

Mentor.
Motivate.
Inspire.

Annual Report
2007-2008 Fiscal Year



Our Mission

To help students strengthen their academic skills, explore challenging careers and view education as a pathway for success in life.



“Coaching for College is the best thing that has ever happened to me. It has opened so many doors up for me and let me accomplish things that I did not think I could.”

- Jalesa S., Coaching for College alumna currently enrolled at Clemson University

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The 2007 Annual Report focuses on Fiscal Year 2007 – 2008 accomplishments and ongoing Coaching for College Initiatives.

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Over the past year, Coaching for College continued to make a significant, measurable difference in the lives of the D.C. public school students we serve. We have seen improvements in student performance in core academic subject areas and renewed commitment and focus on doing well in school. As I begin my third year as Director, I continue to be struck by the dedication, talent, and capacity for hard work that I see among our volunteers, whom we call “coaches”, and our students. This report shares the highlights of the 2007 - 2008 academic year.

Thank you for your continued interest and support. .

Best regards,

Nisha Sachdev, MPH
Director



“Thank you all for the help and the hope that you have restored back into my son. The help you have given me with my son and continue to give me is invaluable. I especially appreciate all of your time and efforts. In addition to information and advice you have provided as well.” – Mother of 8th grade participant

I have taken advantage of the opportunities outside of the classroom also, which helps me stay on track. Since ninth grade, I have been involved with Coaching for College. This program has opened so many doors for me and allowed me to challenge myself personally and academically. Through this program I have had mentors that have provided me with extra resources and opportunities. There has been so much that I have accomplished within Coaching for College. – 12th grade participant

Coaching for College

Organization Background

Coaching for College began in 1999 as an all-volunteer effort of young professionals committed to public education and community service. Following graduation from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government, Mark Bayer and Shana Montesol Johnson relocated to Washington, DC and developed Coaching for College, a 501(c)(3) non-profit tutoring and mentoring organization. Noting the economic and educational disparities affecting many Washington, DC residents, the founders of Coaching for College believed that a tutoring and mentoring program could be a valuable addition to the community. Mark and Shana sought out schools using criteria that suggested a significant need for supplemental enrichment programming (e.g., high poverty rate, below average academic achievement, absence of similar organizations operating in the school). Coaching for College met with Shaw Middle School (SMS) (formerly Shaw Junior High School) administrators in September 1998 and began its program in January 1999, beginning with 10 students. Led by Mark and Shana, this small group of volunteers believed in the potential of young people to become high achievers regardless of their current socio-economic circumstances. For the past 10 years, Coaching for College has worked productively with students at SMS while expanding its offerings, serving an increasing number of students and planning future growth and program enhancements.

Mission

The mission of the Coaching for College Program is to help students strengthen their academic skills, explore challenging careers and view education as a pathway for success in life.

Population Served

Coaching for College serves students between the ages of 12-18 in grades 6 through 12 from schools in Ward Two in the District of Columbia. The Shaw neighborhood is a rapidly gentrifying neighborhood; however, 74% of our student population lives below the poverty level. This percentage is more than triple the citywide average of DC children living in poverty. Many of our students live in single parent households (in DC 62% of children live in single parent households compared to 32% in the United States).

District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS)

DCPS is among 11 major urban school districts ranking at or near the bottom in math and reading achievement. DCPS is ranked third in spending per student. However, 66% of students scored below the basic math achievement level and 52% scored below basic reading achievement, compared to 30% and 27% of all students respectively in the U.S. Also, only 62% of D.C. teachers are considered "Highly-Qualified."

AT A GLANCE

Coaching for College is a 501(c)3 incorporated in the District of Columbia. Since its founding in 1999, Coaching for College has helped over 150 students engage in positive activities and form meaningful relationships with mentors to improve their academic skills and transition into the next stage of their lives.

Demographic Characteristics of Participants Total Participants (End of Year)

40

Gender

Male: 13 (33%)

Female: 27 (67%)

Grade Completed

6th: 1 (<3%)

7th: 8 (20%)

8th: 21 (53%)

9th: 2 (5%)

10th: 6 (15%)

11th: 1 (<3%)

12th: 1 (<3%)



Demographic Characteristics of Coaches Total Coaches (End of Year)

63

Gender

Male: 25 (40%)

Female: 38 (60%)

Professional Level

Undergraduate Students: 12 (19%)

Graduate Students: 6 (10%)

Career Professionals: 45 (71%)

Characteristics of School for 2007 – 2008*

	SMS	DC	US
Passing Grades	17%	22%	84%
Crime Incidents**	94	29	18
Qualified Teachers	55%	62%	95%
Urgent Repairs	35	8	N/A
Low-Income families	74%	13%	10%

*Average crimes per year since 2005.

