En esta oportunidad queremos prestar también especial atención a la comunidad hispana, por tal motivo entre las escuelas seleccionadas se encuentra Lincoln, uno de los centros educativos con un alto porcentaje de población estudiantil de origen hispano”, resaltó Roberts.

El presidente y CEO de The Trust también indicó que el programa piloto se extiende también a los padres de familia a quienes se les ofrecerán talleres informativos y clases según sus necesidades. “Este es un programa comunitario y queremos que se beneficie la familia completa”, finalizó Roberts.

El programa piloto completamente gratuito abrirá sus puertas en enero y ofrecerá actividades para desarrollar las habilidades de los estudiantes en áreas recreativas como arte y deportes, así como también en el aspecto académico con clases para mejorar el idioma inglés y elevar el nivel de comprensión de lectura, escritura y matemática.

Por su parte el alcalde Washington DC, Anthony Williams agradeció esta importante donación y señaló que este esfuerzo en conjunto ayudará a desarrollar el potencial de los estudiantes en el Distrito.

Asimismo durante el anuncio de la millonaria donación el superintendente de educación, Clifford Janey dijo "Como en todas las grandes ciudades, muchos de nuestros niños necesitan un refuerzo adicional más allá de la jornada escolar. Las escuelas públicas de DC está comprometida con esta iniciativa porque sabemos que ayudará a nuestros estudiantes para que alcancen el éxito académico”.



Funds Available for Afterschool Programs

By Drew Costley
WI Staff Writer
Thursday, July 6, 2006

Maurice Kie was 10-years-old when he stood at the mouth of the wrong path in life. He wasn't stealing cars or dealing drugs, but he was getting into trouble quite often. So, his mother introduced him to Larry Quick, a mentor, who enrolled him in the Life Pieces to Masterpieces program, which offered arts activities after school, mentoring, and guidance to youth.

Seneca Walls, now a program director for the Masterpieces program, also remembers the Masterpieces program making a difference in her young life. "It helped me get into college, get my own apartment and become an adult with aspirations."

With the assistance of a partnership between the D.C. Children and Youth Investment Trust Corporation and the Wallace Foundation, a grant-making foundation, more kids in the District will be given something to aspire.

"The problem that we are having is getting kids to think beyond graduating from high school and going to college," D.C. Board of Education Superintendent Clifford B. Janey, Ph.D, said in a press conference at Kelly Miller Middle School in Northeast last week.

"With this program, we hope to give these students something to aspire to by letting them explore and find interest through after school programs."

A pilot version of the program will begin in January 2007 with an \$8 million grant from the Wallace Foundation. The test schools for the program, which aims to provide after school alternatives for the youth of the district, also include Charles Hart Middle School in Southeast and Lincoln Middle School in Northwest.

"I remember when I was in middle school it was like I wake up one day and I was grown and the next I was a kid again," said Greg Roberts, president and CEO of the D.C. Children and Youth Trust Corporation. "We chose middle schools because it is very important that they make a smooth transition from elementary school as kids through middle school and into their adulthood."

The Wallace Foundation has challenged other educational funds to match or exceed their grant and Robert C. Bobb, City Administrator for the District of Columbia, said that the city will offer financial support for after school programs, and find other financial backers to provide continual support for the programs.

Roberts said that the programs will extend from three middle schools in the first year to eight in the second year and eventually to the rest of the District's middle schools. D.C. public charter middle schools will be included last in the effort before the Trust extends the programs to the District's elementary and high schools.



Courtesy Photo
Nancy Devine, director of Arts and Communities Programs at The Wallace Foundation, last week spoke at a press conference announcing \$8 million worth of grants available to local non-profit organizations to provide Afterschool programs.

This is the first time in many years that the District has received such a large private grant for a special program. The District received \$1.3 million in 1988 to start Head Start programs throughout the District.

"This is the first time in a while where the District is getting a significant amount of money going directly to after school programs," Roberts said.

