

**CHICAGO, October 8, 2008** – The Inner-City Teaching Corps (ICTC), an Illinois not-for-profit corporation whose mission is to empower children from under-served urban communities through education, is pleased to announce that it has received a grant of \$50,000 from the Searle Funds at The Chicago Community Trust. The grant will support the development of a high school mathematics readiness network of schools on the west-side of Chicago sharing best practices in higher order management and presentation of mathematics curricula focused on middle school readiness for high school.

Exemplary teaching is at the core of excellence in education and is supported by quality professional development and adequate opportunities for teachers to collaborate and to observe the implementation of best practices. ICTC's Alain Locke Charter Academy is a public school located in the underserved East Garfield Park community on Chicago's west side. Alain Locke's mission is to serve as an innovative and replicable urban education model that develops college-bound, globally competitive students. Alain Locke is one of seven schools in the United States highlighted in 2007 by the U.S. Department of Education for closing the achievement gap.

Expanding the Alain Locke learning community to include educators from other schools who have a desire to expand and perfect their teaching skills is an exciting opportunity to significantly improve the academic achievement of their students.

We are grateful for the support of the Searle Funds at The Chicago Community Trust.

#### **About the Inner-City Teaching Corps**

Inner-City Teaching Corps is an education non-profit that transforms education and empowers children in the most underserved areas of Chicago through the provision of outstanding teachers and innovative education programs. ICTC fulfills this mission through premier teacher training and induction, independent public school administration, entrepreneurial leadership training for start-up and turnaround school leaders, and family literacy programming. ICTC's programs focus on high-need populations in Chicago, most prevalently in schools and communities in which at least 85% of the population is low income.

#### **About The Chicago Community Trust**

For 93 years, The Chicago Community Trust has connected the generosity of donors with the needs of the community by making grants to organizations working to improve metropolitan Chicago. With assets of \$1.8 billion, the Trust made a record-breaking \$114 million in grants in 2007. From strengthening community schools to assisting local art programs, from building health centers to helping lives affected by violence, the Trust works to enhance our region. Learn more at [www.cct.org](http://www.cct.org).

For more information visit our web site at [www.ictc-chicago.org](http://www.ictc-chicago.org) or call Judith Blank, Director of Development & Communications at 312-491-9100 ext. 222.