Connecticut Coalition for Achievement Now
2006–2007 Annual Report

Raising Awareness, Empowering Parents, and Building Consensus for Change
to Close America’s Largest Achievement Gap

Great Schools for All
ConnCAN

85 WILLOW STREET, NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT 06511
429 CAPITOL AVENUE, 2ND FLOOR, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106
Dear Friends,

The Connecticut Coalition for Achievement Now (ConnCAN) is now two years old, and it has been a fascinating journey. We’ve seen the creation of a team of outstanding professionals who are pursuing the organization’s mission with the energy of youth and wisdom that belies it.

Over time, we will continue to learn and grow as an organization, but any observer would be amazed by what has been accomplished in two short years: the number and the quality of the studies produced, the tools and information that are empowering thousands of Connecticut parents, the bridges built between those committed to improving public education across our state, and the impact on the public discussion of the policy changes needed to ensure “Great Schools for All.”

In 1776 Thomas Jefferson wrote in the Declaration of Independence words that would become the ethical foundation of the nation: “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.” We believe that in the 21st century, effective public schools are necessary to ensure equality of opportunity for every child and to guarantee “Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness” for every adult.

This belief is at the heart of ConnCAN’s guiding vision: great public schools are not only necessary to fulfill our obligations to each other, but they are essential for the future success of our society. Great public schools are a matter of critical importance to the public good. No matter who you are in our state, this challenge is your challenge, too.

Powerful ideas for the public good attract wonderful people, and ConnCAN is blessed with more than its share among its board, advisory board, partners, staff and members. Thanks to all of you for joining us on this journey. The trip has just begun.

All the best,

Jonathan Sackler
Chairman
Dear Friends,

In January 2005, leaders from Connecticut’s business, higher education and civic communities came together to create the Connecticut Coalition for Achievement Now (ConnCAN): a nonprofit organization designed to be a catalyst for the fundamental changes needed to move Connecticut from having the largest to having the smallest achievement gap in the nation.

Despite numerous educational efforts over the past decade, Connecticut’s academic achievement gap has proven frustratingly constant. ConnCAN was established to overcome these barriers to progress and to help secure breakthroughs in student achievement—not through direct service programs—but instead by changing the environment in which these programs operate. This work takes three forms:

1. **Raising awareness** of Connecticut’s achievement gap and its consequences, and highlighting the success stories of great public schools across the state.

2. **Empowering parents** to make informed choices and to serve as effective advocates for their children.

3. **Building consensus for change** that has an immediate impact in expanding access to great schools and moves us closer to the day when every child has the opportunity to attend a great public school.

As the projects and activities outlined in this annual report attest, the dedication and entrepreneurial spirit of ConnCAN and its partners have resulted in some significant victories. Yet we know the struggle for “Great Schools for All” has just begun.

I look forward to working with you to ensure that in the coming years Connecticut becomes the first state in the nation to close its achievement gap by making certain that every child has access to a great public school.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Alex Johnston
Executive Director
To close Connecticut’s achievement gap, the largest gap between rich and poor students of any public school system in the nation. We will not rest until every child in our state, regardless of race, ethnicity, or socioeconomic status, has access to a great public school.

Mission

ConnCAN is a statewide outreach, education, and research organization with an active member network of parents, teachers, students, and business and community leaders across Connecticut.

What we believe

The achievement gap is the most urgent social and economic problem facing Connecticut. The time for change is now. All children, regardless of their background, can achieve at a high level when given access to a great public school.

Securing “Great Schools for All” will require reforming the way our public schools work by raising standards, giving school leaders greater freedom to innovate, and providing parents with more public school choices.

Every child wins when parents can choose among public schools where principals and teachers come together to pursue a shared vision of excellence while being held accountable for results.

What we do

Raising awareness of Connecticut’s achievement gap and its consequences and highlighting the success stories of great public schools across the state.

Building consensus for change that has an immediate impact in expanding access to great schools and that moves us closer to the day when every child has the opportunity to attend a great public school.

