

The mission of Vision for Children at Risk (VCR) is to promote the well-being of children and youth in the St. Louis metropolitan area, targeting particularly those young people who face serious socio-economic risk. The goal of VCR is to ensure the St. Louis community makes more effective, systematic provision for meeting the fundamental needs of all area children.

OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS - 2006

Building Constructive Dialogue Around The St. Louis Public Schools

With controversy and leadership turmoil surrounding the St. Louis Public Schools in 2006, quality education became the most urgent issue facing children in the city.

To bring constructive dialogue and citizen participation into the process, Vision for Children at Risk and the St. Louis Metropolitan Children's Agenda launched a series of forums on public education. This "A Public Dialogue on Public Education" series featured six 2006 forums attended by more than 500 participants.



Forums featured perspectives of all major stakeholders, including school administration, teachers, parents, government, business, funders, and community organizations. Research material was assembled to provide an information base in which data and best practices can be used to support decision-making.

Starting in 2007, the next phase of forums will begin to focus on developing solutions and building an ongoing citizen voice in support of public education.

Advancing Programs and Initiatives That Meet the Needs of Children

Vision for Children at Risk brings together people and organizations to address critical needs of children in the region. Some 300 agencies join in the St. Louis Metropolitan Children's Agenda, facilitated by Vision for Children at Risk, to plan and carry out over 25 strategies that span a full range of children's needs. Vision for Children is the spark and the incubator that makes it happen.

Over the past 14 years, new programs and initiatives developed through the Children's Agenda have attracted over \$17 million in new funding to the region and impact tens of thousands of children annually.

2006 Children's Agenda Highlights:

- Formation of the St. Louis Family & Community Partnership, a coalition of more than 40 child-serving agencies in the city of St. Louis. Work of the Partnership targets prevention of child abuse and neglect, and support of foster parents. The Partnership held educational events for April Child Abuse Prevention Month including an appearance by St. Louis Mayor Francis Slay (pictured, right).
- Launch of the Healthy Youth Partnership, a broad-based collaborative of about 70 organizations committed to improving the health and fitness of the region's children and youth.
- Professional services for home-visitation professionals, including a safety-training session attended by about 80 workers, plus continued dissemination of the Quality Standards for Home Visitation Programs.
- Capacity building for the Teen Pregnancy Partnership to improve its ability to train professionals.



Informing and Advocating

Vision for Children at Risk in late 2005 introduced the seventh edition of the *Children of Metropolitan St. Louis* report providing comprehensive information on the health and well-being of children in the St. Louis region. More than 500 copies of the 2005 report have been distributed, and report pages on the Vision for Children at Risk Web are viewed nearly 900 times each month.

VCR also works to educate civic leaders about the link between the well-being of children and the economic health and vitality of the region. The "Invest in Kids" advertising program continued with three ads in *St. Louis Commerce* magazine in 2006, each reaching an audience of 15,000 business leaders.



VISION FOR CHILDREN AT RISK - 2006 ANNUAL REPORT

Federal Grants Support Capacity Building

Vision for Children at Risk is receiving support through two grants from the U.S. Administration for Children and Families. During 2005-06, a \$50,000 grant Compassion Capital Targeted Capacity Building program supported capacity-building work around VCR's work with the Children's Agenda.

In late 2006, VCR was notified that it has been awarded a \$750,000, three-year grant under the Compassion Capital Communities Empowering Youth program, to build community capacity around prevention of youth violence, gangs and child abuse. Besides VCR, funding also is assisting Kids Hope United and the St. Louis Family & Community Partnership.

Supporters

Special thanks to the following for their support of Vision for Children at Risk in 2006:

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Cardinal Glennon Children's Medical Center Foundation
DaimlerChrysler Corporation Fund
Incarnate Word Foundation
Missouri Children's Trust Fund
Pettus Foundation
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St. Louis Mental Health Board
Norman J. Stupp Foundation, Commerce Bank Trustee

Government

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Tom and Leslie Tupper
Rosilee Trotta
Corinne Walentik, M.D.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Year Ended December 31, 2006

Audited

Support and Revenue

Contributions	\$ 33,983
Grant Awards	585,090
Research Services	12,464
Other	<u>4,214</u>
Total	\$ 635,751

Expenses

Program	\$ 365,570
Management and General	46,720
Fundraising	<u>7,598</u>
Total	\$ 419,888

Balance Sheet

Net Assets, 12/31/05	98,195
Total Assets	\$ 408,903
Liabilities	<u>94,845</u>
Net Assets, 12/31/06	314,058

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