

# NEWS FROM THE C . R . A . F . T .

WINTER 2008

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In her September 26, 1987 speech to the Congressional Black Caucus, Marian Wright Edelman said these words, "If you and I don't build a bridge back, throw out some strong lifelines to our children, youth... whom poverty and unemployment are engulfing, they're going to drown, pull many of us down with them and undermine the future our forbearers dreamed, struggled, and died for".

Over 30 years ago, Rev. Hezekiah Brady, Jr. acted upon his burden, concern and compassion for the plight of our young people and established the Center for Re-Creation And Family Training (C.R.A.F.T.). C.R.A.F.T. continues Rev. Brady's work of serving as a bridge and lifeline to the youth of Pembroke who are faced with a variety of challenges, including poverty, social issues, high unemployment rates and academic mediocrity. We now ask you to join us, re-join us or continue to join us in our efforts to address these challenges, with an emphasis on self-development, achieving academic excellence and service to others.

We understand the impact the current economic crisis is having on many, but we believe that you still can be a part of C.R.A.F.T.'s future as it works on its bridge building mission. The beauty of being a part of C.R.A.F.T. is that it doesn't matter if you are Black or White, employed, unemployed, or retired, we know that you possess a gift, skill, talent or knowledge that will benefit CRAFT and its mission.

This newsletter will provide you with information regarding the work of C.R.A.F.T. We hope that a project sparks your interest and commitment and you will agree to join us in our efforts.

We are excited about the partnership that we will have with you and we can't wait to hear from you.

Peace

### C.R.A.F.T. Highlights

- Since 2004 the Hezekiah Brady, Jr. Scholarship has awarded \$9,000
- Since 1991 the Student Assistance Fund has awarded \$105,190

## HEZEKIAH BRADY JR. SCHOLARSHIP

In 2004, the C.R.A.F.T. Board of Directors established the **Hezekiah Brady, Jr. Scholarship**, in honor of the founder of C.R.A.F.T. The scholarship is awarded to a college junior or senior participant in the **Student Adoption Program**.

To date \$9,000 has been awarded:

### 2005-2006 School Year

Keisha Williams- Xavier University-Biology Major\*

### 2007-2008 School Year

Maurine Lloyd - LeMoyné-Owen College –Sociology Major\*\*

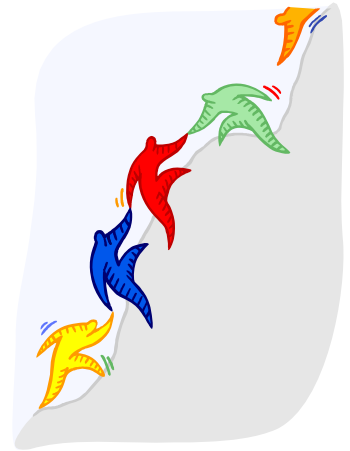
Shana Miles –Howard University-Psychology Major\*\*

### 2008-2009 School Year

Sade` Johnson -St. Joseph's College -Biology Major\*\*

\*\$3,000 Awarded

\*\* \$2,000 Awarded



## EAGLES PROGRAM

C.R.A.F.T. has continued its partnership with Pembroke School District #259 Lorenzo Smith School by working with the 6th, 7th and 8th grade students during the school year.

The Eagles program was expanded into a summer literacy program during the summer of 2008.

The Jr. High summer literacy camp which lasted a week had the theme: KEYS TO SUCCESS. Each day the students read about a successful African American and then discussed how they could apply the various strategies that they read about to their own lives.

The students also read Walter Dean Meyer's book

'Slam' during the week and watched the movie, "The Great Debaters".

Mrs. Kim Kernes, the community educator from KC-KSA gave a presentation on sexual harassment and bullying, which are growing problems in the junior high age group in many schools in the United States.

## C.R.A.F.T.'S WISH LIST

While the C.R.A.F.T. Board of Directors and staff have several short and long term goals for the organization, which we will communicate with you at a later date, there are some immediate needs that the organizations has that will enable us to better serve

youth in the Pembroke area:

1. Copier
2. Infocus Machine
3. Overhead Projector
4. Technology Cart
5. Projector Screen
6. DVD/CD Player

7. Television

8. Podium

9. Multimedia Laptops

If you are interested in donating any of these items, please contact :  
Helena Rogers at  
hrogers@craftinc.org or at  
815-944-5416.