Empowering parents to make informed choices and to serve as effective advocates for their children.
THE "GREAT SCHOOLS FOR ALL" AGENDA

ConnCAN's "Great Schools for All" agenda is focused on five elements that together will create a flywheel of self-sustaining changes in the way Connecticut's schools are staffed, organized, and held accountable for results:

1. Guarantee that every low-income family in Connecticut has a choice of free high-quality preschools for their children to reduce the achievement gap before they enter school.

2. Triple the number of innovative new public schools in our urban districts so that children with differing needs have a wealth of high-quality options and so that new ideas for raising student achievement are given fertile ground in which to grow.

3. Dramatically expand the pipeline of teacher and principal "All-Stars" into city schools to place the highest-caliber educators in the areas of highest need.

4. Help districts implement best practices for raising achievement system-wide so that best practice becomes common practice in all our public schools.

5. Ensure much greater financial transparency and public accountability for results to track student progress better and to increase the resources that go directly to improving instruction.

These changes are designed to help usher in a sea change in Connecticut's public education system that transforms our state's achievement gap from the largest in the nation to the smallest by 2014.

"ConnCAN, in my opinion, has all the right emphases. It's just so logical that it's a little painful to realize that we don't have it already."
—Rep. Andy Fleischmann, Co-Chairman, Education Committee

The ideas in ConnCAN's policy agenda represent leading edge ideas in school reform today. All the ideas have merit. Collectively, they represent a powerful agenda for change.
—Andrew J. Rotherham, Co-Director, Education Sector and author, Eduwonks.com
1. RAISING AWARENESS
OF CONNECTICUT'S ACHIEVEMENT GAP AND ITS CONSEQUENCES
AND HIGHLIGHTING THE SUCCESS STORIES
OF GREAT PUBLIC SCHOOLS ACROSS THE STATE.

PROJECT:
STATE OF CONNECTICUT PUBLIC EDUCATION

DESCRIPTION:
Released Connecticut’s first independent report on
the state of its public schools in September 2006,
entitled The State of Connecticut Public Education.
Over 2,000 print copies have been distributed, 800
PDF copies have been downloaded, and the report has
been cited in over 20 news reports.

RESULTS / NOTES:
This 24-page original research report, drawing
upon the school and district report cards, provided
a unique overview of school performance across
Connecticut as well as analysis of the top 10 public
schools and public school districts across five
key performance categories: performance gains,
most improved, low-income student scores, African
American scores, and Hispanic scores.

SET 1.
RAISING AWARENESS

INSTRUCTIONS:
1. GATHER INFORMATION ON YOUR CHOSEN PROJECT.
2. NEATLY FILL IN THE SPACES PROVIDED
THE BACK OF THIS CARD, MAKING SURE TO DIVIDE YOUR
INFORMATION INTO THREE (3) SECTIONS:
(a) PROJECT TITLE,
(b) PROJECT DESCRIPTION, AND
(c) RESULTS AND NOTES.

PROJECT:
CONN CAN.ORG

DESCRIPTION:
Launched a cutting-edge interactive website in
February 2006 that has emerged as the homepage for
Connecticut’s education reform movement with over
60,000 visitors, 200,000 page views, and 2,100
people registered to view exclusive website content.

RESULTS / NOTES:
CONN CAN.ORG has helped put parents, policymakers
and the public at the center of the effort to close
Connecticut’s achievement gap. Anchored by its
public school ratings, Connecticut’s 1,000
public schools, in its first 16-months CONN CAN’s
website has grown to include over 150 webpages
across four core areas: school report cards, issues,
action center and success stories.
Some people find excuses. Other people find a way.
1. RAISING AWARENESS

OF CONNECTICUT’S ACHIEVEMENT GAP AND ITS CONSEQUENCES
AND HIGHLIGHTING THE SUCCESS STORIES
OF GREAT PUBLIC SCHOOLS ACROSS THE STATE.

PROJECT:
MEDIA OUTREACH

DESCRIPTION:
Used timely news releases and outreach to media outlets across Connecticut to generate an unprecedented wave of stories about Connecticut’s achievement gap and the breakthrough schools that are demonstrating how it can be closed.

