



SPOTLIGHT ON FACES

YOUTH CHANGING THE FUTURE FALL 2006

Lifelong Dream Given Clarity Through FACES

Maricela Reza, a senior at Life Academy in Oakland says, “ever since I was in kindergarten I wanted to be a doctor.” FACES provided Maricela the opportunity to learn about a wide variety of healthcare professions and the daily joys and realities of a future career took form.

During her first rotation she became intrigued with audiology, and is considering this specialty as a career choice. “I never realized how important the ear was. I got to see the excitement of a child’s first experience being able to hear after receiving his hearing aid. I also witnessed the sadness and devastation of a family being told that their child will not be able to hear.”

Thanks to the mentorship of **Sarah Coulthurst**, Maricela learned how the audiologists tested some infants’ hearing through a test done while they were sleeping, but most of the children seen were 3- to 10-year olds. She also observed some patient visits where audiologists educated parents and demonstrated how to adjust hearing aids.

Maricela’s next rotation gave her the opportunity to discover the critical role of medical interpreting under the guidance of her supervisor, **Nancy**

STUDENT PROFILE: Maricela Reza

Maricela will be the first in her family to have the support needed to go to college.

Stern. Maricela witnessed highly emotional situations with parents sometimes crying when learning their child’s medical condition.

Most recently, her rotation at Children’s First Healthcare Network provided useful knowledge for the aspiring audiologist. Through the Children First Healthcare Network, she learned about medical reimbursement, including physicians’ licensure, reimbursement schedules and medical coding.

Maricela will be the first in her family to have the support needed to go to college. She plans to attend Tulane University in New Orleans.



[Top left] Maricela and her classmate Marina Meza learn how to put splints on each other in a clinical skills workshop led by Dr. Magaña. [Above]: Maricela works with nurse Howard Mackey at her rotation in the PICU.

Greetings from Program Director

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to our inaugural program newsletter, Spotlight on FACES: Youth Changing the Future! We are excited to implement an idea that has been in development for several months. I wish to sincerely thank our new Parents Advisory Committee who assisted us in this endeavor. Over the past six months, members of this committee supported the program with fundraising efforts and development of this newsletter. Please read more about the Parents Advisory Committee on page 2 and the exciting plans they have to support their children and the FACES program. You may be inspired to join in these efforts with this enthusiastic group.

I would also like to personally acknowledge the three FACES students whose collective ideas contributed to the newsletter title: **Mariano Macedon** (Class 2008), **Richard Hervey** (Class 2008), and **DeAshla Miller** (Class 2007).

As we proudly enter our seventh year, FACES for the Future at Children’s Hospital & Research Center Oakland has continued to grow and expand its efforts to support the entry of youth into the health professions. We continue to serve up to 90 high school students each year, and include a large coalition of clinical supervisors, college tutors, mentors, volunteers, parents, and community supporters among our extended FACES family. Additionally, you will see how we continue to develop new programmatic components, such as our new Alumni College Retention Program, to better support our youth as they progress through the educational pipeline.

On behalf of the entire FACES staff, I would like to thank each of our funders and the others who continue supporting the FACES Program and the youth we serve. We eagerly welcome any feedback you might have about this newsletter. For further information about the FACES program, please visit our website at www.facesforthefuture.org. Have a wonderful fall!



Best wishes,
Tomás A. Magaña, MD, MA, FAAP
Director, FACES for the Future

NEW DEVELOPMENTS

FACES Becomes a Five Year Program

FACES graduates will receive the support they need during their first two years in college thanks to a generous grant from The California Endowment, which has enabled FACES to become a five-year program to improve college retention. **Deborah Taylor**, who was recently hired to serve as the Alumni & College Retention Coordinator, will develop this new component.

Graduating seniors from the Class of 2006 and all alumni were invited to participate in Summerbridge, a one-week residential program in August at the University of California, Berkeley. Thanks to the hard work of our Health Career Connection intern, **Katherine Lao**, these alumni gained the necessary life and academic skills and techniques not only to survive their first two years of college but also to thrive.

Alumni from different class years will also be invited back to FACES for reunions, networking, and other events like course advising and summer internship night. Please join us in welcoming Deborah to the FACES Family!



