



The Chicago Training Center,
An Illinois Not-for-Profit Association
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Benefactors Overview

CTC Benefactors

February, 2007

To our generous benefactors,

Thank you for your interest in learning how you can support The Chicago Training Center. We are building and sustaining an inner-city community-rowing center with access to the Chicago River where local youth can learn and enjoy the benefits from the sport of rowing competitively. CTC's primary focus is serving disadvantaged youth in Chicago and providing individuals from the greater Chicago community-rowing opportunities to enhance their athletic development and personal growth.

We have made significant progress since first organizing in the summer of 2005. We have established an Illinois not-for-profit corporation and a 501(c)(3) charitable tax-exemption determination from the IRS. We have built alliances with the following major stakeholders in addressing the needs of at-risk youth in Chicago:

- After School Matters (ASM)
- Chicago Public Schools
- The Office of the Mayor
- The Chicago Park District
- Oxford-Cambridge Alumni
- Westside Association for Community Action (WACA)
- United Neighborhood Organization (UNO)
- USRowing

We are continuing to build alliances and identify sources of funding through grants and institutional giving. We are happy to report that we have a significant commitment from After School Matters to fund some of the operating costs of our programs. We are operating a schedule of informal fundraising social events every three months and an annual fundraising gala each year, as well. We remain short of our goal with respect to funding programming and the required equipment and we face the challenge of a \$2mm - \$3mm development campaign to help build a facility in the near future. Our current program of 25 students requires an additional \$50,000 of funding this year as well as \$25,000 - \$50,000 in funds for additional equipment. As you know, there is significant demand for our programming, which is expected to grow to 60 students next year and 90 students the year after. Our eventual goal is to be able to provide programming for 200-300 student athletes. We need help now to make that dream come true. You can help in a number of ways –

- **Contribute** — Provide financial support for programming, equipment, a boathouse;
- **Network** — Introduce others to CTC and the benefits we provide at-risk youth;
- **Volunteer** — Help CTC manage events and day-to-day administration; and,
- **Other** — Provide CTC participants with other opportunities.



Benefactors Overview

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Enclosed in this packet are our first two newsletters, background on CTC, a summary of our operational and financial projections as well as an article written by our Executive Director, Montana Butsch. We would be happy to further discuss this material, answer any questions you may have and discuss how you can help.

Once again, thank you for your interest in learning how you can support the Chicago Training Center and our mission to help at-risk youth in Chicago. We look forward to working together with you on this important mission. We would be happy to include your email address in our regular updates regarding news, events and other items of interest to our community. Our Executive Director is available to speak with you at anytime regarding this, please feel free to call Mr. Butsch at (312) 342-5241 or to send an email message at montana.butsch@chicagotrainingcenter.org

Sincerely,

Montana Butsch

Executive Director
Chicago Training Center



Benefactors Overview

Chicago Training Center (CTC): Serving Disadvantaged Youth In Chicago

We are working to build and sustain a community-rowing center with access to the Chicago River where local youth can learn to enjoy the benefits of the sport of rowing competitively.



CTC Mission

CTC's primary focus will be serving disadvantaged youth in Chicago and providing individuals from the greater Chicago community-rowing opportunities to enhance their athletic development and personal growth.

The Chicago Training Center's goal is to establish a community-rowing center that will provide youth and their community with opportunities and experiences that will enhance their daily lives. CTC will, in a non-confrontational setting, promote personal growth through teamwork, discipline, physical fitness, and educational excellence. CTC works with the local community to provide the needed access and resources to support this mission of positively impacting families.

Background: With the help of the office of the Lieutenant Governor of the State of Illinois, the Executive Director of CTC, Montana Butsch, has solicited interest and support from the rowing community in Chicago, nationally and abroad as well as interested community and business support locally. Resource requirements are being defined and a plan of action for development and ongoing management of the CTC is underway. A program of Chicago youth rowing will be the CTC pilot program as we continue to enroll benefactors and organize school participation.

Building Upon A Proven Model: There are a number of success stories with this focus in the US and abroad. Centers in Boston, New York, Oakland and Wilmington are working collaboratively with the CTC to plan for the future of rowing for disadvantaged youth in Chicago. The message has been clear; success requires the commitment of support from the local community and its interested rowing alumni. The Executive Director, a founding member of USRowing's Task Force on Access, Affordability and Diversity, aims to bring the proven benefits of rowing to disadvantaged youth.