RESULTS / NOTES:
ConnCAN’s media outreach efforts have helped secure nearly 100 newspaper pieces (reaching a cumulative total of 8 million potential impressions with readers), 14 radio stories and 12 television stories since January 2006.
“Results of a recently released study show that two Norwalk schools that were reprimanded last year under the No Child Left Behind Act are also among those doing the best job of bringing minority and disadvantaged kids up to speed. So says the Connecticut Coalition for Achievement Now, a New Haven-based organization that works to help close the achievement gap.”

THE ADVOCATE, JANUARY 12, 2007
2. EMPOWERING PARENTS

TO MAKE INFORMED CHOICES
AND TO SERVE AS EFFECTIVE ADVOCATES
FOR THEIR CHILDREN.

PROJECT:

SCHOOL AND DISTRICT REPORT CARDS

DESCRIPTION:

Launched a first-in-the-state school and district report card website (www.ctreportcards.org) with letter grades on the performance of more than 1,000 schools and 160 districts.

RESULTS / NOTES:

Since its launch in September 2006, the interactive report cards have provided more than 10,000 Connecticut parents and concerned citizens with a straightforward assessment of how well their child’s public school is meeting the needs of all its students.
How to Make Sure Your Child Is Not Left Behind
A Connecticut Parent’s Guide to Advocating for Equal Educational Opportunities

PROJECT:
PARENT EMPOWERMENT WORKSHOPS AND PARENT GUIDEBOOK

DESCRIPTION:

RESULTS / NOTES:
ConnCAN held workshops in Hartford, Bridgeport, Waterbury and Hamden, helping train 250 parent advocates. Five hundred print copies of the parent guide were distributed in English and Spanish, with an additional 500 PDFs downloaded from the ConnCAN website.
2. EMPOWERING PARENTS
TO MAKE INFORMED CHOICES
AND TO SERVE AS EFFECTIVE ADVOCATES
FOR THEIR CHILDREN.

PROJECT:
FREE TUTORING PROJECT

DESCRIPTION:
Conducted 72 supplemental educational services
(SES) presentations and workshops for parents and
provider organizations and distributed over 5,000
free tutoring brochures, helping more than double
the number of students receiving free tutoring under
ELBA in Bridgeport and Hartford.

RESULTS / NOTES:
Drawing upon surveys of Connecticut parents and
partner organizations, ConnOAK teamed up with the
Center for Children’s Advocacy in an unprecedented
campaign to overcome the information gaps that
were preventing 90 percent of qualified children
from getting the free tutoring to which they were
entitled. The campaign served as a model for child
advocates and service providers from as far away as
Washington State.
“Our partnership with ConnCAN over the past year was the most rewarding. Thanks to our organizations’ combined efforts in 2006, we achieved tremendous results in expanding access to free tutoring for thousands of Connecticut children in need.”

—Emily Breon, Center for Children’s Advocacy
SET 3.
BUILDING CONSENSUS FOR CHANGE

INSTRUCTIONS:
1. GATHER INFORMATION ON YOUR CHOSEN PROJECT.
2. NEATLY FILL IN THE SPACES PROVIDED ON THE BACK OF THIS CARD, MAKING SURE TO DIVIDE YOUR INFORMATION INTO THREE (3) SECTIONS:
   (A) PROJECT TITLE,
   (B) PROJECT DESCRIPTION, AND
   (C) RESULTS AND NOTES.
3. DISTRIBUTE THE CARDS TO CURIOUS PARTIES.

3. BUILDING CONSENSUS FOR CHANGE
   THAT HAS AN IMMEDIATE IMPACT IN EXPANDING ACCESS TO GREAT SCHOOLS AND MOVES US CLOSER TO THE DAY WHEN EVERY CHILD HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO ATTEND A GREAT PUBLIC SCHOOL.

