



# Fall Newsletter

"A Better Chance... For A Better Future"

September 2006

727 2nd Street SW • Rochester, MN 55902 • (507) 289-4370 • E-mail: webmaster@rochesterbetterchance.org • www.rochesterbetterchance.org

## Designate Rochester Better Chance in Your United Way Pledge

At this time of the year, many of you are considering your 2007 giving through the United Way Campaign at your place of work. By giving through the United Way, you help many agencies in your community. When filling out your United Way pledge card, consider specifying Rochester Better Chance, 727 2nd Street, SW, Rochester, MN 55902, using the Optional Designation category for some or all of your contribution. By designating Rochester Better Chance on your pledge card, you help RBC all year long. Thanks for supporting the United Way and Rochester Better Chance!

## RBC Mission Statement

Rochester Better Chance (RBC) provides to bright, talented, and aspiring minority candidates a mentoring and nurturing home environment, optimizing their opportunities to excel in school and community settings. This prepares them for an excellent college education and future leadership opportunities.

## Paul Duvall Graduates

Scholar Paul (Andy) Duvall, of Los Angeles, California, graduated with an honors diploma from John Marshall High School in June 2006. He is now enrolled at the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee, with plans to major in architecture. RBC celebrated Andy's success with an open house Sunday, June 4, 2006.



Andy with Cindy Cox, JM counselor and RBC Board Member.

## Farewell to Two RBC Board Members

RBC extends sincere thanks to Renotta Young, former RBC Vice-President (2002) and Past President (2003-2005), and Sonia Winslett, M.D., RBC Board Member since 2002, for their service to Rochester Better Chance. Renotta has accepted a position with Columbia

University, and Sonia will be directing a medical clinic in Indiana. We are grateful for their contributions to RBC.



Pictured at the March RBC Gala, from left to right: Renotta Young, Mrs. and Brigadier General Holman, Sonia Winslett.

## Board Sets Goals for 2006-2007

At the annual planning retreat in July, the RBC Board of Directors set new long-term goals. Those goals are:

1. Support the development of scholars who excel academically and are mature socially and emotionally.
2. Maintain financial stability to fund on-going operation of the RBC Program and House.
3. Maintain capital financial stability that will provide a residence for the scholars.
4. Improve community image through communication for the purpose of maintaining the longevity of the RBC Program.
5. Successful Transition to New Resident Directors in 2009.

## 2002 RBC Alum Greg Monegro Graduates from UMD

On May 13, 2006, Greg Monegro took another big step, the step across the stage to receive his diploma from the University of Minnesota-Duluth's Labovitz School of Business and Economics. This step is a continuation of the many big steps Greg has taken since joining Rochester Better Chance.

Greg joined RBC as a John Marshall junior after attending St. Agnes High School in New York City. Greg is part of the Labovitz School of Business and Economics 2006 graduating class with a Bachelor's degree in finance. He has accepted a position with Thomson Quantitative Analytics in Chicago. Thomson Quantitative Analytics is a software solution company providing client investment solutions. Greg will use his finance training to provide guidance to industry professionals on building and supporting their investment models for financial planning and investment management.

Congratulations to Greg as he celebrates his college graduation and best wishes as he pursues his profession!

## President's Corner

Rarely is an organization blessed with consistent leadership for over a decade and even more rarely does an organization get a three year advance notice of a leadership transition. Rochester Better Chance has been very fortunate to have had Robin and Scott Gwaltney for so many years. It is with mixed emotion I must report that they will be "graduating" from the RBC program in 2009 along with their youngest child Jenna. Over forty scholars will have received their "better chance" under Robin and Scott's tutelage and their generous advance notice will allow the RBC board to assure a smooth transition and thoughtful search for new resident directors.

Those interested in understanding more about the resident directors' roles may contact any RBC board member for information.



*Pictured here is RBC Board President Roger Dearth with alum speaker Danny Pierre at the March Gala.*

## Board Elects New Officers

At the annual July Planning Retreat, hosted by board member Pam Haack, the RBC Board of Directors elected new officers for the 2006-2007 year. Roger Dearth was elected to continue as President; Jackie Olson was elected to serve as Vice-President/President-Elect; Mary Place will continue as secretary; and Alan Baltzer will continue as treasurer.

## New Scholars

Watch future newsletters for a chance to meet our two new scholars, Zelford Leonard and James Roche, and this year's tutor coordinators, Mayo Medical students Diana Frey and Brandon Yuan.

## Time to Spare?

Do you have some time to spare? Would you like to work with a group of earnest, yet fun-loving high school scholars? Consider becoming more involved in RBC. Join our fund-raising committee; volunteer to serve as a host family; or become a member of the Board of Directors. If you are interested in becoming more involved in RBC, please contact President Roger Dearth at 284-9906 or dearth.roger@mayo.edu.

