

Of all the things that happen in school, the single most important determinant of whether kids learn is how well they're taught. The Joyce Foundation announces a three-year, \$15 million commitment to improve the quality of teachers in low-performing schools in Chicago, Cleveland, and Milwaukee. **10**

**The Joyce Foundation** supports efforts to protect the natural environment of the Great Lakes, to reduce poverty and violence in the region, and to ensure that its people have access to good schools, decent jobs, and a diverse and thriving culture. We are especially interested in improving public policies, because public systems such as education and welfare directly affect the lives of so many people, and because public policies help shape private sector decisions about jobs, the environment, and the health of our communities. To ensure that public policies truly reflect public rather than private interests, we support efforts to reform the system of financing election campaigns.

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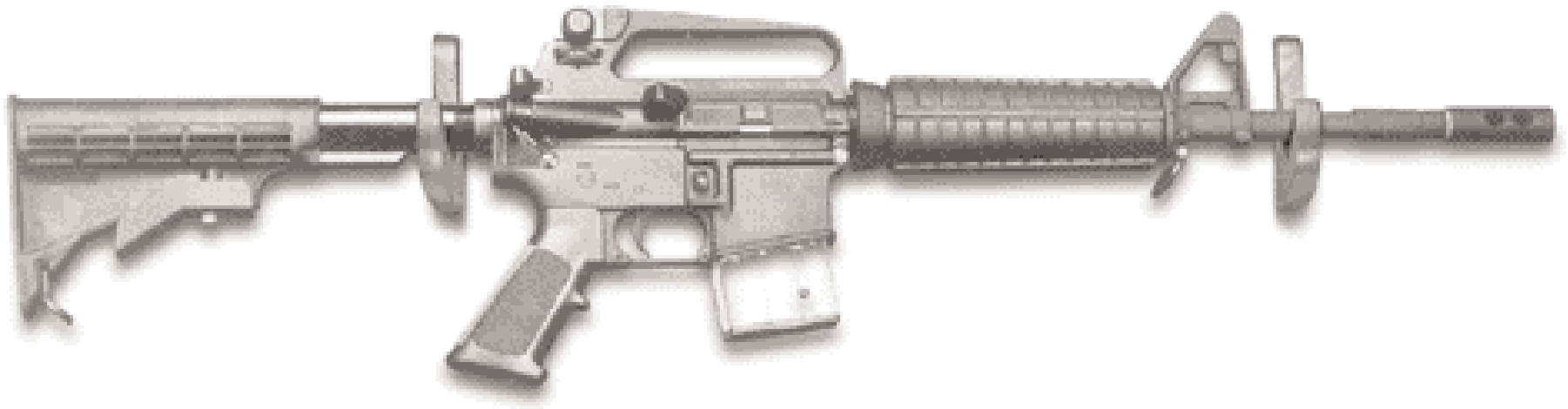
Grants approved at the April 8, 2004 meeting of the Board of Directors.

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*Work In Progress* is published three times a year following each Board meeting.

For information on programs of the Joyce Foundation, please consult our web site, [www.joycefdn.org](http://www.joycefdn.org), or call our offices to request a copy of our annual report or guidelines pamphlet. 312.782.2464

# Not Your Grandfather's Rifle



**Unless Congress acts, the ban on military-style assault weapons will expire this September. But there's still time to strengthen protections against these dangerous weapons.**

Ten years ago, Congress banned sale of AK-47s, Uzis, and other military-style assault weapons from the civilian market. Legislators reasoned that such weapons—designed to accept a high-capacity ammunition magazine, with grips and other features enabling the shooter to spray an area with bullets—had no legitimate sporting purpose and were too dangerous for civilian use. Law enforcement groups reported that criminals armed with assault weapons were outgunning the police. A more recent study by the Violence Policy Center shows that 20 percent of police killed in the line of duty between 1998 and 2001 fell victim to assault weapons.

