



BECAUSE YOUNG PEOPLE CAN NO LONGER BE LOST TO VIOLENCE AND POVERTY.
TRUTH, TRUST & TRANSFORMATION

News Release

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National Grid Foundation supports Roca's High Risk Youth Intervention Model for Skills Training

Chelsea, MA – July 2009 – The National Grid Foundation awarded Roca \$20,000 to support Roca's High Risk Youth Intervention Model which utilizes intensive youth-adult relationship-building to leverage young people into a process of personal change, and to help them connect to education, employment and life skills opportunities.

In recognition of the National Grid Foundation contribution, students from Roca's Alternative Education and Pre-vocational Training produced a commemorative collage and will present it to the National Grid Foundation for its support.

The National Grid Foundation was created to enhance the quality of life in areas where they provide services. The National Grid Foundation is committed to creating opportunities for solutions to educational and environmental issues. The Foundation's philosophy is based on the principle that giving people the tools to build hope is an essential ingredient in the development of individuals, families and communities.

Roca, which is celebrating its 21st Anniversary, is founded on the belief that it is unacceptable to lose so many young people to violence and poverty in our country. In the last twenty-one years, Roca has won nationwide respect and recognition for its effective and innovative approaches to helping young people live self-sufficiently and out of harm's way. Roca's vision is clear; young people will leave the streets and gangs to take responsibility for their actions and have jobs. Young immigrant mothers will raise their children in safety and be recognized for their contributions to society. Our communities will have the ability to keep young people out of harm's way and in turn, thrive through their participation and leadership.

National Grid Foundation's Executive Director Bob Keller said "The commemorative collage produced by Roca's students is a symbolic testament to Roca's innovative programming and its leadership in transforming the lives of so many people from the Chelsea community."

Founded in 1988, Roca is a youth development organization committed to serving the most disenfranchised and disengaged young people ages 14-24 (street/court/gang involved; drop-outs; young parents; and refugee and immigrants) in the Greater Boston area including the communities of Chelsea, Revere, East Boston, and Charlestown, MA. Roca builds relationships with the institutions in the lives of young people and provides the opportunities necessary for young people to live and succeed. Through intensive relationship building, Roca helps young people re-engage in society - moving them into educational, employment, and life skills programming.

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