PROJECT:
THE "GREAT SCHOOLS FOR ALL" PLAN

DESCRIPTION:
Launched the "Great Schools for All" plan with a 44-page policy report at a January 2007 news conference with the Speaker of the House and the co-chair of the Education Committee.
Support for the ideas put forth in the plan came from a "who's who" of Connecticut organizations focused on closing the achievement gap, including the “who’s who” of Connecticut organizations focused on closing the achievement gap, including ACOHE, Connecticut Appleseed, the Connecticut Business and Industry Association, Connecticut Parent Power, the Early Childhood Coalition for Equity and Justice, and the Greater Hartford Interfaith Coalition for Equity and Justice.

RESULTS / NOTES:
The briefs put forward a concise overview of the key information needed to help raise the performance of our schools and created a reference library for more in-depth investigations.

More than 2,000 print versions of the plan have been distributed, the PDF has been downloaded more than 800 times, and over 2,000 people have signed the "Great Schools for All" petition.
Connecticut's achievement gap has consequences. We quantified the terrible effects of the gap on students and have measured the costs that illiteracy, low basic skills impose on our community.

Each year Connecticut spends more than seven billion dollars on its 1,200 public schools. According to the State School Association, Connecticut's average performance is below the national average. The State Education Board, the legislative body, has been asked to develop a plan to improve education in the state. The board has been asked to prepare a comprehensive plan to meet the current needs of students and to help develop the knowledge and skills they will need to be productive citizens.

Parents, educators, members of the business community, and legislators all have a stake in the outcomes of the legislative decision. The Connecticut Board of Education has been asked to develop a comprehensive plan to improve education in the state. The board has been asked to prepare a comprehensive plan to meet the current needs of students and to help develop the knowledge and skills they will need to be productive citizens.

New Haven Advocate, February 2019

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3. BUILDING CONSENSUS FOR CHANGE

This has an immediate impact in expanding access to the right education. The opportunity to attend a great public school has an immediate impact in expanding access to the right education.
“In a legislative season marked by school-reform notions ranging from worthless to wildly expensive, an advocacy organization called the Connecticut Coalition for Achievement Now (ConnCAN) offers a refreshingly reasonable prescription for the state’s ailing public schools.”

REPUBLICAN-AMERICAN, MARCH 28, 2007
Teacher Recruitment. Certification requirements changed to help bring Teach for America to Connecticut, with 50 members serving in the initial 2006-07 class and 125 in 2007-08.

New Schools. Cap lifted on charter school enrollment, charter school per pupil funding increased by 27 percent, and the number of students in charter schools increased by 65 percent (from 2,600 to 4,300). $750,000 to create 12 “Pilot Schools” in 2009, which will have autonomy over budget, staffing, governance, curriculum and the school calendar. $53 million to increase the magnet school per pupil subsidy and to increase the number of students in magnet schools.

High-Quality Preschool. $36 million over two years to expand high-quality preschool and $5.5 million over two years to develop a preschool quality rating system to help parents make informed choices.

Elements of the “Great Schools for All” agenda implemented to date:

Data Systems. $6.4 million over two years to establish a longitudinal data system that provides the foundation for a school rating system that measures schools based on the gains they achieve with their students.

Accountability. $3.8 million to support 10 new personnel at the State Department of Education to implement a new system of oversight and accountability. Increased authority for the Commissioner of Education to take action to raise student performance when schools and school districts fail to make progress by directing the transfer or assignment of teachers and principals, reconstituting schools as charter schools, or providing funding so that students in a failing school or district may attend public school in a neighboring district.

I'm very proud to be standing here supporting ‘Great Schools for All.’ The plan outlines a number of proposals that deserve our consideration as part of an overall approach to achieve excellence in education.”

Rep. James A. Amann, Speaker of the House
ALEX JOHNSTON, PH.D.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Alex Johnston is charged with leading ConnCAN's effort to bring parents, educators, businesspeople, public servants and community leaders together in a common effort to make great public schools available to every child in Connecticut. He previously served as director of operations at the New Haven Housing Authority, working as a member of the management team tasked with turning the agency around from the brink of receivership. A graduate of Harvard University, he studied at Oxford University on a Rhodes Scholarship and received a D.Phil. in politics from Oxford's Lincoln College.