Tomás Magaña, MD, with Deborah Taylor. Deborah is the Alumni & College Retention Coordinator, and is responsible for implementing all activities related to optimizing the college retention of graduating senior students and alumni of the FACES program. Deborah is a former Children's Hospital employee who worked as a utilization review nurse during the 1990's. She left Children's to pursue a career in education. Deborah has 10 years experience teaching Introduction to Health Careers, an elective course for high school juniors and seniors wishing to pursue careers in healthcare.

Parent Advisory Committee

The FACES Parents Advisory Committee was formed in December 2005. It offers suggestions about how the program can continually be improved and will raise money to support external funding.

The committee has a core of 10 parents, with the regular involvement of FACES program coordinator, **Catherine West**. The committee is exploring various fundraising opportunities including eScrip, T-shirt sales and a silent auction.

A bake sale was held April 5 in the hospital cafeteria and raised \$500. The money was used to award a college scholarship to senior student, **Taylor Woolridge**.

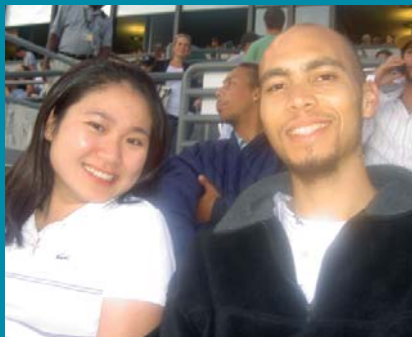
We are looking for new parents to participate, including parents of graduates! Come to the monthly meetings held the fourth Monday of the month from 4 to 6 p.m. at the FACES office, 682 52nd Street. Learn more about the program, share your skills and ideas, and support our students. If you're interested, contact **Sylvia Dillard** at SADillard@oaklandnet.com, 510-238-6894, or 925-709-8705.

QUICK TAKES

Juniors Participate in National Leadership Training

Four juniors nominated by FACES staff were honored to receive a \$2000 scholarship from the National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine to participate in their competitive program this summer in San Francisco. **Lorena Arechiga**, **DeAshla Miller**, **Lili Tran**, and **Kenny Watts** participated in a two-week comprehensive program where students from across the nation explored careers and topics in medicine. According to Lili, "The thing that moved me the most during the Forum was hearing everyone's past and what they had gone through to even begin their path of realizing their dreams of working in the medical field. I met many great individuals. I feel that meeting them and making friends gave me a greater drive to become a doctor."

FACES students enjoy a ball game courtesy of the Oakland A's



Katherine, FACES Health Career Connection Intern, and Ernest enjoy an Oakland A's game during Summerbridge. The A's generously donated tickets for FACES students to attend. Ernest is on staff at UCB's Biology Scholars Program, one of our partnering programs and served as an RA.

Comité Asesor de Padres de FACES

Afíliase al **Comité Asesor de Padres de FACES** para compartir sus ideas y aprenda más sobre el programa y apoye a nuestros estudiantes. Venga a las reuniones mensuales que se lleva acabo el cuarto Lunes del mes a partir de las 4 pm hasta las 6 p.m. en la oficina de FACES, 682 52 Street. Si usted esté interesado, póngase en contacto con **Sylvia Dillard** en SADillard@oaklandnet.com, (510) 238-6894 o (925) 709-8705. Ella y otros miembros del comité se hablan español.

Congratulations Class of 2006



This year sixteen students graduated from high school and FACES for the Future, having successfully completed the rigorous demands of the program. One hundred percent plan to attend college next year, and ultimately pursue careers related to the healthcare arena. Students were accepted to 30 colleges across the US, including 8 campuses of the University of California, Stanford University, University of San Diego, and Tuskegee University.

The graduates of the Class of 2006 were honored by family, friends, staff, school part-

ners, program funders, and supporters on May 19 at Scott's Restaurant. Guest speakers were Douglas T. Myers, CFO, Children's Hospital & Research Center Oakland, and Gary Kono, Class of 2006 Parent. The program also featured student presentations that included reflections, dance, poetry, singing and a video presentation. Several scholarships were presented and each student received Congressional Certificates of Recognition from Congresswoman Barbara Lee, presented by Patricia Castaneda-Davis, MD, and from Congressman Peter Stark's office.

"FACES has given minorities like me, who are not offered many opportunities, a chance to not become another statistic. FACES allowed me to help people and create a path for my future. I am a prime example that even if many things in society encourage you to fail, use your resources and apply yourself to prevail. And you will."