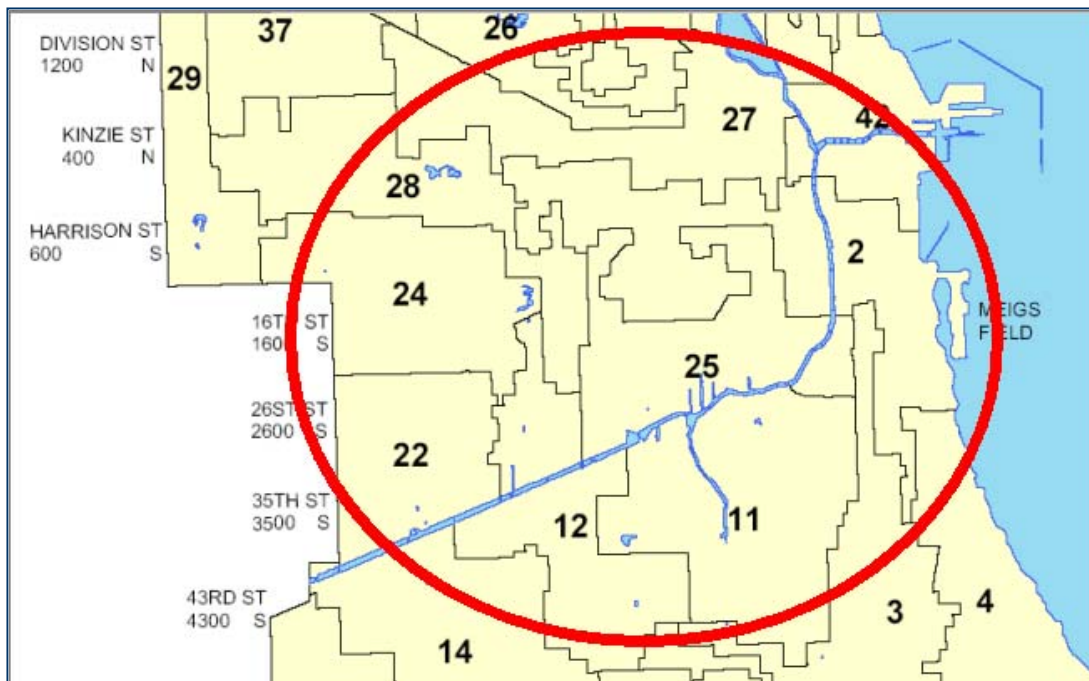




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Target Population: Under the direction of the CTC Executive Director, the CTC board and committees are organized to address many of the needs of the targeted population. We define at-risk as those children that need helpful intervention due to situations outside of their control (broken homes, economic hardship, rough neighborhoods, and gang activity) and that are currently not enrolled in college prep curriculum or a focused educational path.

Map of Target Area In Chicago Wards



(examples of possible future schools)

Marshall	1,169 enrolled	86% Grad Rate
AC	306 enrolled	39% Grad Rate
Manley	882 enrolled	64% Grad Rate
Best Practice	425 enrolled	89% Grad Rate
Michelle Clark	906 enrolled	n/a ¹
Collins	820 enrolled	65% Grad Rate
Crane Tech	974 enrolled	69% Grad Rate

¹ Michelle Clark's first graduation was 2006. Numbers currently unavailable.



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Value To Our Stakeholders: Chicago Training Center strives to enhance the personal growth and athletic development of at-risk and disadvantaged Chicago youth by introducing them to the sport of competitive rowing. We teach our program participants practical skills and competencies, and encourage them to overcome obstacles to long-term success. Aside from the athletic and health benefits of our program, CTC participants enjoy broader social exposure, introduction to post-secondary education opportunities and enhancement of their ability to succeed beyond high school. Our program participants receive the benefit of a year-round program, which at a membership-driven organization would cost them anywhere from \$4000 to \$6000 or more, per year.

CTC maintains a lean administrative structure, with current financial projections of administrative costs well below 15% of total costs. Most of each dollar made available to CTC goes to direct support of our programs.

Our Schedule: There are numerous events that CTC plans to organize throughout the year. Our operating calendar is organized by three seasonal programs: Fall intake and training of new members, Winter/Spring training and competition, and Summer Racing. Throughout the year, we support our participants with tutoring and an ongoing program of college visits, networking and social events.

Tax Exempt Status: The Chicago Training Center is an Illinois not-for-profit corporation and tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Donations to organizations recognized as exempt under 501(c)(3) are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Programming Support Needed: We raise our funds through grant writing, donations, sponsorship and fundraising events. If you would like more information on how you can contribute to help meet our goals please contact us by email at executive.director@chicagotrainingcenter.org or by calling us at +1.773.366.8558.

A Facility For The Future: We are working aggressively to achieve our long-term goal of creating a community rowing center in Chicago which supports the participation of at-risk youth in the sport. As we grow, CTC expects to involve over 200 participants annually in various rowing activities and educational programs. The result will be a high performance center where many of our athletes may receive the benefit consideration by college recruiters as a result of their proficiency in the sport. We also plan to provide our stakeholders with a range of life-enhancing education, including exercise and nutrition counseling, financial and social awareness and time management.

How You Can Help: In addition to the invaluable financial support needed for both current programming and long-term development of a community boathouse, CTC depends on volunteer support to help keep out administrative costs low. Volunteer support can take a number of forms, from direct participation in the planning and running of events, to tutoring and development support in the form of networking and fundraising.