

## FROM THE CENTER

Winter 2010

NEWSLETTER OF THE CENTER FOR NEIGHBORHOOD ENTERPRISE

# CNE Board Member Has Plan to Free People From Debt CNN Features Soaries' Program in TV Special



Left: CNN Anchor and special correspondent Soledad O'Brien interviews Pastor DeForest Soaries. Right: Pastor Soaries has a passion for economic responsibility and has designed outreach programs to help his parishioners through their financial struggles. Photo credits: Jeremy Freeman/CNN

"Debt is a bigger problem than racism," declares Pastor DeForest "Buster" Soaries in a groundbreaking CNN documentary called "Almighty Debt: A Black in America Special. The program, hosted by anchor and special correspondent Soledad O'Brien, was aired by the network multiple times in October and is available online.

Pastor Soaries, a Board Member of the Center for Neighborhood Enterprise, is Senior Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Lincoln Gardens in Somerset, New Jersey. The documentary focuses on his program to help the church's 7000 parishioners become debt free. A strong proponent of self-help and independence, Pastor Soaries makes it clear that individuals must be responsible for their own destiny.

"Racism does not cause you to buy \$500 shoes on a \$2200 salary. It's a value system. It's a perspective on life, and we have to celebrate the breakup of that mentality. It's an American problem, but it is most devastating in African American communities."

The program notes that one out of three black families is at risk of falling out of the middle class due to job loss, overspending, unexpected financial crises, or other issues. Some 54% of African Americans are unbanked or under-banked because they don't use their bank accounts. Soaries is

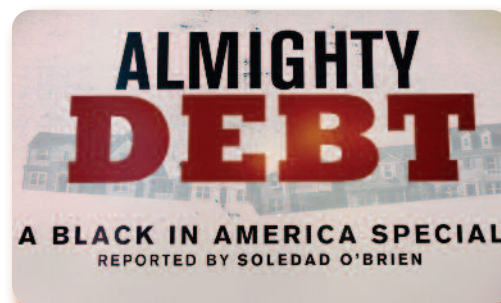
passionate about helping his congregation face these problems and has created a program he calls "dfree – Breaking Free from Financial Slavery." The dfree pledge includes keeping expenses below income, paying bills on time, and investing in assets that grow in value.

**A Program that Works:** "Dfree or debt-free means No Debt, No Deficits, No Delinquencies," he says. The program offers steps to become dfree, tips on handling such things as auto loans, mortgages, and credit cards, and other information through newsletters and counseling.

As the special follows three examples—a young man entering college, a couple who can no longer pay their mortgage and credit card debt, and a man who has lost his job—Soaries is blunt about what they must do to help themselves.

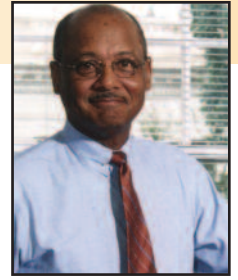
"Optimism has to be connected to some action. Our thing here is faith in action. If you're not connected to action, your faith is dead. The Bible says faith without works is dead. So I am against optimism if it's not rooted in reality."

The documentary shows the young man getting help from the church's Youth Pastor as he tries to raise money through a drama competition and to



*Continued on page 2*

## A Message from Bob Woodson



Bob Woodson

### How to Shrink Government, Cut Costs, and Improve Services

*The voters have spoken and it is clear that they want to see action from the nation's leaders in reducing the size and reach of government and the cost that has produced skyrocketing deficits. At the same time, however, they must act to address the pain and suffering of citizens that are languishing in the worst job market since the Great Depression, and the needs of the increasing ranks of the poor.*

*At the Center for Neighborhood Enterprise, we believe there are innovative alternatives to the polar positions that have dominated past debates in which one side wants to expand social programs to aid these groups, and the other side demands across-the-board cuts in social expenditures. We have demonstrated that there is a third, more creative way to resolve what appears to be conflicting demands. Our various neighborhood-based social interventions to reduce violence and to rescue children prove that it is possible to shrink the size and reach of government at a lower cost by reducing the demand for services by the population suffering the problem.*

