



Looking from the Inside Out
By Ed Diaz
Pathways Board Member

As a child growing up in the Mission District of San Francisco, I always felt that I was looking from the inside out. It was a world of broken souls, drugs, gangs, welfare checks, death and jail. A boulevard of broken dreams. The streets were scary and poverty was all around. People crammed into apartments and working many jobs to make ends meet. We were the forgotten souls dying a slow death. Didn't seem opportunity ever came knocking in our neighborhood and conversations lacked talk of dreams and goals.

We did have lots of love to get us by. This is the one factor that was always present. The idea that I was special and would be the exception to the rule was made a point many times by my mother. This fueled a perpetual flame in me which would lead me to join Junior Achievement in junior high school. I remember my first meeting. A stock broker was the guest speaker that day. I was amazed by what he said and the opportunities to get out of financial hardship while at the same time helping others came to the forefront and this speaker would in turn change my life. I realized there were worlds out there that I had no idea existed. Opportunities by the hundreds that were there for the taking. I also suddenly realized that I could do anything and achieve great things if shown how. This day put me on a path of self discovery and achievement beyond my wildest dreams.

Today because of that wonderful day, I own a mortgage company. I mentor kids and now have over 18 years of financial industry experience under my belt at the ripe old age of 37. I feel that guidance and education are vital to the process of turning opportunity into reality. Without these, our youth is at risk. This is the reason why being a Board Member and Mentor at Pathways for Kids is such a great passion of mine and a cause that is near to my heart. I was and will always be that Pathways kid who as an underdog saw no way out, but who through mentoring, education and guidance, was able to achieve many dreams instead of winding up a victim of the streets and circumstance. I am living proof of what Pathways is all about, so please join us in our cause to help at risk youth in San Francisco.

Thank you!

Ed Diaz

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Mayor Newsom Says:

"The Pathways partnership-mentors and mentees-enables business to take an active role in preparing local students for college, and ultimately, career success."

Staff

Executive Director, Peter Howes
Program Director, Alex Rice
Program Coordinator, Valeria Lletget
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Pathways For Kids

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Many thanks to JP Morgan Chase for graciously providing our Pathways offices!

My Experience with Pathways for Kids By Danielle ISA High School (Junior)

Overall I really enjoyed the experience of getting to know more about some of the careers that I did not have prior knowledge about before yesterday. The most unique part was learning more about the daily activities that a fireman is involved in, besides fighting fires. That was most interesting because the firefighter that participated in the activity brought some of the many tools that are needed when he goes out to a sight where medical/fire assistance is needed.

The other careers that were represented, such as the Court Interpreter, the Financial Analyst, the Youth Mental Health Center Program Director and the College Advisor all discussed their own careers and career paths, which was interesting because they had such different jobs and came from very different backgrounds yet shared the common interest of wanting to volunteer for Pathways for Kids. Each of the speakers also had a lot in common, such as the fact that they didn't know what career they wanted when they were in high school but they knew they should work hard so that when they did know what they wanted to do for a career, they would have the necessary skills.

I should add how excited I am about participating in Pathways for Kids Field Trips in 2006!



A Message from the Chairman

It's been seven years since we started Pathways for Kids. This year we completed twenty three very successful programs for San Francisco's disadvantaged inner city kids. Peter Howes has done an excellent job as Executive Director since accepting the role at my request three years ago. Alex Rice has been a wonderful Program Director. I want to thank Valeria Lletget for her work with us. She is moving on to a more permanent job but remains a Pathways Coach. Our Board, which is led by President Mary Lou Castellanos gets younger and smarter each year. I particularly acknowledge Victoria Zitrin for her commitment in 2005. Our Advisory Board is taking on a very important role in adding a 25 person permanent auction committee with the goal of securing \$125,000 in donated auction items.

We have learned a lot about getting through to the kids in seven years. We have gone from using fancy words like "Mentor" to "Coach" (suggestion of Donald Dwares). The kids now understand. We have engaged everyone from school administrators to teachers at the grass roots level to facilitate Pathways programs. We partnered with eight schools this year while working with some of San Francisco's poorest kids. Now we increasingly take kids to venues like Napa and the Giants, introducing them to professions, capitalism, out of the classroom at Coach Bob Tealer's suggestion. Lots of kids have never left the "hood", never met a businessman or woman, never heard of investing. We are changing that.

