Auburn University – Auburn, AL

Auburn University will receive a Community Outreach Partnership Centers Program New Grant of $382,267 to assist the residents of Uniontown, Alabama implement several of the goals in the City’s recently developed strategic plan, Uniontown 2020.

Among the activities Auburn will undertake with its community partners are:

- Creating a leadership development program for adults and youth in the City;
- Working with City officials to develop a personnel system and a multi-year municipal budgeting system in order to improve decision-making and expand municipal services;
- Providing mentoring and tutoring for high school students at the R.C. Hatch School;
- With the assistance of the Tuskegee Institute, providing a wide array of business assistance services to local small businesses; and
- Developing landscaping plans for the City’s public housing developments and a community sidewalk network to link employment and residences.

The COPC grant will enable Auburn University to fulfill its on-going and long-term commitment to reach out to the Alabama Black Belt region and to Uniontown.

Contact: Dr. Robert Montjoy, 334-844-4704
California State University, Hayward – Hayward, CA

California State University, Hayward will receive a Community Outreach Partnership Centers Program New Grant of $400,000 to create the South Hayward Learning Center for Excellence. The Center is a joint effort between the University and the South Hayward Neighborhood Collaborative, a partnership of neighborhood residents, local government, educators, schools, and 22 local and regional community-based organizations. The proposed activities, which are responsive to the Collaborative’s Strategic Plan, will enhance existing community capacity and create the opportunity for residents to work with government and service providers on solutions to locally-identified problems.

Among the activities California State, Hayward will undertake with its community partners are:

- Bridging the gap between residents’ skills and the needs of mid-size and larger employers in Hayward, the central East Bay, and the greater San Francisco Bay area engaging local and regional training providers in creating career pathways for residents;

- Working with students, faculty, and staff from Tennyson High School, community-based learning centers, and extended day care centers to increase students’ math, language, and technological skills; and

- Assessing the availability of and access to supportive services locally and in the greater San Francisco Bay area for South Hayward families and working to create strategies to significantly improve access.

All of the schools in the University are committed to providing outreach and applied research to the targeted neighborhood and throughout the Bay area. California State Hayward represents a resource to these areas that can assist in creating data-driven policy that can be used to marshal governmental, foundation, and private funding for neighborhood improvement. Already, over $600,000 has been pledged for COPC activities.

Contact: Dr. Nan Maxwell, 510-885-3191
University of Southern California – Los Angeles, CA

The University of Southern California will receive a Community Outreach Partnership Centers Program New Grant of $400,000 to assist residents of the Los Angeles Empowerment Zone address four community-identified issues: economic development; education and training; housing; and neighborhood revitalization.

Among the activities USC will undertake with its community partners are:

Creating a Business Improvement in the Boyle Heights neighborhood to foster business retention and attraction;

Opening a one-stop, Internet-based economic development center offering grant and loan applications to south Los Angeles neighborhoods;

Implementing a multi-media training program that sends student “ambassadors” into their communities to build skills needed in a high-tech job market;

Providing homeownership credit counseling and financial management to help residents become homeowners;

Helping residents increase their assets through Individual Development Accounts; and

Narrowing the digital divide in Boyle Heights and Vernon-Central, by providing increased technical capacity—both hardware and software—for the residents.

USC’s partners include the Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative, the Los Angeles Community Redevelopment Agency, the South Los Angeles Economic Alliance, several under-served high schools, California Federal Bank, and many community-based organizations. The COPC grant will build USC’s capacity as a community leader, not only through these activities, but also through dedicating graduate courses to COPC projects and providing vehicles for sharing community enrichment information.

Contact: Dr. Tridib Banerjee, 213-740-4724
The University of Denver will receive a Community Outreach Partnership Centers Program New Grant of $355,602 to work with residents of the Denver Westwood Enterprise Community, located in Southwest Denver. The overall goal of the project is to use the University’s resources to contribute to the improvement of community life in the neighborhood.