*Our work in the city of Richmond, Virginia offers a clear example. Over the past ten years, CNE has successfully established youth violence intervention programs in more than 30 of the country's most violent middle and high schools in four different cities. According to a Baylor University study, we have been able to reduce violence by 25% in the first three months of the program. In Richmond we are in George Wythe High School, which was the city's most notorious. There have been dramatic reductions in violence, declines in suspensions and expulsions, and an increase in teaching days. The local police department reports a 61% drop in car thefts in the immediate area of the school, which it attributes to our program. When Baylor conducted a cost benefit analysis of the program they determined that all of these improvements occurred with a cost savings of approximately \$371,000. This did not even address the costs avoided because of reduced number of ambulance and police responses to the school, fewer court cases, and fewer incarcerations.*

*In the city of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where CNE has been operating in eight public high schools for more than three years, District Attorney John Chisholm reported that the city's overall rate of violence is at a 25-year low, with the CNE Violence-Free Zone program being a major factor. As a result, downtown businesses do better than would be expected in a diminished economy.*

*Recently our program was featured in US News and World Report as one of ten service groups in the country that are making a difference against intractable problems.*

*If the successful interventions that CNE has pioneered in these selective cities would be taken to scale to operate in hundreds of cities, dramatic reductions in violence, incarcerations, and school dropouts would occur but at reduced cost to taxpayers.*

*Our violence-reduction program is just one example of the results that the Center has achieved over our 29-year history. Through programs that motivate individuals to self-sufficiency and empower local institutions, we assisted residents of public housing in winning the right to manage their own developments and save costs to taxpayers. We have provided training and technical assistance to more than 2600 leaders of community-based organizations that have made their own neighborhoods safer, better places to live.*

*The measure of our compassion is not how many people depend upon government programs and spending, but how few depend upon it. This can happen if we highlight, empower and capitalize the local ventures and solutions that come from people, neighborhoods and social enterprises. Government can help, but cannot do this job.*

Robert L. Woodson, Sr.

### CNN Report, continued from page 1

connect with student loans. As the challenges seem insurmountable, Pastor Soaries tells him, "You're not opposed to working, are you? Because if you are, we're done." He then connects him with an employment opportunity.

He arranges for another parishioner, a human resources manager, to assist the man who has lost his job. The HR manager rounds up other parishioners who work for various companies that might offer opportunities, and convenes them so that the man can meet them, present his qualifications, and get their advice.

The couple facing foreclosure is unable to work out a settlement with the bank. Pastor Soaries notes that in such cases, "My mission is to help them become psychologically, emotionally, and spiritually prepared to start over." Starting over, he indicates, is in itself a new opportunity.

Not everyone, he admits, wants to hear some of these blunt truths. CNN's O'Brien asks if he becomes discouraged. "I'm frustrated but passionate. I am as passionate today about this cause of

financial literacy and the spiritual bondage caused by debt as I was committed to the cause of civil rights as a teenager," he says.

**Prosperity Gospel:** In a panel discussion staged by CNN after showing the documentary, Pastor Soaries says, "If all we do is preach, and all we do is preach is prosperity, there will be a gap between people's capacity and the Biblical message we want them to embrace. And so we have to create big dreams, but we also have to provide an infrastructure so that people can manage their way through to their dreams.

"If there is no infrastructure, then prosperity is an ecclesiastical pyramid scheme where the preacher gets richer and the people get tricked."

