



Empowering Communities.  
Changing Lives.

QUAD COUNTY  
URBAN LEAGUE

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

# QCUL QUARTERLY

Serving DuPage, Kane, Kendall & Will counties

JANUARY - MARCH 2006

## PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

Welcome to the first issue of **QCUL Quarterly**, Quad County Urban League's community newsletter. We look forward to keeping you up-to-date about our programs and events. This is a very exciting time at the Urban League! We are focused on enhancing our current programs and plan to extend these programs to neighboring communities. The need is great and QCUL is prepared to empower the individuals and families we serve by providing convenient, accessible and innovative education and employment referral opportunities.

We recently began Spanish language, basic and intermediate computer classes. In March, we will offer GED classes during the evening. In the not too distant future, GED classes will also be offered on weekends. To enhance our educational and youth development programs, we are actively looking for volunteer tutors and mentors to work one-on-one with our middle and high school students. There is no mistaking that education is the key to increased opportunities in the workforce for both youth and adults. We are

working hard to design educational programs and environments that are accessible, convenient and supportive for the individuals that we serve.

We hope that you enjoy reading the articles and announcements in our newsletter. Please share our news with your family members, neighbors, friends and associates. And don't forget to visit us on the Web in-between newsletters at [www.qcul.org](http://www.qcul.org).



**Theodia Gillespie**  
President & CEO

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### NEW BOARD MEMBERS

QCUL welcomes:

O.J. Aboyade  
*International Truck & Engine*

Steve Betz  
*General Motors*

Chris Brown  
*Comcast*

Pamela Meyer Davis  
*Edwards Hospital*

Dr. Diane Homan  
*Rush Copley Medical Center*

Richard Howard  
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Sally Long  
*Caterpillar, Inc.*

Oboi Reed  
*Nike, Inc.*

Deborah Strout  
*Provena Mercy Center Hospital*

### WE NEED YOUR HELP - VOLUNTEER BE A TUTOR BE A MENTOR

The **Teen Tech** program focuses on academic performance, personal attitudes and confidence enhancement through tutoring and enrichment activities. The program is available to students in grades 4 through 12 in school districts 129, 131, 202, 203, 204 and 308. QCUL staff and dedicated volunteers work together to build a student's self-esteem and confidence and to support parental

involvement in the educational process. The program prepares students and parents for conversations about career choices and provides opportunities for dialogue with leaders and professionals in the community. To receive additional information about the **Teen Tech** program, or to become a tutor or mentor, please contact Shenna Hill at (630) 851-2203.

Please forward comments, ideas and suggestions for **QCUL Quarterly** to Sandra Charles.  
Email: [sandracharles@qcul.org](mailto:sandracharles@qcul.org)  
Phone: (630) 851-2203  
Fax: (630) 851-2703

**QCUL QUARTERLY**

**KATRINA SURVIVORS DESPERATELY NEED YOUR SUPPORT**

We have been engaged in a very aggressive effort to help those affected by Hurricane Katrina, who are living in our immediate area. We are currently working with over 100 of the four to eight thousand survivors who live in Illinois. Our efforts are mostly focused in Aurora and Montgomery. The community has been extremely supportive, however we are finding that the needs outweigh the resources.

There are many displaced

individuals who are unable to meet some of their basic physical needs. We are also noticing that the sheer magnitude of the disaster has caused a delay in government assistance. Some have not received support of any kind from FEMA. Others have only received one-time assistance.

We are appealing to you for a monetary donation to help Katrina evacuees who are in the Aurora area. Your contribution will help to prevent homelessness and satisfy

basic needs among this population. We are suggesting a donation of \$40, but all donations are appreciated. Please make your check or money order payable to QCUL ~ Katrina Fund. Our mailing address is 808 E. Galena Blvd., Suite B, Aurora, IL 60506. If you and just one or two people who are close to you make a donation we can help to fill in a gap during this difficult period of adjustment.

QCUL is focused on addressing the need for

academic achievement, job placement and training, equal access to employment, housing and cultural enrichment for disadvantaged people. QCUL is providing case management and counseling to individuals and families affected by Hurricane Katrina.

For more information please call Yomi Nichols, QCUL's Case Manager, at (630) 851-2203.

**SOMEONE YOU SHOULD KNOW**

Mrs. Linda McBride is the lead GED instructor at QCUL. Her caring nature and dedication to the young people she teaches is truly inspiring. Mrs. McBride goes above and beyond the call of duty to motivate her students. She works tirelessly to ensure that her students

stay focused and committed to their studies so that they will be successful in passing their GED exams. Under Mrs. McBride's instruction, 30 QCUL students recently graduated with their GED. Twenty of those graduates found full-time employment, four are

enrolled in community college programs, two have pending applications, one enlisted in the military, one completed an apprenticeship program, and one has completed Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA) training. Thank you Mrs. McBride!