Source: Washington Post, November 28, 2007

Tutoring and Mentoring Program

2007 – 2008 Program Statistics

Program Attendance (Average % per Session)

Students 89%

Coaches 88%

Participant Retention (% at End of the Year)

Students 82%

Coaches 56%

SOI Participation

Number Students 40

Enrichment Activities 5

Workshops 10

Enrollment of Students in College 1

Enrollment of Students in Specialized High School 22

Enrollment of Eligible Students to Upward Bound 12



INITIATIVES

Coaching for College seeks to address three major challenges within the Shaw community: poor academic achievement, lack of career choices, and scarcity of positive role models. Efforts to address these challenges focus on four initiatives: Tutoring and Mentoring Program, the Summer Opportunities Initiative, Monthly Career Building Workshops, and the Sarah Rosen Student of the Year Award.

Tutoring and Mentoring Program

1 Tutoring Coaching for College seeks to improve the academic performance and provide positive role models to youth participating in the program through weekly one-on-one academic tutoring sessions customized to student's individual needs. Two adult volunteers, who are referred to as "coaches," are assigned to each student to ensure coach participation in weekly sessions. These sessions help equip students with tools needed to succeed in school and in life.

Mentoring Coaching for College aims to build strong interpersonal relationships between mentors and youth participants by planning and implementing fun enrichment activities outside of the classroom. Students and coaches together take part in educational field trips, career fairs, and other enjoyable activities. Mentors are positive role-models for students and encourage students to set and work to achieve their goals.

Coaching Coaching for College also strives to empower students to actualize and realize their dreams and aspirations. Coaches work with their students on standardized test preparation, internship and career exploration, and college planning. In addition, special workshops are held to enhance skills in studying, organization, writing, critical thinking, and career options and goals. In many cases, coaches continue to mentor the same student well beyond the one-year minimum requirement.



To further address students' academic needs, Coaching for College staff regularly communicate with teachers regarding student progress and use school resources. Parents are regularly updated about their child's progress and encouraged to participate in developing adequate goals for them. Coaches receive weekly email reminders about Saturday sessions and updates as needed about program changes, upcoming activities and events, and helpful hints and suggestions.

2 Summer Opportunities Initiative (SOI) Coaching for College identifies, coordinates, and funds paid internships and other summer enrichment activities such as camps and classes for selected participants to further their academic and career interests. Examples of SOI placements include: on-campus law programs at Yale University and Princeton University; an on-campus leadership development program at Fordham University; research internships at Children's Medical Center; business and technology camps; and summer camp counselor internships. During the summer, Coaching for College meets weekly with participants to provide guidance and support in their new experiences.

3 Monthly Career Building Workshops These workshops were developed in a 2007 partnership with Accenture Consulting to provide students with additional guidance on topics including resume writing, interviewing skills, and budgeting. Students meet monthly and are placed in small groups headed by Accenture volunteers to engage in activities involving career exploration.



4 Sarah Rosen Annual Student of the Year Award In 2006, in honor of the late Sarah Rosen, a former coach, Coaching for College established an annual Sarah Rosen Student of the Year award to recognize a student who, due to his or her hard work, has shown the greatest improvement. The award is also intended to honor a student who embodies the unique qualities that made Sarah so special: kindness, compassion, motivation and a commitment to helping others. In recognition of the accomplishments, recipients receive a laptop computer provided by the law firm Kilpatrick Stockton, a \$500 U.S. Savings Bond that will mature on the date of his/her graduation from high school and a \$100 gift certificate for use immediately at his/her discretion. (Pictured to the left: Nisha Sachdev, Katisha Frederick, Jalesa Stewart, Sam Rosen)



Sarah Rosen Student of the Year

Jalesa Stewart, 2006

Katisha Frederick, 2007

Melondie Jackson, 2008 (not pictured)

2007 – 2008 FISCAL YEAR ACHIEVEMENTS

Coaching for College made strong organizational growth and a major impact with its students during Fiscal Year 2007 – 2008.

Coaching for College's major accomplishments for 2007 include:

Management

- An American University intern assisted the program director with administrative, operational, and programmatic needs (September 2007).