*For more information about the dfree program and the work of Pastor Soaries and the First Baptist Church of Lincoln Gardens, go to [www.mydfree.org/devfl/index.html](http://www.mydfree.org/devfl/index.html).*



# Youth Violence and Disruption: Down in VFZ Schools, Rising in Others

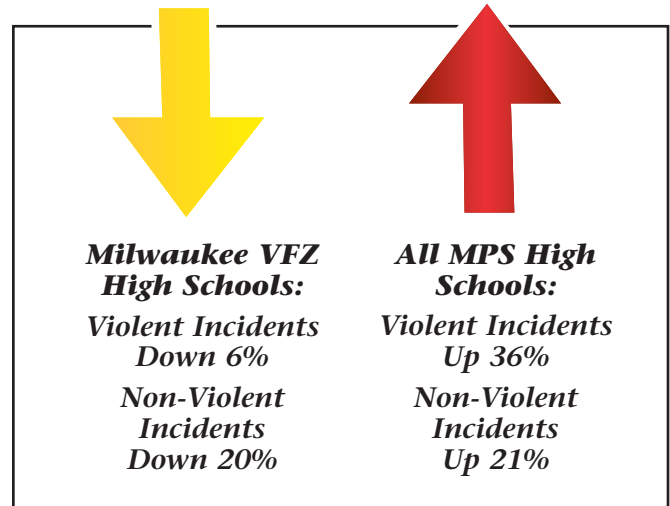
Despite FBI reports that the nation's crime has been diminishing over the past few years, many urban schools are reporting disturbing increases in youth violence and negative behaviors. But there are exceptions – the schools with the Center for Neighborhood Enterprise's Violence-Free Zone program. In Milwaukee, WI, where the VFZ has been working in eight high schools, the VFZ schools scored well for the 2009/10 school year against a background of rising youth problems.

CNE strongly believes in measuring the outcomes of its programs. In the case of the VFZ, the Center takes as a baseline the numbers of violent incidents, non-violent incidents, and suspensions reported by the specific schools the year before the VFZ program was introduced. CNE then compares those numbers with those reported for each succeeding full year.

In Milwaukee where CNE and its community partner organizations the Latino Community Center (LCC) and the Running Rebels Community Organization (RRCO) have been operating the VFZ for some five years, the numbers of infractions in the VFZ schools continue to be significantly reduced from baseline levels. During the same time frame, Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) data shows that violent and non-violent incidents in the district's high schools overall rose by substantial amounts. And while suspensions were reduced in all the high schools, the reduction achieved by the VFZ schools was more than 28% better than the district average.

**Climate Survey:** Each year, the school system administers a "Climate Survey" to students, staff, and parents with a variety of questions about their levels of satisfaction with their schools and their feelings of safety. In the safety category, the VFZ schools showed higher improvements over baselines than did the MPS schools overall. Students in the VFZ schools bettered the MPS District rate by about 9%, with an average increase of 27.1% for the category, compared to an average MPS District increase of 25.5%.

Milwaukee Public Schools has requested that the Violence-Free Zone program be extended to an additional school this year, bringing the total to 10 Milwaukee high schools on nine campuses for the 2010/11 school year. CNE community partner Running Rebels Community Organization has assigned three of the seven Youth Advisors that had been serving in Custer High School to Northwest High School, a new



<b>Table 1: Incidents*</b>			
<b>Schools</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>2009/10</b>	<b>Percent Change</b>
<b>Violent Incidents</b>			
VFZ Schools	3,054	2,860	Down 6%
All MPS High Schools	5,261	7,178	Up 36%
<b>Non-Violent Incidents</b>			
VFZ Schools	37,652	30,074	Down 20%
All MPS High Schools	56,804	68,817	Up 21%
<b>Suspension Rates</b>			
VFZ Schools	35.6%	30.5%	Down 14%
All MPS High Schools	36.0%	32.3%	Down 10%

\* Data provided by Milwaukee Public Schools.

<b>Table 2: 2009/2010 VFZ Program Sites and Starting Dates</b>		
<b>School</b>	<b>VFZ Start Date</b>	<b>Pre-VFZ Baseline Year</b>
South Divison	Sept. 2005	2004/05
Bay View	Sept. 2007	2006/07
Custer	Sept. 2007	2006/07
Washington HS Expeditionary Learning (EL)	Sept. 2007	2006/07
Washington HS Law, Education, and Public Service (LEPS)	Sept. 2007	2006/07
Madison*	Jan. 2008	2006/07
Bradley Tech	Sept. 2008	2007/08
Vincent	Sept. 2009	2008/09

Note: Activity at North Division High School, a multiplex school in which the VFZ started in November of 2007, was phased out during the 2009/10 school year.