Among the activities the University of Denver will undertake with its community partners are:

- Providing family literacy and after-school activities, including mentoring and tutoring at the Westwood Neighborhood;
- Offering micro-business training for individuals to develop their own small businesses at the Morrison Road Small Business Assistance Center;
- Assisting the Southwest Improvement Council in its Affordable Housing and Barrio Aztlan Loan Program to increase the number of neighborhood residents who become homeowners; and
- Helping the Westwood Neighborhood Association expand its membership and become more empowered through activities, such as a Community Resource Guide, a Community Fair, and leadership training, designed to make the community more cohesive.

The project has an extremely strong service learning component, with undergraduate and graduate students involved in most activities, as part of their normal course work. Both the City and the Denver Enterprise Community are contributing matching funds to the project.

Contact: Dr. C. David Lisman, 303-871-4921
Trinity College will receive a Community Outreach Partnership Centers Program New Directions Grant of $149,984 to expand the College’s outreach services to develop a regional organization that will bring urban and suburban residents together to solve many of the urban problems facing Hartford. In its previous COPC grants, Trinity has provided assistance to 16 Hartford neighborhoods. The New Directions Grant acknowledges the integral relationship of the City to the metropolitan region and the importance of regional cooperation in addressing the City’s problems.

With this grant, Trinity proposes to expand its community organizing, capacity building, and applied research resources to assist in the creation of a Metro Hartford community organization. This entity would bring together in a regional coalition over 40 community organizations, congregations, and civic groups so they can work cooperatively on issues and problems of mutual concern to their members.

Matching funds for the project, totaling over $600,000 are being contributed by the United Way, the Campaign for Human Development, the Heublein, Surdna, Connecticut Health, and Mortensen Foundations, the Hartford Literacy Task Force, and the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving.

Contact: Alta Lash, 860-297-5178
Barry University – Miami Shores, FL

Barry University will receive a Community Outreach Partnership Centers Program New Grant of $399,982 to work with community partners in the Gratigny neighborhood in Miami-Dade County. Barry University’s COPC project will attack three pressing neighborhood problems: crime and violence, the need for community-based organizations, and neighborhood revitalization.

Among the activities that Barry, a Hispanic-serving institution of higher education, will undertake with its community partners are:

- Offering seminars and establishing groups to prevent and intervene in family violence;
- Creating a Leadership Development Institute whose graduates will be eligible for Barry scholarships;
- Forming a neighborhood-driven, tax-exempt community-based organization that will direct future community change; and
- Holding annual housing fairs to promote fair housing and innovative housing programs.

In 1999, the University established the Office of University and Community Partnerships to bring together the various schools and departments to develop multi-disciplinary outreach efforts in surrounding South Florida neighborhoods. The University has pledged over $1 million for this effort. Community partners include the City of North Miami and the Village of North Miami Shores, the Family Advocacy Center, and the Gratigny Elementary School.

Contact: Dr. Jacqueline Mondros, 305-899-3908
Ball State University will receive a Community Outreach Partnership Centers Program New Grant of $398,529 to establish an outreach center in downtown Muncie, Indiana. The university’s activities will focus on the core area of the city, an old auto-parts and glass-making community, with a population of 70,000. The proposed activities will address three major unfilled needs identified in the city’s Consolidated Plan—improving opportunities for the current workforce, increasing the supply of affordable housing, and developing resident-driven plans for targeted communities.

Among the activities Ball State will undertake with its community partners are:

- Creating entities to support neighborhood revitalization efforts, such as buying cooperatives;
- Working with homeless shelter and service providers to determine the long-term needs of the City’s homeless;
- Designing a plan for a high-tech business park;
- Developing a community information network to serve the City’s non-profit organizations; and
- Assisting in design initiatives on prototypes for the use and re-use of properties in the City’s older neighborhoods, especially the McKinley and Industry neighborhoods.

Matching funds, totaling almost $600,000, are being provided by the University, the City, the Muncie-Delaware County Chamber of Commerce, and STAR Financial Bank.