RONALD JARRETT, J.D.
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY AND GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Ron Jarrett oversees ConnCAN's statewide community and government initiatives. Prior to joining ConnCAN, he was deputy director of information services for New York State Senate minority leader David A. Paterson. In this position he managed grassroots and organizational campaigns supporting state legislation. Previously, he was an editor at Atria Books/Simon and Schuster. A graduate of Sarah Lawrence College, he received a J.D. from Yeshiva University's Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law.

MARC PORTER MAGEE, PH.D.
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RESEARCH

Marc Porter Magee oversees ConnCAN's research and policy work, media campaigns, and web projects. Prior to joining ConnCAN, he worked in Washington, D.C., as research director of the Partnership for Public Service, founding director of the Progressive Policy Institute's Center for Civic Enterprise, and as a contributing editor of the policy journal Blueprint. He is co-editor, with Will Marshall, of the book The AmeriCorps Experiment and in 2005 led the development of U.S. News & World Report's first ever ranking of government agencies. A graduate of Georgetown University, he received his Ph.D. in sociology from Duke University.

LISA WHITFIELD
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

Lisa Whitfield is the director of operations and also directs ConnCAN's Speaker's Bureau. Before joining ConnCAN, Lisa worked for more than a decade as a legal office manager and served for nine years as the director/educator of the business management program for a Connecticut college-level proprietary school. A graduate of the University of New Haven, Lisa is a member of the American Management Association, the Society for Human Resource Management and The Human Resource Association of Greater New Haven.

JESSICA BONAFINE
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS MANAGER

As the government relations manager, Jessica is responsible for managing and executing government relations activities and advocating for ConnCAN's policies before state legislative bodies and agencies. Prior to joining ConnCAN, Jessica was the advocacy director for the Connecticut Early Childhood Alliance and served as the clerk of the Appropriations Committee and legislative aide to State Representative Denise Merrill. Jessica is a graduate of Eastern Connecticut State University, majoring in sociology and public policy and government.

JESSICA BILBAO
MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

As membership coordinator, Jessica helps build a network of active supporters for great schools, provides research and analysis, helps create and strengthen partnerships between community organizations, plans special events, and provides support for parents and children. Prior to joining ConnCAN, Jessica served as a youth development specialist for Our Piece of the Pie (OPP) of Hartford and as a program specialist for ASPIRA of Connecticut, where she managed youth leadership program operations in Hartford and Fairfield County.

DANIELLE K. SMITH
DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATE

As the development and communications associate, Danielle manages fundraising initiatives and a number of key communications projects. A Connecticut native, Danielle attended Waterbury public schools from kindergarten through high school and is a graduate of Yale University in New Haven. While at Yale, Danielle served on the Dwight Hall Board of Directors, worked as assistant director and a 9th grade teacher in the Ulysses S. Grant program, and co-founded Sphere Inc. and SphereMagazine.com.

ALLISON PELLICCIO
OFFICE ASSISTANT

As office assistant, Allison is responsible for managing ConnCAN's database, its electronic communications with members, and its publication mailings. She also supports organizational operations through administrative activities and scheduling. Allison is a Connecticut native and graduated from Fairfield University in 2003 with a degree in political science. Before joining ConnCAN, she worked as an E-Organizer for Planned Parenthood of Connecticut, where she managed communications with its database of supporters.
"With this report ConnCAN follows in the footsteps of Delaware's Vision 2015 project. ConnCAN's report was spearheaded by a large, well-credentialed Board of Directors and Advisors and is clearly serious about school reform."