\*Madison baseline from first quarter 2007/08, no data available for 2006/07.

# News from the Sites



*The Violence-Free Zone program is in 26 schools this fall: Baltimore (4); Chicago (1); Dallas (11); Milwaukee (9); and Richmond, VA (1). These are some of the activities underway:*

**GENERAL:** The Center has been awarded a three-year, \$2.3 million grant from the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs to expand and enhance the capacity of CNE's Violence-Free Zone program to provide mentoring services to high risk underserved youth. The funds will be used in Baltimore, Dallas, Milwaukee (2 sites), and Richmond, VA, and include training of some 100 full-time mentors and supervisory staff. CNE also will use the grant to assist its community partners at those sites to expand their program activities and supportive services. The Violence-Free Zones are supported at each location by various combinations of local school funding, CNE, and local foundation support.

**BALTIMORE:** **New Vision Youth Services**, which is implementing the VFZ in two Baltimore high schools, one charter school, and a middle school, is getting good attendance at its "Heart-to-Heart" lunchtime program for young ladies. NVYS also is assisting Johns Hopkins University's Center for the Prevention of Youth Violence with JHU's Safe Streets program in East Baltimore.

**CHICAGO:** **K.L.E.O. (Keep Loving Each Other) Community Family Life Center**, CNE's Chicago community partner, has started the process of contacting, enrolling, and working with the 100 students assigned to the program by Chicago Public Schools. The students are or have been enrolled in Paul Robeson High School, and some have dropped out or are in jail.

**DALLAS:** **Vision Regeneration**, CNE's Dallas community partner organization, has Youth Advisors in Dallas Independent School District middle and high schools on a

daily basis, and provides after-school programming as well as a popular Tuesday night Bible study for teens. Vision, founded by Omar Jahwar, is planning a new state-of-the-art facility to be erected at its current site in the Oak Cliff section of South Dallas.

**MILWAUKEE:** **Running Rebels Community Organization** is holding a weekly after-school reading program in each of the schools that it serves. Called P.O.W.E.R. (Producing Optimal Wisdom Enhanced by Reading), the program was created by Jacqueline Spence, Educational Specialist for the Running Rebels and also a certified teacher for MPS. The MVFZ-RRCO students meet once a week with their youth advisors and read from various books that deal with urban high school issues. During their meeting the youth advisors read with their youth and the youth are given time to journal and discuss issues that are presented in each book. Remedial help is offered to those students who are functioning below their grade reading levels.

**RICHMOND:** **THE ROC** (Richmond Outreach Center) recently conducted an important mediation when a neighborhood fight began to spill into the school. The Youth Advisors were first on the scene to break it up. They followed up by inviting the leaders of the opposing factions to The ROC for lunch where they talked out their dispute, culminating in shaking hands and a pledge to respect each other. In other activities, The ROC has started an afterschool leadership group for junior and senior students at George Wythe High School. In addition to discussions about how to be a leader, the students get practical training in how to look for and apply for a job or to further their education in college. As emerging leaders, they will be able to tutor others.

## Wisconsin VFZ, continued from page 3

school for the VFZ. In addition to those two schools, RRCO Youth Advisors are implementing the VFZ in Hamilton, Vincent, and Washington high schools, while the Latino Community Center is working in Bay View, Bradley Tech, Madison, and South Division high schools.

The Milwaukee VFZ is supported by a contract with Milwaukee Public Schools and funding by CNE and some 10 Milwaukee foundations.

Question	Pre-VFZ	2009/10	Percent Change
My school makes sure that classrooms are safe and orderly	55.2%	66.7%	Up 20.8%
My school makes sure that students are safe and orderly while on school grounds	46.5%	62.4%	Up 34.1%
The halls, bathrooms, cafeteria and other common areas in my school are safe and orderly	41.5%	52.5%	Up 26.5%

\* Data provided by Milwaukee Public Schools.

