

**CHICAGO, October 27, 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 \$75,000 from Chase to provide professional development in schools around Austin, Lawndale and Little Village/Pilsen, in East and West Garfield Park.

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. Chicago's students need significantly more highly qualified teachers, and Chicago needs more first-class programs to produce them. With over 2,500 uncertified teachers among its ranks, Chicago Public Schools has a shortage of professionals capable of inspiring student achievement, especially amid the challenges of low-income, underserved classrooms. Through the UNITE program, ICTC seeks to fill the dearth of highly qualified teachers by recruiting talented mid-career professionals to become full-time teachers.

“Education is key to helping young people succeed in life and work. That’s why we’re proud to support the ICTC’s efforts to improve the educational opportunities for Chicago’s students,” said Beverly Meek, Illinois community relations officer for Chase.

We are grateful for the support of Chase.

#### **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 Chase**

Chase is a U.S. consumer and commercial banking brand of JPMorgan Chase & Co. (NYSE: JPM), which operates more than 5,400 branches and 14,000 ATMs nationally under the Chase and WaMu brands. Chase has 157 million credit cards issued and serves consumers and small businesses through bank branches, ATMs and mortgage offices as well as through relationships with auto dealerships and schools and universities. It also serves more than 30,000 commercial banking clients, including corporations, municipalities, financial institutions and not-for-profit entities. More information about Chase is available at [www.chase.com](http://www.chase.com).

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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.