—The Thomas B. Fordham Foundation
BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND BOARD OF ADVISORS (page 2)

Timothy Dutton  
Director, Bridge Academy  
President, Connecticut Charter School Network

Dr. Howard Fuller—Senior Policy Advisor  
Founder and Chairman, Black Alliance for Educational Options  
Former Superintendent, Milwaukee Public Schools  
Board Member, National Alliance for Public Charter Schools

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Director, MassMutual Financial Group  
Former Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Hartford Public School System

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President and CEO, Community Foundation for Greater New Haven  
Director, Regional Leadership Council

Stewart Greenfield  
Founder and Chairman, Oak Investment Partners  
Founder and Chairman, Alternative Investment Group, LLC

Dr. Janice M. Gruendel  
Senior Advisor on Early Childhood for Governor M. Jodi Rell  
Member, Governor’s Council on Economic Competitiveness  
Former Deputy Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Children and Youth Services

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President, University of Hartford  
Director, Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges  
Director, The Hartford Consortium for Higher Education

Darrell Harvey  
Co-CEO, The Ashforth Company  
Chairman, The Business Council of Southwestern Connecticut (SACIA)

Marc S. Herzig  
Chancellor, Connecticut Community College System  
Member, National Council of State Directors, American Association of Community Colleges

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Former Vice President, JPMorgan and Co.  
Chairman, City of Stamford Planning Board

Carlton L. Highsmith  
Founder, President and CEO, Specialized Packing Group  
Director, Quinnipiac University  
National Board of Directors, I Have a Dream Foundation
BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND BOARD OF ADVISORS (page 3)

 Chandler J. Howard  
 President and CEO, First City Fund Corporation  
 Board Member, Connecticut Innovations  
 Vice Chairman, Governor's Council on Economic Competitiveness and Technology

 Ron Howard  
 Co-Chairman, Imagine Entertainment  
 Awarded Best Director, Directors Guild of America, “Apollo 13”  
 Awarded an Oscar, Best Director, “A Beautiful Mind”

 John N. Irwin III  
 Managing Director, Brookside International  
 President, Arthur and Bodman Foundation  
 Treasurer, Wildlife Conservation Society

 Catherine Viscardi Johnston  
 Partner, Midway Communications, LLC  
 Former Executive Vice President, Condé Nast Publications, Inc.  
 Co-Founder and Director, Harlem Village Academy and Leadership Village Academy

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 Former Executive Vice President and Chief Investment Officer, Neuberger Berman

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 Market President, Bank of America  
 Education Committee Chairman, Regional Leadership Council

 Kevin Knight  
 Founder and President, The K Group  
 Director, Cities in Schools, Norwalk

 George Knox III  
 Former Vice President of Corporate Affairs, Philip Morris Companies  
 Director and Vice Chairman, Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute  
 Trustee, African American Experience Foundation

 Konrad “Chip” Kruger  
 Former Co-President and Co-CEO, Greenwich Capital Markets  
 Co-Founder, Five Mile Capital Partners LLC

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 Director, Hewlett Foundation  
 Chairman, AllLearn, a joint venture of Yale, Oxford, and Stanford universities

 Dr. Julia M. McNamara  
 President, Albertus Magnus College  
 Chairwoman, Yale-New Haven Health Services Corporation  
 Director, The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven

 Len Miller  
 Partner, O'Connor Davies Munnis & Dobkins  
 Founder and Former Chairman, SoundWaters
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President, Southern Connecticut State University

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Co-Founder, Viking Global Investors
Chairman, Civic Builders

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President, Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce
Executive Director, Regional Leadership Council
Member of the Board, New Haven Public Education Fund

Jonathan Sackler—Chairman, Board of Directors
Founder and Managing Director, North Bay Associates
Director, Purdue Pharma
Vice Chairman, Micro Credit Businesses, Inc.

Dr. Theodore Sergi
Former Connecticut State Commissioner of Education
President and CEO, Connecticut Center for Science and Exploration

Reverend Eric B. Smith
Pastor, Adoni Spiritual Formation Center of New Haven
President, New Haven Reparations Coalition
Board Member, Greater New Haven Community Loan Fund

Richard Sugarman
Founder and President, The Connecticut Forum
Board Chairman, Connecticut Center for School Change

Allan B. Taylor
Partner, Day, Berry & Howard LLP
Chairman, Connecticut State Board of Education
Former Councilman, Hartford City Council

Nathaniel D. Woodson
Chairman and CEO, UBI Holdings Corporation
Director, NewAlliance Bank
Director, Yale-New Haven Hospital

“...It has been especially refreshing to work with ConnCAN as an equally committed partner over the past year to devote the necessary manpower and fiscal resources behind our groundbreaking efforts to connect parents with much-needed education for school-age children...”
—Cynthia Moore, Headstart Bridgeport, CT
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS’ REPORT

TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
CONNECTICUT COALITION FOR ACHIEVEMENT NOW, INC.
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

We have audited the accompanying statements of financial position of Connecticut Coalition for Achievement Now, Inc. (ConnCAN) as of December 31, 2006 and 2005 and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of ConnCAN’s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the ConnCAN’s internal control over financial reporting.

Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Connecticut Coalition for Achievement Now, Inc. as of December 31, 2006 and 2005, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

O’Connor Davies Munns & Dobbins, LLP
Stamford, Connecticut
May 31, 2007
# Statements of Cash Flows

**Years Ended December 31**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Change in net assets</td>
<td>5,940</td>
<td>(32,466)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash provided (used) by operating activities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donated securities</td>
<td></td>
<td>(1,004)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation</td>
<td>7,532</td>
<td>669</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changes in operating assets and liabilities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable and accrued expenses</td>
<td>6,796</td>
<td>10,218</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid expense</td>
<td>(3,358)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deposit</td>
<td></td>
<td>(2,100)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Cash Provided (Used) by Operating Activities</strong></td>
<td><strong>16,910</strong></td>
<td><strong>(24,683)</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Cash Flows from Investing Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sale of donated securities</td>
<td>1,004</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchase of equipment</td>
<td>(12,130)</td>
<td>(13,998)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Cash Used by Investing Activities</strong></td>
<td><strong>(11,126)</strong></td>
<td><strong>(13,998)</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Net Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beginning of year</td>
<td>600,877</td>
<td>639,558</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End of year</td>
<td>606,661</td>
<td>600,877</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES
### YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2006 Unrestricted</th>
<th>Temporarily Restricted</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>2005 Unrestricted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>REVENUE</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>761,045</td>
<td>25,000</td>
<td>786,045</td>
<td>424,333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service fees</td>
<td>18,552</td>
<td></td>
<td>18,552</td>
<td>14,889</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest income</td>
<td>16,944</td>
<td></td>
<td>16,944</td>
<td>8,866</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-kind contributions</td>
<td>2,276</td>
<td></td>
<td>2,276</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other income</td>
<td>3,937</td>
<td></td>
<td>3,937</td>
<td>2,231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
<td>802,754</td>
<td>25,000</td>
<td>827,754</td>
<td>450,319</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **EXPENSES**           |                   |                        |       |                   |
| Salaries and related expenses | 464,049           |                        | 464,049 | 168,143          |
| Research and public relations      | 196,894           |                        | 196,894 | 231,786          |
| Staff training and development    | 15,926            |                        | 15,926 |                  |
| Occupancy                         | 32,070            |                        | 32,070 | 10,500           |
| Professional fees                 | 23,973            |                        | 23,973 | 17,124           |
| Conference and meetings           | 21,822            |                        | 21,822 | 15,996           |
| Travel                             | 16,954            |                        | 16,954 | 11,959           |
| Dues and subscriptions            | 2,160             |                        | 2,160  |                  |
| Equipment and maintenance         | 12,766            |                        | 12,766 | 13,878           |
| Telephone                          | 7,196             |                        | 7,196  | 5,278            |
| Insurance                          | 3,814             |                        | 3,814  | 1,422            |
| Office supplies                    | 13,225            |                        | 13,225 | 4,541            |
| Depreciation expense              | 7,532             |                        | 7,532  | 669              |
| Miscellaneous expenses             | 3,433             |                        | 3,433  | 1,489            |
| **Total Expenses**                | 821,814           |                        | 821,814 | 482,785          |
| **Change in Net Assets**          | (19,060)          | 25,000                 | 5,940  | (32,466)          |

| **NET ASSETS**               |                   |                        |       |                   |
| Beginning of year            | 607,092           |                        | 607,092 | 639,558          |
| End of year                  | 588,032           | 25,000                 | 613,032 | 607,092          |