# Technical Assistance Can Be More Valuable Than Money

Over the past three years, the Center for Neighborhood Enterprise has awarded more than \$608,000 in grants to 52 community and faith-based organizations that provide critical services in Washington, DC's most underserved neighborhoods. But more important than the money, perhaps, has been the technical assistance provided by CNE's TA manager Geanie Kase and the team of CNE technical assistance consultants. During 2010 alone, CNE provided 35 organizations with 478 hours of one-on-one TA and 44 hours of group training.

"Typically, when these organizations come to us, they are providing high quality services to people who need it most for a fraction of the cost of government programs. However, most are lacking the capacity to really maintain those services on a sustained basis due to lack of funding, administrative infrastructure, or board involvement," said Kase.

"Our job is to provide them with the tools and guidance to improve the way they operate so that they can improve their programs and operations. We don't want to change what they do but rather help them find the most efficient and effective way of doing it."

The process starts with an organizational assessment to confirm the needs expressed by each organization in its application, to assess the group's level of proficiencies, and to identify any other possible weaknesses.

"We approach all TA as a partnership," Kase explains. "We understand that in order to help an organization achieve change, they need to be transparent. But they can't be transparent if they don't trust you."

"Our first task is to build a relationship with those we serve so that they feel comfortable sharing the critical issues they are facing. Next, we work through those issues with them. Finally, we provide them with the necessary follow up to ensure that they can continue moving on a successful path."

**The Key Areas:** The category of technical assistance most needed and most widely requested by the groups is financial management. As CNE President Bob Woodson has remarked, "Visionaries make poor bookkeepers, and that is why we created the technical assistance program 29 years ago."

CNE provided help to 14 of the organizations in various aspects of financial management depending on the status of the



CNE Technical Assistance Manager Geanie Kase and TA Consultant Ayo Atterberry.

group. Some of the tasks included creating financial management procedures, improving internal controls, implementing a new accounting system, developing financial management protocols and developing and implementing a new budgeting process; and even training in QuickBooks.

**From Family Members to Board Members:** Many fledgling organizations typically draw upon their own family members or friends for their first board of directors.

"Family members may not provide the range of business experience or the connections that will help the organization to grow," Woodson says. "Further, when it comes time to manage large amounts of money or choose an executive director, objectivity and independence are essential."

Eleven groups asked for assistance. Services provided by CNE included help in recruiting board members, creating board policies, providing training and written information for boards of directors, assisting in developing a board election process and developing an orientation process. One board asked for and received help in creating a process for selecting an executive director for the organization.

*Continued on page 6*



Leaders of DC community-based organizations met monthly as part of CNE's Hands-Across Network to share information, best practices, and receive training on topics such as the new IRS Form 990, HR practices, and fundraising.

**Outcomes Measurements:** The Center believes in rigorous attention to measuring program outcomes – for CNE’s programs and for the grassroots groups it serves. The TA team helped about a dozen groups with some element of the process, such as creating outcome measurement plans; creating a logic model; collecting information regarding service recipient information and outcomes, as well as helping them analyze the effectiveness of their current services and/or their collaborative efforts.

Executive Directors received considerable attention with leadership training and coaching in developing such management tools as a staff performance review process and help in developing new strategic partnerships. Several groups received help in completing fundraising/development plans.

Other technical assistance tasks performed by the team included helping some programs do a community survey; developing a strategic plan; assessing technology needs and acquiring appropriate hardware, software, licenses, and training; developing brochures or a website; developing a volunteer recruiting process and manual; and creating a staff development plan.

**The Results:** CNE’s Kase is pleased with the outcomes of the project, which has been supported by a three-year grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Community Capacity Fund.