**"Those who  
bring sunshine  
to the lives of  
others, cannot  
keep it from  
themselves."**

James M. Barrie

**STUDENT ASSISTANCE FUND**

The **Student Assistance Fund** provides financial assistance twice a year to qualifying students who are enrolled in the *Student Adoption Program*.

Since it's inception the **Student Assistance Fund** has served 98 students with a total of \$105, 190

Congratulations to the following students who are

receiving scholarships from the 2008-2009 Student Assistance Fund:

Emmanuel Archie-Lane  
College/Jackson, Tennessee

Shara Brewer- Western  
Illinois University/  
Macomb, Illinois

Jerricca Broadnax -Eastern  
Illinois University/  
Charleston, Illinois

Jherion Broadnax -Eastern

Illinois University-  
Charleston, Illinois

Ascenyo Carson -Northern  
Illinois University/DeKalb,  
Illinois

Jamilya Clay-Elmhurst  
College/Elmhurst, Illinois

Alexandria Hines- Howard  
University/Washington,  
DC.

Chantel Johnson- Saint  
Joseph's College/  
Rensselaer, Indiana



**STUDENT ASSISTANCE FUND(CONT)**

Sade' Johnson-Saint  
Josph's College/  
Rensselaer, Indiana

Wylodean Lynch- Tennes-  
see State University/  
Nashville, Tennessee

Franchesca Magee-  
Elmhurst College/Elmhurst,  
Illinois

Shanna Miles-Howard Uni-  
versity/ Washington,D.C.

Shakira Marshall-Western  
Illinois University/  
Macomb, Illinois

Federica Scott-Eastern Illi-  
nois University/Charleston,  
Illinois

Ashley Belt Thorton-  
Central College/Pella, Iowa

Johnathan Williams-  
Southern Illinois Univer-  
sity/Edwardsville, Illinois

Eddie Walker-Eastern Illi-  
nois University/Charleston,  
Illinois

**8 WAYS TO HELP C.R.A.F.T. IN 2009**

As you prepare to set goals for yourself for 2009, this would be a perfect opportunity for you to include C.R.A.F.T. in those goals for your personal, spiritual, social and financial growth.

Here are 8 ways that you can help C.R.A.F.T. during the coming year:

1. Include C.R.A.F.T. in your monthly budget.
2. Inquire about becoming a member of the C.R.A.F.T. Board of Directors
3. Tell 5-7 friends about the C.R.A.F.T. organization.
4. Donate one of the items on the "wish list".
5. Volunteer to be a speaker at one of the Eagles events.
6. Inquire about volunteering on one of the committees for an upcoming C.R.A.F.T. special event.
7. Volunteer for the day of an upcoming C.R.A.F.T. special event.
8. Include the C.R.A.F.T. organization in your daily prayers.

**Living is Giving**

"...We find the meaning of living, when we're helping others."

Hezekiah Brady, Jr. 1993

"If I can help somebody as I travel along... then my living shall not be in vain."

We're on the web: [www.craftinc.org](http://www.craftinc.org)

**C.R.A.F.T. HAPPENINGS  
2009**

TEA PARTY - SPRING 2009

DAY AT THE MARKET- APRIL 5, 2009 (Order Deadline)  
MAY 2, 2009 (Order Pick-Up)

GOLF OUTING-JUNE 26, 2009

FISH FRY- SUMMER 2009

DAY AT THE MARKET- NOVEMBER 8, 2009 (Order Deadline)  
DECEMBER 5, 2009 (Order Pick-Up)

## What's New With C.R.A.F.T.

- C.R.A.F.T. is now a member of the Kankakee Regional Chamber of Commerce
- Helena Rogers has joined the C.R.A.F.T. organization as Director of Development. Mrs. Rogers responsibilities will include fundraising, marketing, outreach and community relations on behalf of C.R.A.F.T.

I would like to be a partner with C.R.A.F.T. in its mission to be a “bridge back” and a “strong lifeline” to the youth in the Pembroke area. Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Please select one of the following: ( ) \$25 ( ) \$50 ( ) \$50 ( ) \$100 Other \_\_\_\_\_

This is a (n): ( ) One-time gift ( ) Annual Gift ( ) Quarterly Gift ( ) Monthly Gift

Mail to: CRAFT P.O. Box 231 Hopkins Park, Illinois 60944

Thank You!!

**CENTER FOR RE-CREATION AND FAMILY TRAINING-NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION**

**C.R.A.F.T.**

**P.O. BOX 231**

**HOPKINS PARK, ILLINOIS**

**60944**