Respectfully,
Peter Dwares
Founder/Chairman

Welcome new Board Members

Pathways is very pleased to have the following new Board members join us in 2005:

Michael Franzia, Classic Wines of California
Craig Gordon, OTA-Off The Record Research
Heather Hiles, IFF Advisors
Tom McKnew, US Realty Capital
Craig Solomon, San Francisco Giants

Welcome Aboard!

Auction Item Donations

There are many ways to assist Pathways in raising funds. One very helpful option is to donate items or services that Pathways can auction on eBay or during its fundraising events. Items like jewelry, art, dinners, trips and services all help. For example, The Red Chair Salon at 1808 Union Street in San Francisco donates a package every year including hair styling, shampoo, massage and hair products in a spacious and comfortable environment with a unique sense of hospitality, tranquility and relaxation www.theredchairsalon.com. Pathways always receives a sizeable bid on this auction item which means more funds for our programs. Your ideas or auction item donations will be greatly appreciated!

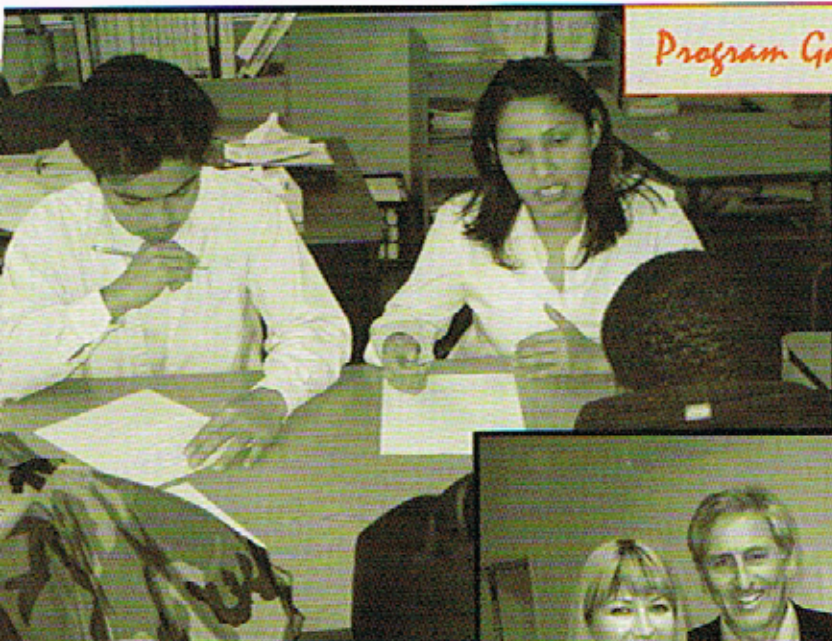


The Red Chair Salon

Pathways Website

Don't forget to visit the Pathways website for up to date information on all activities and program offerings at pathwaysforkids.org !

Program Gallery





*A Testimonial
By Linda Boyer-Chu
Gloria R Davis College Preparatory Academy*

Gloria R. Davis College Preparatory Academy (GRD) is a public school located in a violent and impoverished neighborhood in San Francisco. GRD is the only secondary school in the heart of this community. Unfortunately, it is also one of the lowest performing schools, measured by standardized test scores. Our students have a limited view of their futures. Some believe that they have no future, that they can't pursue a college education, and are fated to die prematurely from violence. To counter their beliefs, we're constantly seeking mentors to visit our campus, and worksites that we can visit for field trips. Our youth desperately need a wider perspective of positive and attainable career fields.

Pathways for Kids has forged an outstanding partnership with GRD. We've been so impressed with the quality of their programs, among them the Career Fairs at GRD and field trips to worksites. Their Career Fairs involve recruiting professionals to come to a school site and present their work experiences. We've had three sessions, and the presenters have included attorneys, fire fighters, architects, non-profit coordinators and television producers. They professionals arrive on time--which is a logistical priority!--and present to two groups of students, back-to-back. They do a formal presentation, followed by "round-robin" Q & As with small groups of students. The students really enjoy and learn from these events.

The field trips to worksites have included an event to SBC Park to learn about careers in the major leagues, and one at a fashion design studio, to learn about careers in design and retail. These field trips have been so exciting for students, to be able to see professionals at their worksites. The girls that participated in the fashion design event had a chance to actually create an outfit and model it, which added to the thrills of the event.

Finally, it's important to note that these programs are so successful because of the extensive "behind the scenes" coordination. Program Director Alex Rice makes sure that, e.g., the Career Fair events are seamless. He contacts the presenters to make sure they have directions to the site, that they're on time, that they have refreshments, that signs are posted to they don't get lost in the building, and that they evaluate the event. Having experienced many other organizations that attempt to provide similar programs to schools, I can attest to the fact that Pathways is unparalleled in its professional follow-through.