“We have seen many boards transformed from being practically non-existent to fully functioning governing entities due to our Board Development TA. We have seen organizations who come to us with all of their financial records in a shoe box and end up having all of their finances managed on Quick Books,

<b>One-on-One Technical Assistance Provided to Washington, DC Community-Based Organizations</b>	
Category	Number of Groups Receiving
Financial Management .....	14
Management, Leadership .....	12
Board Development, Policies .....	11
Outcomes System Development .....	7
Volunteer Recruitment and Management .....	5
Strategic Planning .....	4
Resource Development .....	4
Brochure Development .....	4
Information Technology .....	3
Professional Staff Development .....	2
Community Assessment .....	2
Website Development .....	1
Strategic Partnership Development .....	1
Consultant Assessment .....	1
Groups Receiving Workshop Training .....	35

with a Finance Committee, Audit Committee, and sound Internal Control Procedures due to our Financial Management TA,” she says. “And we have seen organizations who were operating in a deficit end up one year later with an operating reserve due to our Resource Development TA.”

### What They Say about CNE Technical Assistance

*“Because of CNE’s help we went from serving 17 families in 2004 to having served 567 families to date ... Because of the funding received from CNE we are currently a full functioning Mental Health center with computers, furniture, electronic equipment, and evaluation materials ... More important than the funding Ascensions has received, has been the technical assistance (TA) that CNE has provided to us.”*

– Dr. Satira S. Streever  
Executive Director/Licensed Clinical Psychologist  
Ascensions Community Services, Inc.

*“The consultants were quite supportive for the Executive Director in terms of being a ‘sounding board,’ as well as providing researched materials to the Executive. This is a valuable service to Executive Directors and I applaud CNE for recognizing a void in this area and stepping in to provide the service ... Additionally, the Hands-Across monthly meetings were invaluable and supportive to the Executive Directors.”*

– Carolyn D. Dallas  
Executive Director  
Time Dollar Youth Court, Inc.

*“With the technical assistance we received, Urban Ed has grown, is serving more people smarter, has stronger board engagement and has begun to reach financial stability. We are celebrating 10 years of existence this year and we could not have been as successful or even still standing had it not been for CNE’s technical assistance.”*

– Roxanne J. Williams  
President  
Urban Ed

*“What made CNE such a great experience was its combination of organization-wide assessment, one on one sessions with consultants, the Hands-Across Network sessions, and of course the funding to meet a particular organizational priority ... I know that the capacity building sessions and board development sessions were instrumental in pushing us to recruit more financial expertise on our board.”*

– Mazi Mutafa  
Executive Director  
Words Beats and Life, Inc.

*“I strongly support CNE’s TA program because not only did the TA’s provide guidance, experience, and tools, but they also set project goals that were focused on achieving true results. The TA’s didn’t just define a roadmap and leave; they were patient, knowledgeable, and dedicated to solving our problems. FLY was successful in searching, hiring, and transitioning a new Executive Director. Our financial management and budget processes and procedures are accurate and effective. These results could not have been achieved if it were not for CNE’s TA support ... Further, the monthly grantee meetings were valuable from a variety of perspectives: 1) networking with other ED’s, and 2) learning relevant capacity building information from a variety of expert speakers.”*

– Iman Tyson  
Chairman, Board of Directors  
FLY (Facilitating Leadership in Youth)

# CNE Helps the Program that Helps Adults to Read and Help Themselves



Above left: Financial Literacy class; Above Right: Literacy Volunteers and Advocates staff.

What would it be like if you couldn't read? Couldn't get a job, much less a promotion? Or couldn't even help your kids with homework?

The nation's capital, Washington, DC, has one of the highest illiteracy rates in the country, with an estimated 36% of the adult population reading below the 6th grade level. And while there are multiple adult learning organizations in the District, few serve individuals reading at the lowest levels.

Literacy Volunteers and Advocates (LVA) is one of only two such programs. Founded in 1987 to combat adult illiteracy, it specializes in equipping adults with learning disabilities with skills and techniques that allow them to have a higher quality of life, providing one-to-one tutoring and a combination of classroom and individual tutoring. Over the years the program has expanded to include classroom instruction on adult basic education, workplace literacy, basic computer literacy, and financial literacy.