Gun makers bitterly fought the 1994 ban. But over the years they have found simple ways to modify their guns to evade the provisions of the law. Now, even

that flimsy protection may disappear. The assault weapons ban expires this September, and the House of Representatives seems poised to let it die without bringing the matter to a vote.

The Senate is on record as favoring the ban. In a complicated set of votes in early March, senators tacked extension of the assault weapons ban and another gun control measure onto a bill that would exempt gun manufacturers from civilian lawsuits. But the bill's sponsor objected to the amendments and killed the entire measure.

So it's back to square one for law enforcement, medical, and citizen groups who want the public to understand why it's so important to extend the ban and make it more difficult to evade. Members of Physicians for Social Responsibility, with support from a \$100,000 Joyce grant, are getting the word out that the ban is in danger of expiring. The group is organizing events on the 13th of each month, leading up to the September 13 expiration date, to keep the issue before the minds of lawmakers and the public.

Another group, Doctors Against Handgun Injury, has won resolutions from medical associations, including the American Medical Association, American Academy of Pediatrics, and the American Public Health Association, urging that the ban be renewed and strengthened.

At the state level, Iowans for the Prevention of Gun Violence is collecting endorsements from police chiefs and holding press conferences to help the public and legislators understand what's at stake and why the ban needs to be strengthened. Supporting the work is a two-year, \$250,000 Joyce grant. Says John Johnson, the group's head: "We're doing everything we can to increase awareness in the media and among the general public that the ban will expire in September, that the current law hasn't worked the way it was intended to, and that Congress needs to renew and strengthen the ban."

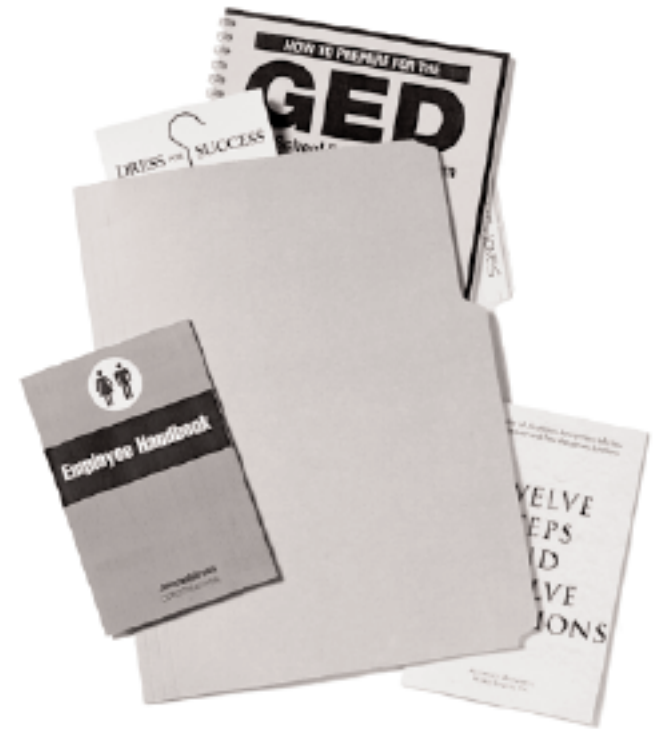
The Illinois Council Against Handgun Violence is organizing as well. The Council's head, Thom Mannard, cites polls in Illinois and nationally showing strong public support for keeping assault weapons off the street, including a November 2003 NBC/*Wall Street Journal* finding that 78 percent of Americans support the ban. A survey released in April by the child advocacy group Voices for Illinois Children found that 72-75 percent of Illinois voters favor extending the ban and strengthening its provisions.

Like their counterparts in Iowa, Illinois law enforcement groups such as the Fraternal Order of Police and the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police have called for extending and strengthening the ban. The On-Target Coalition, organized by the Council, brings together law enforcement, medical, religious, and other groups, all of whom are getting the message out about the need to strengthen protections to keep military-style assault weapons off the streets.

