

An Initiative with West Louisville

Update from the President—Year in Review



UofL President James Ramsey

Last February we announced the launch of the Signature Partnership Initiative with West Louisville. The goal of this ambitious initiative is to work with community partners and residents to help revitalize West Louisville and to improve the quality of life and economic opportunity for its residents.

I am pleased to report that over the past year UofL faculty, staff, and students participated in 96 outreach programs that serve West Louisville. Over 1,700 students from every school and college at UofL participated in a wide range of programs. Our faculty, staff and students were involved in

mentoring programs, served as tutors, worked with small and minority businesses, participated in neighborhood clean-up, conducted dental screenings, and many other activities.

Approximately 60 community organizations and public agencies have joined forces with the university to work in the four focus areas of improving the education, health, economic and social status of the community. The university and the community partners have been awarded over \$1 million dollars in grants and contracts to support the work of the Signature Partnership Initiative.

But our work is just beginning as we focus on the long term challenge of reducing disparities in the four focus areas. I recently met with Dr. Sheldon Berman, new superintendent of the Jefferson County Public Schools, to discuss additional ways in which the university and school system could work together to build on our strong partnership. This year we also will be implementing two pilot programs

as a part of the Ideas to Action plan.

Students from our School of Nursing and Dental School will be assigned to work in West Louisville as a part of their course requirement. Their focus will be on infant mortality and dental health education respectively.

I commend the many individuals and community organizations that have come together to support this important initiative. I offer special thanks to the University Community Partnership Advisory Board, Residents Advisory Council, and the Faculty Liaisons for their outstanding work on the Signature Partnership Initiative.

UofL's new strategic plan, Vision 2020, sets forth the goal for the university to become a "national model" for its community engagement and for serving as a transforming agent in the life of our community, the Commonwealth, the nation, and the world. The Signature Partnership Initiative is just one example of our genuine commitment to "champion community."

For more information on the Signature Partnership Initiative with West Louisville, go to www.louisville.edu/externalaffairs.



Neighborhood clean-up in Portland



Students engaged in engineering exercises



Western Middle School students tour Ekstrom Library



Workforce Development participants visit highway construction site

Signature Partnership Updates Board of Trustees

President Ramsey and the university administration recently presented to the Board of Trustees an update on the Signature Partnership Initiative. Three principals from our 5 partnership schools attended the meeting and shared their excitement on how the Signature Partnership is making a positive difference in their respective schools. The principals in attendance were Dr. Dewey Hensley, Atkinson Elementary, Ms. Beth Johnson, Western Middle School and Dr. Dan Withers, Central High School.



Principals seated left to right: Dr. Dan Withers, Ms. Beth Johnson (standing), and Dr. Dewey Hensley. Also seated is Laura Rothstein, Co-Chair, University Community Partnership Advisory Board.

Signature Partnership Initiative: Engagement and Impact Update

February 2007—November 2007

University Engagement: Total Number of Programs, Faculty and Staff, and Students Involved

Type of Engagement	Education	Health	Economic Development	Human & Social Services	Total all Focus Areas
Programs	41	12	13	30	96
Faculty & Staff	216	49	50	144	459
Students	808	153	128	618	1707

Examples of Focus Area Programs:

- Education:** College for Every Student (TCP Scholars Program), Every 1 Reads, Simmons College of Kentucky, Law Magnet, and Pre-service Students
- Health:** Mobile Health Van, School of Nursing Clinical Collaborative, Dental Assistance Program, and School of Public Health Partnership for a Green City/Asthma
- Economic Development:** BOWD Center, The Collaborative, Kent School Hope VI, and Brownfields
- Human & Social Services:** Pillars of Portland, 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens, Dance Academy, and Suzuki Elementary String

Neighborhood Institute Convened in West Louisville

On January 22nd the Neighborhood Institute convened its Spring 2008 class at the NIA Center in West Louisville with a record number of over 40 participants. The participants come from all over Metropolitan Louisville.

The Neighborhood Institute is a 12-week neighborhood leadership-education program that began in 1987. It equips participants with resources necessary to affect positive change in their neighborhoods through weekly topics with expert panels and speakers, neighborhood information exchange, networking, experiential learning and group problem solving.

The Signature Partnership Initiative collaborated with the Center for Neighborhoods and the Metro United Way Community Investment Team of the Vital Neighborhoods Initiative to bring the class to West Louisville. Past sessions of the institute have been held at the Clifton Center. Gwendolyn Kelley, a member of the Residents Advisory Council and the Community Investment Team, is a graduate and former employee of the Neighborhood Institute. "We are pleased to bring this valuable program to West Louisville and make it more accessible to our residents," said Kelley.

For more information on the Neighborhood Institute and to follow this class, please visit:

<http://www.centerforneighborhoods.org/leaneinsproinf.htm>.



Associate Vice President for External Affairs, Dr. Ralph Fitzpatrick addresses the Spring 2008 class of the Neighborhood Institute.



Spring 2008 class of the Neighborhood Institute held at the Nia Center in West Louisville.