The announcement comes only a month after the District announced the closing of several schools throughout the city and information showed evidence that the District has had to take millions of dollars away from basic needs of District schools for special education. "A lot of time money gets sucked into other things," Roberts said. "But this is going directly to out-of-school training programs."

Nancy Devine, a representative from The Wallace Foundation, said the foundation wants inner-city youth from all over the nation to be more productive after school. The foundation is also giving grants to school districts in Providence, Rhode Island, Boston, and Chicago.

"Eighty percent of a child's waking hours are spent outside of the classroom," Devine said. "We want these children to spend that time doing something that will enrich their minds."

Kie believes that what the Wallace Foundation can do more than provide enriching after school programs.

"[The grant] says to the youth, 'I got your back. Life may be tough, but you can make it through.' It says we still believe that something big, or someone big can come out of D.C."



PHILANTHROPY NEWS DIGEST
a service of the Foundation Center

(20) Wallace Foundation Awards \$8 Million for After-School Programs (6/29/06)

<http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/10003269/story>

June 29, 2006

Wallace Foundation Awards \$8 Million for After-School Programs

The [D.C. Children and Youth Investment Trust Corp.](#) has announced a three-year, \$8 million grant from the New York City-based [Wallace Foundation](#) in support of the trust's efforts to improve after-school programs for students in Washington, D.C.

Along with Boston, Chicago, New York City, and Providence, Rhode Island, Washington is one of five cities selected to participate in the foundation's [Learning in Communities](#) initiative. Based on research which shows that many youth, especially in the middle school years, lose their focus, the initiative is designed to strengthen the District of Columbia's efforts to build closer partnerships among schools, city agencies, and community-based providers; produce diverse programs that fit children's needs and interests; and develop quality standards for programs and training providers. Led by the trust, a partnership of community agencies, local government, educators, parents, and private funders will also create a database that will enable officials to match children with programs and services and conduct a communications campaign to build awareness of the value of after-school programs.

Beginning in January, the initiative will serve about six hundred children in three D.C. schools, with more sites to be added in subsequent years. Ultimately, all middle schools in the district will have access to activities outside of regular school hours, including afternoons, weekends, and during the summer.

"Cities across the country want better ways to provide high-quality out-of-school learning opportunities to children who need it most — through understanding need, aligning programs with those needs, and tracking participation," said Nancy Devine, the foundation's director of arts and communities. "[W]e hope that this grant will...provide useful lessons for other cities."

D.C. mayor Anthony Williams said the grant will enable trust and city leaders to help the city's students achieve their fullest potential. "The only way we, as a city, can solve our problems," said Williams, "is by tackling them together."

“National Foundation Awards Local Nonprofit \$8 Million to Improve After-School Programs for DC Students.” Children and Youth Investment Trust Corporation Press Release 6/28/06.

Primary Subject: Education

Secondary Subject(s): Children and Youth

Location(s): Washington, D.C.

FC009202

RADIO



WAMU-FM, 88.5 – Local National Public Radio station
Greg Roberts interview aired June 27, 2006



WHUR- FM, 96.3 – Urban R&B station, owned by Howard University
Greg Roberts interview on the “Insight” segment
Aired June 27, 2006 from 7:10-7:30 pm



WPFW – FM, 89.3 – Local Pacifica station
Greg Roberts interview with Gloria Minot on “Metro Watch”
Aired June 28, 2006 at 9:40 am. We will send a separate audio file.

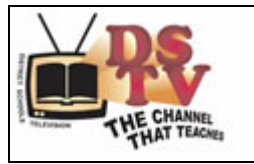


WTOP – FM, 103.5 – All news radio station in Washington DC
Greg Roberts interview aired during the weekend of July 1, 2006

TELEVISION



City Cable 16 - The June 27th press conference will air for the first time at 11am on Tuesday, July 11, 2006, with additional rotations throughout the following week (July 17th – 21st). Channel 16 is the local cable station run by the DC Office of Cable Television and Telecommunications.



District Television 99 – Television station for the District of Columbia Public Schools. The press conference will be airing Wednesday, July 12, 2006 at 1:00pm, 5:30pm and 9:15pm.