I'm very appreciative of Pathways: you give our youth a view of a successful life beyond the walls of their neighborhood.

Sincerely,
Lynda Boyer-Chu, RN, MPH
Health Coordinator
Gloria R Davis College Preparatory Academy

**PATHWAYS FOR KIDS
PROGRAM SUMMARY
2005**

Your donations and participation make it possible for Pathways to expand its outreach into the classrooms of our partner schools in addition to providing Career Awareness Field Trips. Pathways conducted 23 programs, seven of which were field trips with seminars at host locations including SBC Park, Wells Fargo Bank, Rebecca Beeson Studios, California Pacific Medical Center and Connolly Ranch. Below are the programs conducted in 2005:

- Philip Burton High School (1/20/05) 32 Students
 - Galileo High School (2/10/05) 60 Students
 - Roosevelt Middle School (2/23/05) 200 Students
 - Galileo High School (3/9/05) 300 Students
 - Gloria R. Davis College Preparatory Academy (3/16/05) 45 Students
 - Francisco Middle School (3/24/05) 776 Students
 - SF Giants Career Awareness Field Trip (4/8/05) 40 Students
 - Independence High School (4/18/05) 15 Students
 - Ida B. Wells (Continuation) High School (4/27/05) 45 Students
 - Gloria R. Davis Academy (5/4/05) 75 Students
 - International Studies Academy (5/18/05) 450 Students
 - Focus on Fashion Program Career Awareness Field Trip (5/19/05) 45 Students
 - Wells Fargo 'Finance is Fun' Career Awareness Field Trip (7/8/05) 25 Students
 - Press Conference "Retirement of Legendary Wide Receiver Tim Brown" (7/18/05) 20 Students
 - Occupational Therapy and Training Program OTTP (7/26/05) 21 Students
 - Connolly Ranch, Napa, Career Awareness Field Trip (8/10/05) 15 Students
 - BMAGIC Backpack Giveaway Event (8/27/05) 800 Students
 - San Francisco Giants Program Career Awareness Field Trip (9/16/05) 65 Students
 - Ida B. Wells High School (10/11/05) 25 Students
 - Philip and Sala Burton Academic High School (10/26/05) 60 Students
 - International Studies Academy (11/30/05) 100 Students
 - Gloria R. Davis College Preparatory Academy (12/14/05) 45 Students
 - California Pacific Medical Center Career Awareness Field Trip CPMC (12/20/05) 4 Students
- Over 3000 under privileged youth participated in Pathways Programs in 2005!**

**Student Survey
Pathways Program Feedback**

Pathways for Kids programs have served over 3000 students in 2005. The information below is based on 785 feedback forms from program respondents. The following questions were asked with the following results:

Did you learn about any careers you did not know about before today?
Yes: 84 % No: 16%

Did the speakers give you any information that might help you make decisions about our education or career interests?
Yes: 86 % No: 14%

Have you ever participated in a career day before?
Yes: 16 % No: 84%

Event Gallery

Pathways for Kids Ways to get involved!

1. **Make a tax deductible donation** to Pathways for Kids, a tax exempt organization under section 501(C) (3) of the IRS Tax Code. Your gift goes a long way. For example, collective gifts of \$30,000 will allow us to serve hundreds of additional kids. It will enable hiring of a full time Program Coordinator to interview match and monitor coach/student relationships while sending coaches out to the schools and students to the workplace.

2. **Contribute real estate, antiques or jewelry** to Pathways and write the contribution off at the fair market value.

3. **Donate an old car** by calling Donate for Charity toll-free at (866) 392-4483 or visit www.pathwaysforkids.org and click the Donate button.

4. **Include a bequest in your Will or Trust** to Pathways for Kids and reduce your Federal Estate Taxes.

5. **Set up a Charitable Remainder Trust** and enhance income while making a gift with favorable tax results.

6. **You may make a payroll deduction to Pathways**, if you are an employee with the City and County of San Francisco, through your Local Independent Charities (LIC) payroll deduction program.

7. **Help Pathways for Kids raise money** by soliciting individuals, corporations and foundations.

8. **Become a Pathways for Kids Coach** and talk to inner city kids at their school or during after school programs about your career and their future; or host a student's visit to your office.



Above photos of the Pathways for Kids Annual Fundraiser at the War Memorial Veteran's Building Green Room Thursday, November 10th, 2005. Photography by Tom Erikson.

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