

College Summit Receives Fourth Consecutive Social Capitalist Award

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Washington, D.C.: November 16, 2006 -- For the fourth year in a row, College Summit is the recipient of the prestigious Social Capitalist Award for 2007, an honor created by Fast Company magazine and Monitor Group to recognize non-profits using business tools to solve the world's most pressing social problems.

This year, the Social Capitalist Awards recognized 43 "social entrepreneurs," organizations who combined 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. College Summit and the other award winners will be featured in Fast Company's Dec./Jan. 2007 cover story, on newsstands Nov. 21, 2006 through Jan. 16, 2007. Fast Company and Monitor Group will further recognize the Social Capitalist Award winners at a ceremony in New York City on January 9, 2007.

"We are truly honored to be selected for the fourth consecutive year as a winner of the Fast Company/Monitor Group Social Capitalist Award," said J.B. Schramm, College Summit's Founder and CEO. "It is a testament to the hard work, programmatic impact, and vision of all of College Summit's school partners, our staff, and supporters."

As one of only a handful of organizations to receive the award four consecutive times, College Summit considers the achievement a strong indicator of the sustainability of its concept and the organizational strength built around that concept. College Summit offers a systemic solution for school districts to increase their college enrollment rates for all students. It provides schools with resources, including a college planning curriculum, teacher training, a unique approach to leveraging influential, 'better than their numbers' students, and regular data reporting and analysis that evaluates effectiveness at the school level. In over a decade of operations, the organization has served over 15,000 students, and trained more than 500 teachers and counselors in college planning. This current 2006-2007 school year, College Summit is serving over 6,000 students across the country, in metropolitan areas such as New York City and Washington, D.C., and states such as California, Colorado, and West Virginia.

"With the Social Capitalist Awards," adds Schramm, "Fast Company and Monitor have taken an innovative, ambitious, and important concept-social entrepreneurship-and brought it into focus. We take pride in standing shoulder-to-shoulder with every one of the organizations seeking to make the world a better place."

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.”

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.

- For more information about College Summit, visit <http://www.collegesummit.org>, or contact Thomas Harrison at (202) 319-1763 or tharrison@collegesummit.org. Contact information for staff in each of College Summit's local offices can also be accessed through the organization's website.
- 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.
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