Contact: Dr. Eric Kelly, 765-285-1963
Indiana University, Northwest – Gary, IN

Indiana University Northwest will receive a Community Outreach Partnership Centers Program New Grant of $399,973 to assist the neighborhood adjacent to the University campus in Gary, Indiana. The area comprises 10 blocks, with approximately 8,000 residents. About 30 percent of the people in the neighborhood live below the poverty rate.

Among the activities Indiana University, Northwest will undertake with its community partners are:

- Making the Franklin School the anchor for the neighborhood and implementing programs to turn it into a community learning center;
- Implementing changes in environmental design, such as defensible space and better lighting and landscaping, in order to prevent crime;
- Creating new businesses and helping to improve existing ones in order to increase the number of businesses within walking distance of the residents;
- Developing and maintaining a community park; and
- Placing community services, community policing and city government liaison in the neighborhood in order to increase access to services and eliminate the isolation of the neighborhood.

Partners with the University in this grant include Ivy Tech State College, the City of Gary, the Gary Community School Corporation, LACASA, Edgewater Systems for Balanced Living, Metro Corps of Gary, and the residents of the neighborhood themselves. These partners are donating almost $600,000 to the project.

Contact: Dan Lowry, 219-981-5629
DePaul University - Chicago, IL

DePaul University will receive a Community Outreach Partnership Centers Program New Directions Grant of $150,000 to help carry out the strategic plan of the Humboldt Park Empowerment Zone Partnership. DePaul will be working on two of the goals of the Zone—economic development and housing development.

Among the activities DePaul will undertake with its community partners to help achieve these goals are:

- Developing key commercial real estate along the North Avenue corridor and training residents in technology and basic skills for long-term economic opportunity;
- Developing residential real estate, increasing housing options for residents, and providing fair housing services, referrals, and training; and
- Providing staff and leadership training to increase the organizational capacities of the Near Northwest Neighborhood Network and the Humboldt Park Empowerment Partnership.

DePaul students will be involved through service learning courses in business, law, and technology. Matching funds for the project are being provided by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, the Field Foundation of Illinois, and the Chicago Department of Housing.

Contact: Jerry Watson, 312-362-6539
The University of Northern Iowa will receive a Community Outreach Partnership Centers New Grant of $382,063 to help the residents of Waterloo, Iowa, address pressing needs in housing, education, and health care. The target area is the Consolidated Urban Renewal Area, an area identified by the City as having the largest concentrations of poverty and substandard housing.

Among the activities the University of Northern Iowa will undertake with its community partners are:

- Building the capacity of neighborhood associations through training in organizational and planning skills, so that they can foster strong communal ties within their neighborhoods and act as effective voices for neighborhood concerns to the larger community;

- Promoting housing opportunity and self-sufficiency for residents and stability for neighborhoods by increasing access to homeownership for low- and moderate-income families and by educating about their rights under fair housing laws;

- Providing constructive activities for area youth in the areas of music and home repair skills and engaging parents in the education of their children; and

- Teaching residents home repair skills and helping make them more informed consumers.

Both public and private entities have made strong commitments to the physical renewal of the target area.

Contact:  Dr. R. Allen Hayes, 319-273-2910
Western Michigan University – Kalamazoo, MI

Western Michigan University will receive a Community Outreach Partnership Centers Program New Grant of $399,996 to work with the residents of Benton Harbor, Michigan, on a wide range of projects designed to reframe their community’s future. The City, with a population of 11,000 is located on the southern shores of Lake Michigan. This grant is part of a long-term commitment by the University to the City, in partnership with the residents, to help revitalize the City’s social, physical, and economic infrastructures.

Among the activities Western Michigan University will undertake with its community partners are:

- Providing business development training, technical assistance and business development support to the City’s low-income, African-American women entrepreneurs;
- Offering health workshops and screenings to identify and address the health care needs of the elderly, pregnant women and girls;
- Creating a Family Development program to provide classes in life skills, employment, parenting, fathering, literacy for adults and children, home “fix it” to help develop strong families;
- Enhancing the municipality’s capacity to effect development by providing project management and grantsmanship/grants management technical assistance and training; and
- Preparing residents to participate in the decisions that affect their lives.