Operations

- Ninth annual school year kick-off at SMS. New and returning students, parents, and coaches came together for the Fall Kick-Off Event which included food, fun, and information on activities planned for the coming year. (September 2007)
- Saturday sessions began the school year with 34 students and 29 coaches. This was a 44% increase in students from last year. (September 2007)
- The director created an extensive database tracking attendance, past students, and present student's statistics. (October 2007)
- An improved website was launched with volunteer, student, and sponsor information. (October 2007)
- Partnership with Accenture was extended to include the Accenture DC offices and ten workshops held with 27 students attending on average. This is a 19% increase from last year (September 2007 – June 2008)
- All 22 8th grade students were assisted in applying to specialized high schools that fit their needs. All were accepted. (April 2008)
- The End of the Year Celebration including an awards ceremony and barbeque at the school. (June 2008)
- The second annual Sarah Rosen Student of the Year Award ceremony took place at Kilpatrick Stockton Law Firm and was attended by past and present recipients and Mr. Sam Rosen, father of Sarah Rosen. (September 2007)
- A new Parent Award program was launched to recognize involved parents in the program. (June 2007)
- All of the program's students were placed in internships or summer programs that matched their interest. Internship placements included counselors at WVSA Arts Connection, Department of Motor Vehicles, and summer camp counselors. Four rising 9th graders were sent to a 4 week law program at Princeton University sponsored by the Junior Statesman of America. (May 2008)
- All of the program's eligible 8th grade students applied to and received interviews with Upward Bound, a nationally recognized high school college preparatory program. (May 2008)
- A 4-year participant of Coaching for College graduated high school and enrolled in Clemson University. (April 2008)
- The school-year concluded with 40 students and 63 coaches participating in the Saturday sessions. (June 2008)

Enrichment Activities

- Students, coaches, and family gathered to celebrate the holidays at the annual holiday party. The day concluded with a mid-year awards ceremony recognizing students and coaches with outstanding participation. (December 2007)
- Coaching for College students participated in a community service event which included volunteering at a local homeless shelter packing food, cleaning rooms, and moving furniture. (November 2007)
- Bi-weekly workshops were organized for program students attending Princeton University Junior Statesman of America program to assist them with research and writing skills. (May 2008)

Organizational Development

- A partnership was formed with Hoop Dreams, a college bound program for high school seniors. One student participated in this partner program to assist with the college application process. (September 2007)
- A partnership was formed with the Inspired Youth Development Organization, a local non-profit that teaches business skills to students. Through this partnership, two students were able to participate in a summer business and entrepreneurship program. (June 2008)
- The partnership with Accenture expanded to include a DC Accenture project. Through this partnership, Accenture provided 15 volunteers to meet monthly with the students. The Accenture coaches provided monthly workshops to the students on topics including time management, budgeting, resume writing, interviewing skills, and how to prepare for college. (January 2008)
- Coaching for College also partnered with the DC Summer Youth Employment Office for the second summer. The Summer Youth Employment Office provided the students over the age of 14 with a stipend of \$5.85 per hour during the students' participation in Coaching for College-identified summer activities. (April 2007)

Budget

- Coaching for College hosted its fourth annual Wine tasting and Silent Auction Fundraiser. (March 2008)
- Coaching for College received \$15,000 continuing support from the Vineyard Foundation with a \$15,000 match from General Electric. (June 2008)

Specific Recognitions

- Jalesa Stewart received two scholarships and is currently attending Clemson University.
- Nisha Sachdev represented Coaching for College in the Strengthening Partners Initiative graduation ceremony. This program is highly selective and competitive one-year training program provides an opportunity for emerging nonprofit organizations in the District to strengthen their executive leadership skills and organizational capacity.

PERFORMANCE

2007 – 2008 Program Measures

	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	% Change from Previous Year
Program Participation (End of the Year)				
Number Students	23	33	40	21%
Number Coaches	34	48	63	31%
Program Attendance (Average % per Session)				
Students	63%	84%	89%	6%
Coaches	N/A	83%	88%	7%
Participant Retention				
Students	N/A	9%	82%	811%
Coaches	N/A	21%	56%	169%
SOI Participation	26%	100%	100%	0%
Enrichment Activities	4	4	5	25%
Workshops	0	3	10	233%
Enrollment of Eligible Students in Specialized High School	1	12	22 (100%)	N/A

Coaching for College continues to increase program participation, attendance, and retention. Overall student and coach participation in the program increased from last year by 21% (students) and 31% (coaches). Average attendance to the Saturday sessions was nearly 90% for both students and coaches, a 6 and 7% increase, respectively, from the previous year. Once again, 100% of students entering high school were placed in schools that fit their needs and 100% of eligible students were accepted into the Upward Bound program. All of this year's students were placed in summer internships or programs which matched the student's area of interest. Additionally, Coaching for College increased the number of after-school enrichment activities (25% increase) and workshops (>200% increase) offered to students this year. Finally, retention in the program increased considerably from the previous year with more than three-fourths of students, and half of coaches returning from the previous year, a significant percentage considering that Coaching for College requires only a one year commitment from coaches.

