

MISSION

PEP's mission is to enlighten youth on how to take advantage of the educational, technological, and recreational outlets in society and transfer that knowledge into a successful self-sufficient life. Our mission also includes assisting the disadvantaged families, children, and senior citizens of the Cabrini-Green North Town community. PEP is a recognized 501(c)(3), tax-exempt, nonprofit organization.

PURPOSE

Since its 1980 inception, the purpose of PROJECT EDUCATION PLUS has been able to divert the anger, frustration, and negative attitudes of the youth in the Cabrini-Green Near North area into positive learning experiences and constructive activities.

PEP has maintained its Cabrini-Green Near North focus and has expanded to provide for the demographic changes surrounding the original community boundaries.

PEP's participants benefit from a mixture of: personal attention, collaborations, education, technology, and recreation. This has contributed to the continued growth of the program.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Director Vince Carter

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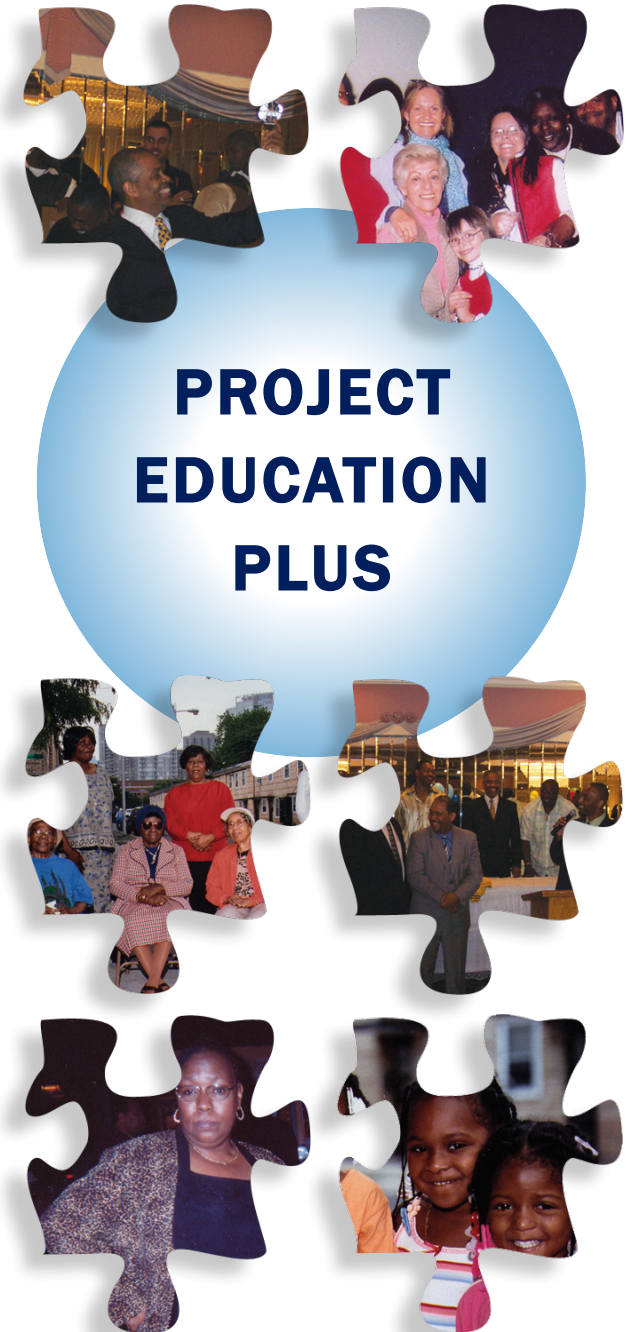
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PROGRAMS



Scholarships

- Provide support, expertise, advice, and resources
- Businesses have collaborated to provide financial support for scholarships towards participants college educations



The SMART Program (Science, Math, Art, Recreation, and Technology)

- Provides academic enrichment to local youth, teens, and adults



The After School Program

- Provides homework center, computer lab and Internet resource center
- Organizes weekend activities and educational field trips



High School and College Mentoring

- Partners high school and college students with elementary school students



The Louise Rhine Seniors Program

- Attends to the needs of local senior citizens
- Provides recreational activities
- Creates Christmas baskets
- Organizes field trips



The Chicago Demons Basketball Program

- For boys and girls
- Involves committed participation in local city, regional, and national tournaments



The Technology Program

- Provide access and training
- Partners with IBM and Diamond Technology



Summer Camp

- Bridges the educational and recreational gap for grammar school students



Writing Program

- Assists with resume and reference composition

HISTORY

Beginnings

PEP's Founders conceived Project Education Plus during the 1980 Chicago Public School teachers' strike. They saw a need for a regimented, innovative program with continuity. At the inception, PEP operated an 8 week summer program and basketball team.

1980's

PEP expanded to a year-round design with mentoring and after-school activities for grammar and high school participants.

1990's

Recreational programs expanded and the organization redesigned its educational and technological programs focusing on community needs. The technology programs, a collaboration of neighborhood agencies began providing computer and Internet access and training.

The New Century

We have redirected our energies to college mentoring and scholarships to meet the educational, recreational, and technological needs of the reshaping surrounding community.