**QCUL CALENDAR**

Saturday, March 18, 2006	10-2 p.m.	<b>Multicultural Job Fair For Education Professionals</b>	<i>Still Middle School</i>
Wednesday, April 5, 2006	5:30 p.m.	<b>Annual Meeting</b>	<i>Long Island Sound (\$35)</i>
Thursday, May 11, 2006	10-4 p.m.	<b>QCUL Career Fair</b>	<i>95th St. Library, Naperville</i>
Saturday, May 20, 2006	12-3 p.m.	<b>TSTM Fashion Show &amp; Celebration Luncheon</b>	<i>Signature Events, Lisle (\$30)</i>
Tuesday, June 13, 2006	6:00 p.m.	<b>TSTM Annual Awards &amp; Achievement Banquet</b>	<i>Long Island Sound (\$35)</i>
Saturday, October 28, 2006		<b>Annual GALA</b>	<i>Signature Events, Lisle</i>

**Sponsorship Opportunities**

- \* Sponsor a student to attend the TSTM Awards and Achievement Banquet (\$35)
- \* Donate a \$500 book scholarship for a deserving TSTM high school senior.

**Tomorrow's Scientists, Technicians and Managers** (TSTM) is a program that provides direction and motivation to minority middle and high school students who have a 3.0 or higher GPA in English, Science and Math. TSTM offers tutoring sessions, field trips, an annual college tour and summer internships. Participants who successfully complete the program are offered scholarship opportunities.



## A QCUL SUCCESS STORY

Marie is twenty years old and the mother of two small boys. She is also a high school drop-out.

A few months ago, with a case manager's help, she developed a resume that helped her get hired as a dental hygienist trainee. Marie has a good background for this type of work. She is very service oriented and customer friendly. For example, she has experience as a waitress. Also, her great smile makes her an asset to any dental office.

As a single parent Marie depends on child care. When one of her sons was ill for two days she could not send him to daycare. Because she missed work that day the dental office decided not to retain her.

Soon after this experience, Marie enrolled in QCUL's GED program. She performed very well on her skills assessment. So far, she has also done well in the GED program, although her greatest fear is the math portion of the

GED. After being in the GED program for a month, she feels that the instructors will boost her up and get her through this test. Her instructors highlight her progress and admire her determination.

Marie is a thoughtful and diligent person. She will easily find a job with her accommodating personality. The Urban League's staff is working with her to bring her expectations to a higher level, in line with her talents, so that she can achieve more.

## REGISTER EARLY

### Clase Básica de Computadora

La Clase básica de computadora y de Procesamiento de Datos: da instrucción en lo básico y también incluye como crear archivos y carpetas, fundamentales de Procesamiento de Datos, y fundamentales del World Wide Web. También como utilizar Discos CD-R y CD-RW y equipo externo.

**Día:** Marzo 14 a Abril 11, 2006 (5 martes consecutivo) **Tiempo:** 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p. m. **Costo:** \$25.00

### Evening Adult GED Classes

**Date:** March 8 to May 15, 2006

**Time:** 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**Where:** QCUL- 808 E. Galena Blvd.

For more information please phone (630) 851-2203. Each class is limited to 20 participants.

## EVENT TO BENEFIT MARIE WILKINSON CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER



The West Suburban Chicago Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc. will host *The Secret Garden*, which is a Silent Auction Fundraiser at White Eagle Golf Club in Naperville on March 11, 2006.

Proceeds will go to The Marie Wilkinson Child Development Center and the Jack and Jill of America Foundation, Inc. The West Suburban Chicago Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc. is accepting donations to the silent auction or

monetary donations in support of this event. Tickets for the fundraiser are still available for purchase.

For information contact: Yvonne Hopkins, Publicity Chairperson (847) 404-6161.

### Board of Directors

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*Coca Cola Bottling Corporation of Chicago*

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*Kane County Board*

Scheketa Hart-Burns  
*City of Aurora, Alderperson*

We are on the web!

[www.qcul.org](http://www.qcul.org)

**Quad County  
Urban League**

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Changing Lives.*

Quad County Urban League  
808 E. Galena Boulevard, Suite B  
Aurora, IL 60505

Phone: 630-851-2203

Fax: 630-851-2703

E-mail: [info@qcul.org](mailto:info@qcul.org)

SAVE THE DATE

**MAY 11, 2006**

**QCUL Career Fair**  
**95th St. Library, Naperville**  
**10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

*For information call (630) 851-2203*

Quad County Urban League and DuPage County NAACP  
proudly sponsor the  
Second Annual

## MULTI-CULTURAL JOB FAIR FOR EDUCATION PROFESSIONALS



Saturday, March 18, 2006

10:00 am – 2:00 pm

*Held at*

Still Middle School  
787 Meadowridge Drive  
(west of Route 59 & south of 75<sup>th</sup> St.)  
Aurora, IL

*The following local school districts will attend:*  
131, 204, 203, 308, 129, 200

Administrators from all districts will be available to discuss  
employment opportunities for the 2006-2007 school year.

Please bring several copies of your current resume to distribute.



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