



## **YEAR UP SELECTED AS 2007 SOCIAL CAPITALIST AWARD WINNER**

- **One of top 43 non-profits in country bringing business savvy to the world's toughest social problems -**

**BOSTON, Nov. 20, 2006** – Year Up has been selected by Fast Company and Monitor Group as one of the top 43 non-profit organizations in America who are using business to solve the world's most pressing social problems.

The program honors non-profits, or “social entrepreneurs,” who combine creativity and ingenuity with business solutions to address social ills, ranging from poor healthcare in developing nations to unequal education access, homelessness, unemployment and substance abuse in the United States.

Year Up is honored to be recognized for its impact on workforce development. “Our vision is that every urban young adult will have access to the education, experiences and guidance needed to reach their potential and succeed in professional careers and higher education,” said Gerald Chertavian, Founder & CEO of Year Up. “The success of our students and the strength of our corporate partnerships around the country proves that a collaborative model which addresses business needs, while preparing young adults both technically and professionally, can have a tremendous effect on this country’s workforce.”

“If business inevitably shapes the future, it has a responsibility to help choose what the future will be,” said Mark Vamos, editor of *Fast Company*. “Corporate America is well-served to look for guidance on seizing this future from social entrepreneurs.

“Our Social Capitalist Awards winners have forged partnerships that blur commerce and charity, challenging our assumptions about making a profit and making a difference,” Vamos said. “Their alliances help big business bring conscience to commerce, changing old-style capitalism as we know it.”

The winners are featured in *Fast Company's* Dec./Jan. 2007 cover story, on newsstands Nov. 21, 2006 – Jan. 16, 2007 and will be recognized at a ceremony in New York City on Jan. 9, 2007. *Fast Company/Monitor's* 2007 Social Capitalist Award Winners, in alphabetical order:

- ACCION International (Boston, Mass.)
- Aspire Public Schools, (Oakland, Calif.)
- BELL (Dorchester, Mass.)
- Calvert Social Investment Foundation (Bethesda, Md.)
- Ceres Inc. (Boston, Mass.)
- Citizen Schools (Boston, Mass.)
- City Year (Boston, Mass.)
- Civic Builders Inc. (New York, N.Y.)
- Civic Ventures (San Francisco, Calif.)
- College Summit (Washington D.C.)
- Corporation for Supportive Housing (Oakland, Calif.)
- DonorsChoose (New York, N.Y.)
- EcoLogic Finance, Inc. (Cambridge, Mass.)

- Endeavor Global (New York, N.Y.)
- A Fighting Chance (New Orleans, La.)
- First Book (Washington D.C.)
- Global Fund for Women (San Francisco, Calif.)
- Grameen Foundation USA (Washington D.C.)
- Hands On Network (Atlanta, Ga.)
- Heifer International (Little Rock, Ark.)
- Housing Partnership Network (Boston, Mass.)
- Jumpstart (Boston, Mass.)
- KickStart (San Francisco, Calif.)
- New Community Corporation (Newark, N.J.)
- New Leaders for New Schools (New York, N.Y.)
- Nonprofit Finance Fund (New York, N.Y.)
- PeaceWorks Network Foundation (New York, N.Y.)
- Pioneer Human Services (Seattle, Wash.)
- PATH (Seattle, Wash.)
- Population Services International (Washington, D.C.)
- Raising a Reader (Menlo Park, Calif.)
- RARE (Arlington, Va.)
- Room to Read (San Francisco, Calif.)
- Rubicon Programs (Richmond, Calif.)
- Scojo Foundation (New York, N.Y.)
- SEED Foundation (Washington, D.C.)
- Springboard Forward (Mountain View, Calif.)
- Teach for America (New York, N.Y.)
- TransFair USA (Oakland, Calif.)
- Unitus Inc. (Redmond, Wash.)
- WITNESS (Brooklyn, N.Y.)
- Working Today (Brooklyn, N.Y.)
- **Year Up (Boston, Mass.)**

### **Rigorous Evaluation**

Nominees were evaluated based on an application that included two years of operating and financial data, a statement of mission and objectives, and answers to a survey to assess strategy and activities. Winners were selected by an independent board.

### **Investor’s Guide to Giving**

*Fast Company* partners with the Monitor Group, a global strategy-consulting firm, to select award winners. Monitor Group created the methodology used to compare non-profits of different sizes and ages across social sectors.

The Monitor Group manages the evaluation process for the awards program and measures each organization’s work in five categories: social impact, entrepreneurship, innovation, aspiration and growth, and sustainability.

“Prior to the Social Capitalist Awards, no ranking process or ‘seal of approval’ existed as an authoritative standard for achievement among social entrepreneurs,” said Mark Fuller, chairman and CEO of Monitor Group. “Our evaluation measures the impact and effectiveness of these non-profits, making it, among other things, an ideal investor’s guide for those who want their charitable dollars to get the highest ‘social’ return possible.”

### **About Fast Company and Monitor Group**

*Fast Company*, founded in 1996, is a magazine for and about the creative class. It is a journal of change and changemakers — dynamic, compelling leaders in both the for-profit and non-profit spheres who are making dramatic innovations to shape the future. Visit <http://www.fastcompany.com> for more information.

The Monitor Group is a family of professional services firms, linked by shared ownership, management philosophy, and knowledge assets. Each entity in Monitor's global network is dedicated to providing products and services that fundamentally enhance the competitiveness of its clients. Visit <http://www.monitor.com> for more information.

### **About Year Up**

Year Up's mission is to close the Opportunity Divide by providing urban young adults with the skills, experience, and support that will empower them to reach their potential through professional careers and higher education. Its one-year, intensive training and education program transforms the lives and economic prospects of low-income urban young adults. It helps high school graduates and GED recipients make successful transitions from minimum-wage jobs to liveable-wage careers and higher education. Visit [www.yearup.org](http://www.yearup.org) for more information.

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