– Charletta Harris' graduation speech, "Against All Odds"

FACES Class of 2006

Perla Cantu

Met West High School
Mills College; Pediatrician &
Public Health Professional

Annetta Davis

Oakland Technical High School
Spelman College; Obstetrician

Marie Annette Gilder

Berkeley High School
Merritt College; Pediatric
Registered Nurse

Charletta Harris

Oakland Technical High School
University of California, Davis;
Epidemiologist

Thanh Lap Hua

Life Academy High School
University of California, Riverside;
Dentist

Deja Kimiko Kono

Skyline High School
Notre Dame De Namur
University; Doctor of Osteopathy

Jimmy Melton

Met West High School
Merritt College; Registered Nurse

Evelyn Magdalena Navarro

Life Academy High School
Mills College; Pediatric Registered
Nurse

Angela Marie Nelson

Skyline High School
San José State University; Public
Health Nurse

Long Nguyen

Oakland Technical High School
Stanford University;
Surgeon/Anesthesiologist

Tammy (Trúc) Thanh Nguyen

Life Academy High School
Mills College; Pediatric Nurse
Practitioner

Abigail Orona

Life Academy High School
Mills College; Registered Nurse

Ray Christian Núñez Paulino

Life Academy High School
University of California, Davis;
Veterinarian

Sade Perry

Street Academy High School
California State University, Los
Angeles; Registered Nurse

Sandra Solis

Oakland Technical High School
California State University, East
Bay; Registered Nurse

Taylor Monique Woolridge

Berkeley High School
Tuskegee University; Obstetric
Registered Nurse

FACES Summer Medical Academy

The FACES Program offered its second Summer Medical Academy from July 10-21, 2006. The Academy is an intensive, educational, hands-on program designed to expose students to the profession of medicine. It is a joint collaboration between the FACES program and the Biology Scholars Program (BSP) at the University of California, Berkeley. BSP college students serve as Student Advisors and Program

Coordinators, which provide and empower them with both experience and skills that will assist them with application to medical school. This summer, 39 students (37 high school and 2 college) participated, an increase of 59 percent from last summer. Three students have parents who work at Children's Hospital.

The summer program is designed to provide students with exciting and educational opportunities that relate to the practice of medicine. Workshops were led by Children's Hospital staff, physicians, and local experts. Students learned how to suture, intubate, give immunizations, and take vitals while learning about current issues in medicine, ethics, and cultural



[Above]: The FACES Summer Medical Academy Class of 2006 takes a field trip to REACH Air Medical Services to learn about trauma medicine. [Right]: After learning about surgical medicine from **James Betts, MD**, Attending Physician in the Department of Surgery, students "scrub in" to the OR and intubate child mannequins.



competency. Participants also took field trips to UC Berkeley to engage in a gross anatomy lab, to REACH Air Medical Services to learn about emergency medicine, and to San Francisco State University to conduct biomedical research.

Over 95 percent of the student participants stated in their final evaluations that the program exceeded their expectations and the remainder stated the program completely met their expectations.

According to participants:

"It has made me want to travel abroad as a surgeon and made me into a better person, which will in turn make me into a better doctor."

"This program has really done a great job in introducing me and inspiring me to take part in the field of medicine. It taught us not only the clinical aspect of medicine but really focused on including the human aspect that physicians often forget."

"Thank you all so much for this amazing program. It has been life changing and a wonderful experience and I hope there will be an advanced academy in the future."

The summer program is open to any motivated high school student 15 years and older who is interested in learning about medicine and medical school. For more information, please contact Program Coordinator **Catherine West** at CWest@mail.cho.org.

ALUMNI PROFILES:

Yesenia Valenzuela & Rachel Crawford

Possibilities Modeled by Peer Case Managers

After graduating from FACES, inaugural Class of 2003, **Rachel E. Crawford** and **Yesenia Valenzuela** received a phone call from **René Macias**, FACES Psychosocial and Outreach

Coordinator. However, this phone call was not like his usual "checking-in" calls; instead he offered them positions as peer case managers. According to Rachel, "I had been out of high school four months and wanted a job where I could reach youth. I had kept in touch with FACES staff, René Macias and **Barbara Stagers, MD**. They opened doors for me." In addition to attending Diablo Valley College full-time, Rachel has been working for almost two years at FACES and most recently at the McClymonds High School Health Center, while Yesenia has been attending Merritt College and working at FACES and Castlemont High School's Youth UpRising Health Center.