Reflections of a Mentor...By Candise Caylao



Candise Caylao

it in college.

Once they told me what profession they were interested in pursuing, I explained to them some of the classes that would pertain to their major once they reached the college level.

We also discussed scholarship opportunities, more specifically the scholarship that I was

I love working awarded, the Porter Scholar. I want to let them know there is no reason to let money keep them from getting an education, just work hard and search for the opportunities.

On a more personal level, we all share things about our home lives; such as how many brothers and sisters we have and what our parents do for a living. The girls are also very eager to share their hobbies and after-school activities with me. I believe the girls definitely enjoy our time together as much as I do, because they are always ready for our conversations and discussions for the day. They ask a lot of questions

and stay involved in the discussion. To make the sessions more enjoyable, I will occasionally bring craft projects for us to work on together as we talk. This makes the atmosphere more at ease.

Our sessions are spent creating a bond and foundation that hopefully will keep them on the right track and a trust that will let them continue to tell me their goals and ambitions. I enjoy mentoring and hopefully our group will grow over the coming years.

Candise Caylao is a 2005 Governor Scholar, a Porter Scholar, and a Junior majoring in Justice Administration

Ideas to Action Program

This spring semester marks the launch of two pilot programs as a part of the Ideas to Action program. Students from the Schools of Dentistry and Nursing are working in West Louisville as a part of their course requirements.

Students from the Dental Hygiene Program, led by faculty members Lee Mayer and Janice Butters, are applying knowledge learned in the classroom and clinic to address the needs of residents of West Louisville. Senior students in the Community Dental Health and Extramural Education Program courses are involved in community engagement as part of their course requirement.

Both courses offer students experiential education via assistance from the Northwest AHEC (Area Health Education Center). Students in the Community Dental Health course must apply critical thinking to address the myriad of identified community oral health problems. The opportunity to use academic lessons in a real-life context is a goal of the Ideas to Action program.

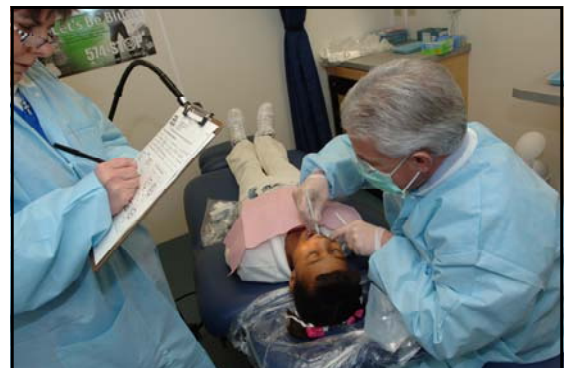
The Extramural Education Program is the capstone program. Twenty percent of the course requirement involves a service project. One objective of the course is to "understand the role of the health care professionals in the community in terms of civic involvement and services." The service component of the course aids students in achieving this objective. The students who work closely with their preceptors are engaged in community evaluation to assess oral health needs. The one-semester community engagement methodology of DHED 206 is compressed into one month and requires students to develop a plan to evaluate their success.

Senior students in the School of Nursing are assisting with case management services as a part of the Healthy Start program. This program serves prenatal and postnatal women in West Louisville. These students work under the supervision and tutelage of Ermalynn Kiehl (Ph.D., ARNP) and Glenda Adams

(MSN, RNC, IBCLC).

First semester senior nursing students are paired with an expectant mother to provide one-on-one education to her and her family. The many educational topics include exercise/nutrition, preparation for labor, postpartum care, newborn care, breastfeeding, and postpartum depression.

Currently, ten expectant mothers are being served in this collaboration with plans to expand service to more in the Fall of 2008.



Dr. Lee Mayer, Faculty Liaison for the Signature Partnership and director of Community Dental Health at the Dental School, treats a young patient in the mobile health unit.

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- ◆ To UofL President James Ramsey for being named Louisville's Business Leader of the Year for 2007 by Business First. Ramsey was cited for his efforts in many areas ranging from boosting economic development, beautifying Belknap campus, and establishing the Cardinal Covenant and the Signature Partnership.
- ◆ To Dr. Ralph Fitzpatrick, Associate Vice President for External Affairs on being named Man of the Year for 2007 by Project One Inc. He was recognized in December for his many accomplishments during his thirty year tenure at UofL such as the creation of new and effective partnerships between the university and the community. He was also recognized for garnering over \$7 million in grants for various university/community programs.
- ◆ To the U of L Signature Partnership Initiative on being recognized as a 2007-2008 Champion for Children by Shawnee High School Magnet Career Academy at its 10th Annual Martin Luther King Breakfast Celebration in January. Shawnee also recognized several of its exemplary students, many of whom plan to attend UofL this fall. Watch for their profiles in the May 2008 issue of the newsletter!
- ◆ To Central High School and Coach Ty Scroggins for winning the 3-A Kentucky football championship. The Yellowjackets won their first state football title by beating Belfry High School 27-17 in December. Hopefully, the first of many to come!!