2008 – 2009 GOALS

Coaching for College Beyond 2008

Coaching for College is working to ensure that the resources and funding are available to sustain the organization as it begins its second decade of service to disadvantaged students in the District of Columbia. We would like to expand to other middle schools and increase program offerings such as after-school programming. In addition, Coaching for College is in the process of formalizing evaluation efforts in order to track students beyond middle school and into high school and college. Coaching for College hopes to expand its staffing to reach these goals. Most importantly, Coaching for College will continue to strive to provide students with the greatest opportunities for personal and academic success.

Anticipated Challenges

The District of Columbia Public School System is undergoing major changes. Coaching for College will be continuing to work with SMS, which included Garnet Patterson Middle School (GPMS) at the beginning of the 2008 – 2009 school year. In addition, SMS will be changed its location and now is based at GPMS with new administration and staff. Coaching for College will be working to ensure similar ties are formed with the new administration and staff. Lastly, with the growing number of students interested in the program, increased funding is needed to support the participants and programming.

Coaching for College Board of Directors

Mark Bayer, Founder and Chairman

Federal Government employee

Steve Baskin

Partner

Kilpatrick and Stockton, LLP

Susan Lukacs

Medical Officer

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Paul Massey

Senior Vice President

Powell Tate|Weber Shandwick

Mark Vineyard

Consultant

IBM

David Zaharchuk

Senior Managing Consultant

IBM

FY 2007 – 2008 Budget

**COACHING FOR COLLEGE PROGRAM
STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS
AS OF JUNE 30, 2008**

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

Wachovia Checking \$ 2,746.61

Wachovia Money Market 3,145.83

Total Checking/Savings 5,892.44

Grants and Contributions Receivable -

Total Current Assets 5,892.44

TOTAL ASSETS \$ **5,892.44**

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Other Current Liabilities

Payroll Liabilities \$ 3,190.19

Accounts Payable -

Total Other Current Liabilities 3,190.19

Total Current Liabilities 3,190.19

Total Liabilities 3,190.19

Equity

Net Assets - Unrestricted 13,649.38

Net Income (10,947.13)

Total Equity 2,702.25

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY \$ **5,892.44**

COACHING FOR COLLEGE PROGRAM
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES - ACTUAL V. BUDGET
JULY 01, 2007 - JUNE 30, 2008

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance Over/(Under)</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
Event Revenues	\$ -		\$ -
Grants and Contributions			
Corporations	-		-
Foundations	15,000.00		15,000.00
Individual Donors	39,945.39		39,945.39
Others	-		-
Total Grants and Contributions	<u>45,794.18</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>54,945.39</u>
In-Kind Contributions	-		-
Total Income	<u>45,794.18</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>54,945.39</u>
Expense			
Administrative/Financial	348.14		348.14
College Scholarship Fund	-		-
Consultant/Professional Fees	-		-
Dues and Subscriptions	334.60		334.60
Employee Benefits	2,499.90		2,499.90
Equipment	-		-
Evaluation	-		-
Insurance	1,350.00		1,350.00
Meals	-		-
Miscellaneous	567.00		567.00
Payroll Taxes	3,811.45		3,811.45
Postage and Delivery	92.20		92.20
Printing and Duplication	76.98		76.98
Rent and Utilities	2,888.32		2,888.32
Salaries	47,323.14		47,323.14
Special Events - Meals	1,462.17		1,462.17
Special Events - Tickets	100.00		100.00
Special Events - Travel	181.37		181.37
Stipends	4,350.00		4,350.00
Summer Opportunities	-		-
Supplies	631.70		631.70
Telephone and Fax	22.65		22.65
Travel	-		-
Total Expense	<u>66,039.62</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>66,039.62</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>(20,245.44)</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>(11,094.23)</u>
Other Income/Expense			
Other Income			
Interest Income	147.10	-	147.10
Total Other Income	<u>147.10</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>147.10</u>
Net Other Income	<u>147.10</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>147.10</u>
Net Income/(Loss)	<u>\$ (20,098.34)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (10,947.13)</u>