Goucher/Old Goucher
Partnerships

Old Goucher Neighborhood
Collaborative (co-lab) and the Dallas
Nicholas Community School
by Robert Koulish Ph.D.
Old Goucher Neighborhood

21st Street to 27th Street
Howard to Guilford
Defining Characteristics of OGN

Old Goucher Neighborhood:

- A 10x7 block area, N/S: 20st Street to 27th Street; E/W: Howard to Guilford
- Population: 2,442 people (Census 2000)
- Approximate number of businesses: 161
- Approximate number of non-profits: 70
- Original Goucher College Campus: 22 buildings
Stage 1: Old Goucher Neighborhood Collaborative (Colab)
Co-lab

• 2526 North Charles Street

• Co-lab is all about the flow of ideas and energy among Goucher students and the four partners: Megaphone Project, Wide Angle Community Media, and Community Law in Action. It is no longer unusual for community groups to establish partnerships that take advantage of their complementary assets. What is unusual are the informal relationships and projects that evolve during the course of the academic year. New projects grow from seeds planted in passing conversations and grow quickly and efficiently into tangible activities and events. The co-lab members share a commitment to social justice, and giving voice to communities who have long been ignored. That coupled with its commitment to media and the arts, gives the OGNC a fresh and unusual take on community development.
Co-Lab Partners

- Goucher College Service-Learning
- Megaphone Project (megaphoneproject.com)
- Wide Angle Community Media (wideanglemedia.com)
- Community Law in Action (CLIA)
- Critical Exposure
- Ebenezer Development Corporation
Stage 2: Community School

- Dallas Nicholas Elementary School: (K-5)
- 96% students from Title I families
- School Achievement: 2nd in math scores; 6th in reading scores in city
- Goucher Involvement: after school program (Read a story-Write a story); computer technology; Capstone class: focus groups/surveys to assess what community wants;
- Grant Writing in partnership with Greater Homewood Community Corporation; Dallas Nicholas and other community partners.
- Potential: services; programs; workshops; services, trainings for kids and parents alike to run 7 days a week.
Other Partnerships

• Discussions to expand community school partnerships to include:
  • University of Baltimore
  • Maryland International College of Art (MICA)
  • Station North Arts District