"We meet the learner at his/her level of need and develop an individualized literacy plan for each individual," said LVA Executive Director, Rita Daniels. "Success is when an adult learner reaches one or more of his or her goals."

**Some Help Needed:** But despite the intense need, it was having problems communicating its services and competing for grant funds. The organization also needed to increase its capacity to reach adult learners with more tutors and facilities. To address these issues, Rita Daniels submitted a proposal to the Center for Neighborhood Enterprise for a grant in CNE's TA program, funded by the Compassion Capital Fund.

The Center provided technical support to increase LVA's ability to monitor its services and manage its finances. The organization

operates with a small staff – four full-time staff, two part-time instructors, and more than 100 volunteer tutors. LVA offers classes in three of DC's eight wards, offering classes in public libraries and partnering with other organizations that provide space. It provides one-to-one tutoring for 1-2 hours to some 90 adult learners each week as well as some 14 classes, and bi-monthly tutor training sessions for individuals interested in becoming tutoring.

CNE also provided a grant to offer financial literacy workshops, as well as technical assistance and funding for a development and message consultant.

"The financial literacy workshops provided an avenue for our adult learners to receive knowledge and build skills in financial literacy that would not ordinarily have been provided to them," Daniels said.

**Hands-Across Network Benefits:** Daniels, who holds a Master's degree in adult education with a concentration in gerontology, reports that she has benefited from being a part of CNE's Hands-Across Network.

"The professional development received through Hands-Across Network was extremely valuable. The sessions were timely and information could be readily implemented. The sessions provided the latest information that I needed as an Executive Director to keep LVA up-to-date on legal requirements of a nonprofit and best practices in the industries, as well as to build skills."

As the LVA website indicates, there are more than 40 million adults in the United States who cannot read well enough to fill out a job application, follow a bus schedule, understand a medicine label, or read to their children. Literacy Volunteers and Advocates is doing what it can to help such individuals in the nation's capital.

*"The professional development received through Hands-Across Network was extremely valuable. The sessions were timely and information could be readily implemented. The sessions provided the latest information that I needed as an Executive Director to keep LVA up-to-date on legal requirements of a nonprofit and best practices in the industries, as well as to build skills."*

– Literacy Volunteers and Advocates  
Executive Director, Rita Daniels

From The Center is published by the Center for Neighborhood Enterprise,\* a nonprofit, nonpartisan, 501(c)(3) organization founded in 1981 by Robert L. Woodson, Sr., to assist low-income Americans in solving the problems of their communities.

CNE identifies effective grassroots organizations and strengthens them by providing training and technical assistance, and links them to outside resources. It also measures their impact and recommends public policies to facilitate their efforts. CNE has trained more than 2600 leaders of grassroots organizations across the country. Since its founding in 1981, it has leveraged resources for grassroots organizations at a rate of more than 10 times what it has expended. Subject areas addressed by CNE's grassroots affiliates include substance abuse, teen pregnancy, homelessness, joblessness, poor education, and deteriorating neighborhoods. The Center has a major focus on programs addressing youth violence.

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Please visit CNE's website at [www.cneonline.org](http://www.cneonline.org) for more information and the latest updates on our activities.

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\*Formerly known as the National Center for Neighborhood Enterprise.

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## CNE's Latest Results!

### Reducing Youth Violence:

- Richmond's George Wythe High School had the highest improvement in its graduation rate of all Richmond high schools with a 13% increase.
- Milwaukee schools with the Violence-Free Zone had decreases of 6% in violent incidents and 20% in nonviolent incidents, while all MPS high schools had increases of 36% and 21% respectively. (Page 3)

### Technical Assistance:

- CNE provided 478 hours of one-on-one technical assistance and 44 hours of group TA to leaders of some 35 community and faith-based organizations in Washington, DC in 2010. (Page 5)

### Financial Literacy:

- CNE/HSBC and its community organization partners have conducted 90 events and have reached 2645 participants. 10% of those participants have received financial literacy training using social media.