Community partners include the Berrien County Health Department, Cornerstone Alliance, the Lakeland Regional Health System, the United Way of Southwest Michigan, the Salvation Army, Benton Harbor area schools, and the residents of the City themselves.

Contact: Dr. Sharon L. Anderson, 616-387-8373
Medgar Evers College – Brooklyn, NY

Medgar Evers College will receive a Community Outreach Partnership Centers Program New Grant of $399,663 to work with the residents of several Brooklyn neighborhoods on a multi-faceted set of outreach activities. The area to be assisted encompasses community district CD#8 (Crown Heights North), and CD#9 (Crown Heights South), as well as families with children enrolled in School District #17. The target neighborhoods are in the Brooklyn Strategic Planning Community.

Among the activities Medgar Evers College will undertake with its community partners are:

- Offering computer literacy programs for disadvantaged children and adults as part of a job training and work force development initiative;
- Providing an extended day care program to at-risk youth between the ages of 12 and 19 to cultivate leadership and activism in the areas of health, education, life-skills, and higher education;
- Sponsoring an annual community development conference and job fair; and
- Strengthening existing merchants associations as a means of promoting economic development and a sense of community in the target areas.

Organizations providing matching funds include the North Crown Heights Nostrand Avenue Merchants Association, the Flatbush Beacon Center, and the Ralph E. Lincoln Service Center. For the students of Medgar Evers College, the COPC grant will enable them to obtain modern management and functional skills beyond classroom lectures.

Contact: Vice President E. Thomas Oliver, 718-270-6414
Youngstown State University – Youngstown, Ohio

Youngstown State University will receive a Community Outreach Partnership Centers Program New Grant of $399,952 to work with residents of the Wick Park Model Neighborhood and with residents of the Westlake Terrace Homes, the City’s largest public housing development. Neighborhood residents in this 36-block area have been working with the University and the City of Youngstown on neighborhood improvement projects. This funding will help the groups to create better working relationships, and reduce stereotyping and discrimination.

Among the activities Youngstown State will undertake with its community partners are:

- Empowering group home residents with severe mental illness to have a more normal role in the community by working through the recovery process aided by a partnership with various social service and mental health agencies;

- Building on commercial and retail assets in the neighborhood by helping marketing them to consumers;

- Increasing the number of homeowners through outreach and assistance programs and improving the area through aggressive code enforcement and coordinated public service cleanups;

- Implementing crime prevention strategies through environmental design and establishing block watch programs; and

- Creating a better organized, more knowledgeable, and cohesive set of community leaders and residents who are prepared to implement activities, make long-term plans, and influence local decisions.

Youngstown State’s community partners include the City, the Youngstown Area Urban League, the Youngstown Metropolitan Housing Authority, the Mahoning County Court of Common Please, the Mahoning County Mental Health Board, and the Area Agency on Aging. Together with the University, these partners will bring over $1 million in matching funds to the project.

Contact: Dr. Gil Peterson, 330-742-3355
University of Pennsylvania – Philadelphia, PA

The University of Pennsylvania will receive a Community Outreach Partnership Centers Program New Directions Grant of $150,000 to continue its work assisting West Philadelphia neighborhoods. This project represents new collaborations involving the West and Southwest Philadelphia communities, and Penn faculty and students from the Graduate Schools of Fine Arts and Education, Wharton, and the School of Arts and Sciences.

Among the new activities that Penn will undertake with its community partners are:

Working with the Mill Creek, West Powelton, and Kingsessing areas of West/Southwest Philadelphia to develop neighborhood strategic plans through project teams composed of Penn faculty and students and adults and youths in these areas;

Training the neighborhoods on how to use Penn’s Community Information Network which contains Internet-accessible public data sets; and

Helping local non-profit organizations develop the internal capacity to better carry out their work through hands-on technical assistance and small grants to these organizations.

