

# NATIONAL CIVILITY CENTER UPDATE

## Current Projects

Currently we have ongoing projects within the public, private and non-profit sectors. In the private sector we continue our "Speak Up" project with Dominos Pizza. We have developed a "kit" to use in our sessions focusing on youth being problem solvers in issues of concern to them. We are working with Leven Wiess on having Daimler Chrysler host a major gathering this summer in partnership with the Aspen Institute and the United Way of Southeast Michigan. We have several ongoing projects with selected schools and we are involved at the State level in Michigan with a variety of educational discussions. In the non-profit area, we are working with the Oakland-Livingston Human Service Agency. They employ over 600 people and work in delivering comprehensive services in a two county area. We also continue our work with the United Way.

## Director's Thoughts

Dear Friends,

As we start another year, it seems my message always sounds familiar, "The upcoming months will be critical to the advancement of our Center." The nature of our work tends to create these continuous milestones. The work we have established in Michigan is beginning to pay dividends. We have on the horizon, many significant projects in a variety of different areas of work. Kari Newman, our Director of Marketing, has been busy in our Southwest Michiana Office. We can look forward to many updated features on our website in the upcoming months. In July of this year, Dr. Jay Newman will be joining our team. This addition to the Center will not only add an experienced professional, but also provide new energy for our Center. We have also been in the discussion stages with other individuals who have an interest in possibly opening other regional offices of Civility.

Attached to our Newsletter is our Civility Pledge. Please take a minute to read it, and if you agree with our pledge, sign it and hang it with pride. If you have not sent a donation, we have asked those who believe in the pledge to do so. I invite you to print two copies, one for yourself, and the other to send back to us with a donation. Please stay tuned as we increase our capacity and also our rate of impact!

*Sincerely,*

*Kent Roberts*

January 2006

## Future Projects

Future projects include working with the Michigan Department of Corrections, Economic Development Project in Western Michigan, various community projects in St. Joseph County, Civility Project with the Governor of Tennessee, Sustainability Council of St. Joseph County, facilitating a round table discussion for the Regional Leadership Alliance of Southwest Michigan, and establishing a Cross Community Agenda in Oakland County. Some of the above projects would require us to increase our capacity significantly. We are developing a package of products and services that our Center can deliver. This is an exciting time for us.

## Annual Board of Directors Meeting

In November, the Center held its annual Board of Directors meeting in Muscatine, Iowa. During this meeting, a vote was taken to install Mark Newman, Sr. V.P of Baseball Operations for the New York Yankees, as a board member. It is very evident that we are evolving and moving in an intentional direction. As a result of this meeting, three standing committees were formed: marketing/communications, funding and strategic plan committee. As the Center grows and expands, one thing remains true: the Center continues to be a catalyst and agent for transforming communities!