



2008 Annual Report



Dear Supporter:

We entered 2009 with a mix of cautiousness, crossed fingers and a determination to continue to find ways to support youth in our mentoring program. If you haven't noticed by now, 2009 is also our 30th Anniversary, and while the economics are troubling, we have not let that dampen our spirits or stay true to our goals. There is excitement that by the end of this year we will have served over 2200 youth in our one-to-one mentoring program since 1979. That's an incredible accomplishment, celebrated with all who have been a part of our organization.

As you read through the financial numbers, you will notice the effects the economy had on our organization in the last two quarters of 2008. We worked hard to minimize the economic effects without affecting our mentoring program. What the numbers don't tell you is that 2008 was a investment year for us to prepare for future growth, and we planned our reserves accordingly. Also, we continued to diversify our funding stream and set records in our fundraising event revenue. And despite some of the financial struggles, we served 11% more youth than in 2007. Below are a few 2008 highlights we are proud of:

- Supported 291 youth in our mentoring program, compared to 263 in 2007
- Almost 500 volunteers contributed 21,091 hours of volunteer time. Of that time, 16,001 hours were spent between Senior Partners (adults) and their Junior Partner (youth)
- Youth matched with a mentor for one year showed increased self-esteem and self-confidence, a more positive view of their future, less delinquent behavior and less interest in using drugs and alcohol (based on data from our Partners Mentoring Services Effectiveness Index)
- Continued focus on the best match possible; 90% of our Partnerships completed their one-year commitment and 53% of those Partnerships chose to continue beyond their first year
- Doubled the number of Life-Skill and community service activities available to our youth
- Created new branding and messaging for the organization and extended our outreach efforts via social networking and online communications
- Continued to diversify our funding stream thanks to the contributions of state and local government, foundations, individual and corporate donors, grants and special events

We could not have accomplished these goals without your support, and your belief in the power of prevention and the mentoring work we do. On behalf of the youth we serve, Partners' Board of Directors and staff thanks you for your continued support.

Gerard Nalezny, Chairman of the Board

Chris Imsland, Executive Director

"He has helped me to change my perspective on life." Junior Partner, age 17.



The mission of Partners Mentoring Youth is to create and support one-to-one mentoring relationships between positive adult role models and youth facing challenges in their personal, social and academic lives.