This grant will enable Penn to engage its core academic mission, its teaching and research, in efforts to improve West Philadelphia, in collaboration with its community partners.

Contact: Dr. Ira Harkavy, 215-898-5351
The University of Pittsburgh will receive a Community Outreach Partnership Centers Program New Grant of $399,702 to address community identified needs in five neighborhoods near the University’s main campus. These neighborhoods—Central Oakland, South Oakland, West Oakland, Allequippa Terrace/Oak Hill, and Hazelwood—are all located in the Pittsburgh Enterprise Community. The COPC will coordinate the multi-disciplinary efforts of both academic and administrative University partners with those of their community partners to respond to a wide range of issues.

Among the activities the University of Pittsburgh will undertake with its community partners are:

- Expanding the existing Housing Resource Center into a one-stop housing, fair housing, and neighborhood revitalization resource shop for community residents;
- Assisting the Oak Hill HOPE VI project in developing and disseminating marketing materials;
- Expanding the Allequippa Terrace Food Pantry as a means of increasing the capacity of the development’s resident council;
- Offering training programs to enable low-income women to become small business owners;
- Serving as mentors to support career placement activities for at-risk youth; and
- Linking faculty, staff, and health profession students with neighborhood residents in order to focus on wellness and illness prevention.

The COPC proposal was the result of multi-year assessments that the University conducted, in partnership with its communities, to identify pressing needs in these communities. The grant will enable the University to focus and build upon its existing efforts to work together with its community partners to significantly improve the quality of life in these communities.

Contact: Dr. Tracy M. Soska, 412-624-3711
Duquesne University - Pittsburgh, PA

Duquesne University will receive a Community Outreach Partnership Centers Program New Directions Grant of $150,000 to help address a wide variety of problems in the neighborhoods of the Hill District and Uptown.

Among the activities Duquesne will undertake with its community partners are:

Developing a demonstration project to reforest vacant lots in Uptown;

Establishing a student-run educational outreach program in the public schools serving these two neighborhoods to teach about poisons, lead poisoning, childhood asthma, and substance abuse;

Expanding its successful psychology clinic to meet the mental health needs of the residents of the Hill District;

Providing a Peace Corps Community Development Fellow to assist the Uptown Community Action Group with housing development, commercial revitalization, and organizational development; and

Assisting elementary school teachers in the Hill District to make assessments of student behavior and developing new support structures for at-risk students.

All aspects of the project have a strong student involvement component to enable students to learn and serve.

Contact: Dr. Evan Stoddard, 412-396-5179
University of Rhode Island - Kingston, RI

The University of Rhode Island will receive a Community Outreach Partnership Centers New Directions Grant of $150,000 to assist the residents of the New Woodlawn neighborhood in Pawtucket to implement several community empowerment and revitalization projects. The neighborhood, which has a population of over 16,000 is the second largest in the City and the poorest.

Among the activities the University will undertake with its community partners are:

- Creating a local entrepreneur, small business start-up program including developing a consortium of trained professionals as mentors and establishing a Woodlawn Business Association;

- Incorporating a Woodlawn Community Development Corporation; and

- Developing a one-stop community-based resource center.

The COPC grant will leverage resources from a broad range of University departments and schools and from state, municipal, community-based, for-profit, and foundation sources. The University’s students will be involved through service learning courses designed to integrate classroom education with real world experiences.

Contact: Dr. Marcia Marker Feld, 401-277-5235
The University of Memphis will receive a Community Outreach Partnership Centers Program New Directions Grant of $149,940 to expand its outreach activities by assisting the residents of the Greenlaw-Manassas neighborhood in Memphis to share in the benefits of the revitalization of their neighborhood. The areas surrounding the neighborhood are experiencing an economic resurgence and the challenge is to ensure that current residents, particularly those living in public housing, are not simply displaced by forces beyond their control.

