



Our vision of building neighborhoods by working directly with the schools in the area through intergenerational programs/activities, in 2009, began in East Oakland, at Castlemont High School and ended the year at McClymonds High School in West Oakland.

In January of 2009, on Dr. Martin Luther Kings Jr. Birthday, we held a volunteer event at Castlemont High School to rebuild the school garden. Since our event, the school was able to receive some funding to improve the garden. A science teacher has come on board to really engage the students and from a few connections, we were able to gain some volunteer support at Castlemont's garden, from some of the students at U.C. Berkeley. As of today, this garden looks fabulous!

Our event was featured in the USA Today, as one of the official volunteer events happening in the Bay Area. We attribute much of our success to the many Obama volunteers out here in the community that believe we can. Special thanks to KPFA radio's Joy Moore, Guerilla Cafe, Kulture Freedom and of course the Mo' Better Food supporters!

At the McClymonds Educational Complex, over the past few years, I have been apart of the McClymonds High Alumni Association and while apart of this organization, have witnessed several changes over the years in the schools administration, which has created so much uncertainty even until this day. For example, as I write this Annual Report, the school is expected to possibly return to its old McClymonds name. One of the two schools, BEST high School is expected to close and many of the "older teachers" are expected to lose their jobs.

From my involvement with the Alumni association, I was asked to participate on the advisory board of the International and Trade and Logistics Academy at McClymonds. Since the mission of the Familyhood Connection Inc, mission is to promote programs that bring the generations together to develop the community, this request by the Alumni, fell in direct alignment with our strategy of promoting local businesses to students attending McClymonds High School by connecting them to local business partners.

In 2009, we spent a considerable time and resources into improving our communication between our community partners and people interested in learning more about our affairs, by improving and updating the following websites: mobetterfood.com, friendsofschool.org, intergenerationalenterprise.com, and of course, healthyeconomics.org. We expect to launch the Healthy Economics Campaign in 2010 through each of these sites, while showing how they work together to build healthy communities.

In 2009, I was a guest at the Black Farmers Confence in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. There, I shared with others the need for us to work together to feed our own communities, while we continue to fight for the settlement from the U.S.D.A. Statements were made about the negative affect the Pigsford vrs U.S.D.A. was having upon our organizations to work together. Representatives from other organizations present included: The Federation of Southern Cooperatives, the Black Farmers Agricultural Association, and several others.

In 2009, we hosted the Mo' Better Food Market in West Oakland with produce grown by The African American Farmers of California and expanded their produce to faith based organizations by hosting a monthly farmers market at Beebe Memorial Church and partnering with Kaiser Permanente Faith Based initiative to host a Family Day Event at Mosswood Park.

In the later quarter of 2009, we started an after school gardening program at Claremont Middle School in Rockridge. Our vision of bringing together a community to support a school garden was not something new at Claremont. In fact, Claremont Middle School, has a very active PTA, and a garden committee which all ready had a relationship with a "volunteer peaceful organization." We added to their support, Joy Moore, to expand the garden from to both sides of the campus, and to include mo' nutrition awareness to the students.

With all the above madness going on, I was so honored in 2009 to be recognized by ABC News as a Profile Of Excellence, and a month later I received the Community Service Award from the Morehouse College Alumni Association.

Thanks for your time and consideration.

Kind regards,

David N. Roach  
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