## March Silent Auction and Banquet Fundraiser Most Successful to Date

March 10, 2006, was a very important day for Rochester Better Chance. The largest attendance to date for our silent auction and banquet, held at the Rochester Marriott, provided our most successful fundraiser to date. More than 240 RBC supporters attended our annual gala this year, and RBC netted more than \$22,000 that night.

Scholar alum Danny Pierre, completing his master's degree in chemical engineering from Tufts University, was the guest speaker. Board member Sonia Winslett's high school classmate, Brigadier General Holman, also spoke briefly at the event. Many scholar alumni also attended the event; some are pictured below with all the scholars in attendance, as well as the Gwaltney family.

The Mayo Medical School was recognized for its long-term contribution to RBC in the form of tutors. Dr. Lindor and Molly Martyn, tutor coordinator, accepted the award from President Roger Dearth.

The gala also marked the addition of a new contributor to RBC: Thrivent Financial.



*Scholars, Scholar Alumni, and Gwaltney family*



*Robin Gwaltney and Eric Funk of Thrivent Financial*



*Board member Mary Place with three scholar alums (also her former students), Danny Pierre, LeVaur Livingstone, and Jonathan Meade.*



*Dr. Lindor, Molly Martyn, and Roger Dearth*

## Upcoming Events

October 11 .....	RBC Board Meeting
November 8 .....	RBC Board Meeting
December 8.....	RBC Christmas Open House
December 13.....	RBC Board Meeting
January 10 .....	RBC Board Meeting
February 14 .....	RBC Board Meeting
March 7 .....	RBC Board Meeting
March 9 .....	RBC Annual Gala

## Please consider these Donation Options:

Donations to RBC during the summer are slow, so your contribution now is vital to the operations and success of RBC and its scholars. As a result, we enter the fall school year financially stretched, so donations regardless of amount really help maintain ongoing expenses. If you can give \$75, 50, or 25 per month over the next few months it would help tremendously. Thank you for any gift you may be able to give.

I can HELP!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

My pledge is: \$ 200 \_\_\_\_\_ one time \_\_\_\_\_ per month                      \$ 75 \_\_\_\_\_ one time \_\_\_\_\_ per month  
                  \$ 100 \_\_\_\_\_ one time \_\_\_\_\_ per month                      \$ 50 \_\_\_\_\_ one time \_\_\_\_\_ per month  
                  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_ one time \_\_\_\_\_ per month

Special Projects I'd like to help with time or materials (Name/Items): \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Fund Raiser Project: \_\_\_\_\_

Board of Directors Membership: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail form/donation to:

**Rochester Better Chance**  
**727 2nd Street SW**  
**Rochester, MN 55902**

### Additional Options to Consider:

Rochester Better Chance is a 501c3 Non-Profit organization so your donations (including in-kind gifts) are tax deductible. There are a variety of ways to contribute other than a traditional one-time donation that may make it easy and work best for you. RBC enjoys minimal administrative expenses; the working board and resident directors contribute their time and personal funds, this enables RBC to put 100 percent of donations toward educating the students and operational expenses.

IRS Tax Exemption Certificate #:                      41-1237746  
MN State Tax Exemption Certificate #:              ES 26189

**Endowments** – Consider Rochester Better Chance in your estate planning. RBC is a supporting member of Greater Rochester Area Leave a Legacy Foundation. It's an excellent way to leave your legacy with the program. Consult your estate planner/lawyer for the best method for using this option.

**Payroll Deductions** – Are easy and automatic, and if your employer has electronic deposits, donations can automatically be transferred with each pay period. (Contact (507) 287-6876 for electronic route #'s)

**Stock Certificate Transfers** – Stock certificates may be transferred to RBC as a one-time gift. Value of the Donation will be based on the unit stock price and quantity of shares transferred over on date of transaction.

## RBC Board Members

*Roger Dearth*, President, Mayo Clinic  
*Jackie Olson*, Vice-President, IBM  
*Mary Place*, Secretary, Retired John Marshall English Teacher  
*Alan Baltzer*, Treasurer, McGladrey & Pullen, LLP  
*Jill Beed*, Mayo Clinic  
*Cindy Cox*, John Marshall High School  
*Pam Haack*, Retired Rochester Public Schools Administrator  
*Henry Hocraffer*, IBM  
*Rosemary Kuzma*, Mayo Clinic  
*Alyx Porter-Umphrey, M.D.*, Mayo Clinic  
*Nicole Stroud*, Fourth Year Medical Student, Mayo Medical School



## Resident Directors

Robin & Scott Gwaltney

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We would like to extend our thanks  
to all our friends and supporters who have  
supported our community program for 31 years!  
*Thank you Rochester!*

*A very special thank you from all of us at RBC to  
our newsletter sponsor: **Mayo Foundation**  
200 First Street SW  
Rochester, MN 55905*

**RBC House**  
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