Among the activities that the University of Memphis will undertake with its community partners are:

- Working with the residents to create a Community Information System in order to become knowledgeably involved in the development in their neighborhood;
- Creating a Community of Scholars in the neighborhood by improving residents’ access to Memphis faculty members and students and faculty and students’ access to the residents; and
- Instituting an Academy of Community Building to provide homeownership, home maintenance and home finance training, capacity building for non-profit organizations, community organizing, disease prevention, and small business management and development.

The COPC project will involve University of Memphis faculty and students in three colleges, 10 academic departments and divisions and five centers. Community partners include LeMoyne Owens College, a historically black college, the City of Memphis, the Memphis Chamber of Commerce and 12 community service providers.

Contact: Dr. David Cox, 901-678-4186
Texas A&M University – College Station, TX

Texas A&M will receive a Community Outreach Partnership Centers Program New Directions Grant of $150,000 to continue its outreach activities to colonias. Colonias are impoverished rural communities along the Texas-Mexico border. Thus far, Texas A&M has established 12 resource centers to provide colonias residents with access to education, health care, job training, and human services programs. In this grant, the University will work in the isolated colonias of El Cenizo and Rio Bravo in Webb County, Texas.

Among the activities that Texas A&M will undertake with its community partners are:

- Establishing a Field Research and Learning Center in El Cenizo to help the residents identify, address, and solve community issues collaboratively through research and outreach;

- Developing a micro-enterprise program in both areas to encourage residents to start and maintain small businesses; and

- Studying the feasibility of using alternative building materials, such as straw bale or rammed earth construction, as a means of providing affordable housing for colonias residents.

The University has marshaled over $350,000 in matching funds for this project.

Contact: Kermit Black, 979-862-2370
Danville Community College – Danville, VA

Danville Community College (DCC) will receive a Community Outreach Partnership Centers Program New Grant of $391,903 to expand its outreach activities in three low-income neighborhoods--Camp Grove, Liberty View, and North Main. These activities, which will be located at Neighborhood Educational Opportunity Centers, will enable residents to have access to education, job training and placement, neighborhood revitalization work, economic development assistance, and leadership development activities for adults and youths.

Among the activities that DCC will undertake with its community partners are:

- Providing educational and career counseling to neighborhood residents and using their New Focus Program to help teenage mothers continue their education and gain marketable job training;
- Offering workshops on acquiring and maintaining good health, with topics such as adult and teen parenting, nutrition, and conflict resolution;
- Helping residents learn how to use computers;
- Working with small businesses on development and marketing plans; and
- Conducting research on the feasibility of the development of new housing for the elderly.

DCC has established strong partnerships with the neighborhood organizations in these three communities, the City government, the Danville Redevelopment and Housing Authority, area churches, and the Boys and Girls Club. The guiding principle behind DCC’s COPC is that community solutions should be comprehensive, participatory, and equitable. DCC’s project also provides that community college students can become an essential part of their institution’s outreach activities by assisting in the service provision and enhancing their own educational experiences at the same time.

Contact: Martha A. Walker, 804-797-8495
Tidewater Community College – Portsmouth, VA

Tidewater Community College (TCC) will receive a Community Outreach Partnership Centers Program New Grant of $395,227 to work with residents of the Huntersville neighborhood of Norfolk on a series of community-identified project. This neighborhood is part of the Norfolk/Portsmouth Empowerment Zone. The grant will help TCC and its partners address three pressing problems: job training, education, and neighborhood revitalization.

Among the activities TCC will undertake with its community partners are:

- Working with residents to assess their job skills and to create individual career development plans;
- Offering one-day, hands-on orientations to high-demand jobs in the region;
- Using student mentors to help residents prepare for and obtain the GEDs;
- Providing workshops on homeownership and personal financial management skills;
- Having residents participate in Truth with a Camera workshops as a way of building neighborhood cohesiveness.

At least 10 TCC faculty members and their students will participate each year in these activities through service learning courses designed to integrate academic work with experiences in the neighborhood. Other faculty will be involved as trainers, faculty, advisors, and consultants. Through the COPC, neighborhood residents will also have access to all TCC counselors and the full range of TCC specialized services.