Rachel Crawford

"FACES showed me that I didn't have to take the first job offer I had after high school."

— **Rachel Crawford, Class of 2003**

Rachel comments, "FACES showed me that I didn't have to take the first job offer I had after high school. In addition to the educational and career assistance that this program provides, we also help with other practical day to day skills that interns need to be successful. We provide housing assistance, connection with the food bank, help with clothing needs,

and serve as Big Sisters to all FACES students. FACES addresses the needs of the mind, body and spirit, fostering success." She adds, "FACES kept me on track in reaching my goals."

After earning her AA degree at Merritt, Yesenia will transfer to San Francisco State University to pursue a degree in Radiology or Social Work. Rachel will graduate with an AA in Psychology or General Education and plans to transfer to John F. Kennedy University to obtain her doctorate in psychology.



Yesenia Valenzuela

FUNDERS CORNER

Bank of America and the FACES program: building a stronger community

As one of the Bay Area's most prominent financial institutions, Bank of America has been changing the lives of East Bay teens through the organization's generous support of the FACES program. Bank of America has a long history of philanthropy in the Bay Area, and they have partnered with Children's Hospital & Research Center Oakland (CHRCO) to ensure that the FACES program grows stronger every day.

In addition to donating over \$315,000 since the 1999 inception of the FACES program, Bank of America recognized **Dr. Tomás Magaña** with the Local Hero Award in 2004, a testament of the significant impact that FACES continues to make in the lives of youth. Most recently, Bank of America honored the FACES program with an East Bay Neighborhood Builders Award. Through the Builder's Award program, Bank of America chooses to provide operational support to two nonprofits in each of 40 markets annually. We are honored that the CHRCO FACES program was one of the two East Bay organizations chosen to receive this prestigious award.

"We are pleased to support the FACES for the Future

program," said **Michael Conn**, East Bay Market President, at Bank of America. "The program's success rate of students completing the three-year program and entering college to study health sciences is commendable."

In addition to donating over \$315,000 since the 1999 inception of the FACES program, Bank of America recognized Tomás Magaña, MD with the Local Hero Award in 2004.

Throughout 2006, Dr. Magaña and **René Macias**, Psychosocial & Outreach Coordinator are participating in the Neighborhood Excellence Initiative Leadership Training Program. Bank of America created the Neighborhood Excellence Initiative, its signature philanthropic program, to focus on developing relationships with and investing in strong nonprofits with great leaders. The program offers leadership training and general operating support for growing nonprofits, recognizes the local heroes, and embraces the next generation of student leaders.

Bank of America has long held the belief that a healthy community is a healthy place to do business. To be successful, they are committed to creating real impact in those places where Bank of America stakeholders and customers live, work, and conduct business.

On behalf of FACES students, personnel, and partners we thank Bank of America for their partnership and continued support!

Many thanks to our generous funders who have supported us since 1999:

\$1,000,000 and above cumulative

The California Endowment

\$100,000 to \$499,999 cumulative

Bank of America Foundation

The Barrios Trust

The California Wellness Foundation

The Genentech Foundation for Biomedical Sciences

\$50,000 to \$99,999 cumulative

Sharon and Napoleon Brandford

Children's Hospital Branches, Inc.

The Amy Ensign-Barstow Memorial Fund of the East Bay Community Foundation

McKesson Foundation

Y&H Soda Foundation

\$10,000 to \$49,999 cumulative

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\$5,000 to \$9,999 cumulative

Linnaeus Thomson Fund of The Peninsula Community Foundation

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\$1,000 to \$4,999 cumulative

Fairy Godmothers Society of the East Bay

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Eloise Overton Mayo

Soroptimist International Club of Oakland

Donna Treadwell



SPOTLIGHT ON FACES

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Interested in Contributing?

If you're interested in donating, please visit www.chofoundation.org/donate/index.html. Be sure to select "FACES for the Future" in the pull-down menu when prompted to select the program that will receive your contribution.

If you're interested in contributing an article, poem or photo for future Spotlight of FACES editions, please contact **Emily Green** at 510-482-2803.

Visit our Web site: www.facesforthefuture.org

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