Contact: Mary Ruth Clowdsley, 757-822-2555
Seattle Central Community College – Seattle, WA

Seattle Central Community College (SCCC) will receive a Community Outreach Partnership Centers Program New Grant of $372,775 to work with community partners on addressing needs in the Central Area. This neighborhood, which is part of the City’s Empowerment Zone, is beset with problems related to housing affordability, poverty, crime, drug use, business stagnation, and low-skilled workers. SCCC spent 15 months meeting with community representatives in the target community to identify the specific projects that will be implemented under the COPC grant.

Among the activities SCCC will undertake with its community partners are:

- Preparing and distributing a consolidated booklet on low-interest home improvement loans;
- Conducting monthly seminars on entrepreneurism and technology;
- Creating a web site for the community with information on home improvement and business and economic development;
- Offering a special high-tech computer training program for Central Area residents and helping to place them in high tech jobs; and
- Developing web sites for Central Area businesses.

Much of the work under the grant will be done by faculty and students through service learning courses, significantly enhancing the students’ learning experiences. Matching funds are being provided by the City of Seattle’s Department of Neighborhoods, the Seattle Public Library, the Seattle Indian Center, MidTown Commons, the Women’s Community Impact Commission, and Community Development Capital.

Contact: Dr. A. Barretto Ogilvie, 206-587-5483
The University of Wisconsin-Parkside (UWP) will receive a Community Outreach Partnership Centers New Directions Grant of $150,000 to assist the residents of three disadvantaged neighborhoods in Racine and Kenosha, Wisconsin. The grant will help the University link residents to resources to find better jobs, obtain more education, move from temporary to permanent positions, fix code and lead violations in their homes, enforce fair housing standards, and retain ownership of their homes.

Among the activities that UWP will undertake with its community partners are:

- Forming a Community Consultant Core of trained residents, university students, and youth who will learn about community resources and disseminate these to others in these neighborhoods;
- Developing linkages to Job Centers, education and training resources and employers;
- Integrating work release inmates back into the community;
- Convening and coordinating the Southeast Wisconsin Lead Reduction Task Force; and
- Helping residents learn to use the Internet and creating a new campus web site that simplifies the search for the campus’ expertise.

UWP will offer more than 40 courses dedicated to these projects. Students and faculty will be located in these neighborhoods in several technology outreach centers with computers donated by local companies and refurbished by campus computer science students.

Contact: Dr. Anne Statham, 262-595-2147
The Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) will receive a Community Outreach Partnership Centers Program New Grant of $398,037 to work with its community partners on improving the quality of life for the residents of 18 public housing developments in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. MCW, which is the largest private medical school in the United States, will be helping to address six community-identified concerns: community organizing and leadership development; violence prevention; health education; economic development; home safety; and homeownership.

Among the activities MCW will undertake with its community partners are:

- Implementing a Community Advocates program to provide public housing residents with the knowledge, skills, and resources to affect positive change in their communities;

- Preventing youth violence through a Parents Helping Parents program to improve public housing residents’ parenting skills and through domestic violence programs for public housing staff, on-site health care and social service providers;

- Bringing public housing residents together to develop strategies to increase safety in their buildings and immediate neighborhoods;

- Increasing housing residents’ ability to read, comprehend, and act on basic health care information through a Health Literacy program; and

- Expanding MCW’s existing Chat and Chew program, a learning exchange program in which housing residents learn from medical students’ health presentations on community-identified topics, and the students learn about issues of health in a low-income minority community from the residents themselves.

MCW’s efforts combine the strengths of seven departments, 14 centers and offices, and five student organizations. Community partners include the Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee, S.E.T. Ministry, Inc., Housing Authority Resident Organizations and Councils, the Private Industry Council of Milwaukee, the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Milwaukee, the Parklawn YMCA, the Silver Spring Neighborhood Center, and Neighborhood Housing Services. Over $1 million in matching funds is being donated to the project.

Contact: Dr. Cheryl Maurana, 414-456-8291