**John Johnson, Iowans for the Prevention of Gun Violence, 319.743.7823, [www.ipgv.org](http://www.ipgv.org)**

**Thom Mannard, Illinois Council Against Handgun Violence, 312.341.0939, [www.ichv.org](http://www.ichv.org)**

**Rita Bibbs-Daniels, Physicians for Social Responsibility, 202.667.4260, [www.psr.org](http://www.psr.org)**



**People with no work experience, few skills, a criminal record can find and keep jobs—if they start out with the right kind of help.**

Jobs are hard enough to come by in the current economy. People coming out of prison, and others with daunting life problems like domestic violence or substance abuse, can find it especially hard to land that first paycheck. To get them started, an old strategy is drawing new interest: transitional jobs.

The strategy has long been used for people with disabilities and other special barriers to getting hired. It combines a brief period of subsidized employment with skill-building, counseling, and placement assistance to find jobs in the mainstream economy. Typically programs also link people to other services as needed—for example, high school completion or formal job training.

"The idea is to take people with limited work experience and put them to work in a supportive environment, so that they gain skills," says Steve Savner of the Center for Law and Social Policy. "Overall this can increase

their employability, so that at the end they can more successfully compete for regular jobs.”

Under the 1996 welfare reform, states could use welfare funds to create such programs for people whose problems proved intractable to the “resumé and a push” approach to moving welfare recipients to work. Evaluations demonstrated that such programs enabled participants to get jobs at rates comparable to other former recipients with less complicated problems; a Mathematica study of six programs found that about half of participants completed the program, and virtually all of those found unsubsidized work.

That success has led to growing interest in the strategy, especially for the over 600,000 people coming out of prison each year. Notes Savner, “These people tend to face many of the same barriers as others—little work experience, limited education—plus one more: a criminal record.” A January 2004 conference organized by the National Transitional Jobs Network brought together corrections officials and other public and private agencies to explore using transitional jobs to help ex-offenders move into the workforce.

Currently, a Detroit program offers 80-100 people convicted of nonviolent offenses twelve weeks of subsidized work at Goodwill Industries, along with job readiness, education, and placement services. A \$115,502 grant to the University of Michigan Program on Poverty and Social Welfare Policy is funding a two-year evaluation. The study tracks how many people complete the program, whether they find work, how much they earn, and whether they hold onto the job and stay out of trouble with the law.

Says researcher Tony Mallon, “The Goodwill program addresses problems people know exist—for those with substance abuse, for example, it encourages them to figure out how to make it to an AA meeting, how to associate with people on the job who will support their recovery. And it also helps them with other issues that come up on the job—getting along with coworkers, taking directions: they can deal with problems without necessarily losing the job.”

Evaluators will also interview employers to assess their expectations and perceptions of the program. Another task will be determining who benefits most from the services. Says Mallon: “Because it’s relatively expensive, you don’t want to offer this program to someone who’s not ready for it, or to people who don’t need it, who can get a job on their own after a couple of weeks of job-readiness training. With the right information we can make sure the services go to people for whom they’re most appropriate.”

Expense is a major barrier to expanding such programs. A recent Joyce-funded assessment of Cuyahoga County’s Transitional Jobs Program found generally positive outcomes, but at an average cost of \$6,758 per client, more than twice the cost of other job search and job-readiness programs. Much of the difference went to wages for participants.

Such figures can be daunting, especially with state budgets tight and further welfare cuts threatened. But the demonstrated success of such programs still makes them a good bet for people who need extra help connecting to the job market. Making that case, and advocating for additional funding, will be the National Transitional Jobs Network (which Savner chairs), with support from a \$100,000 grant to its host organization, the Heartland Alliance for Human Needs and Human Rights. Another group, the Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law, will work to promote transitional jobs programs in Midwest states.

Steve Savner notes that tight budgets mean fierce competition for programs to help low-income people generally, making it especially hard to fund more expensive programs for those with complex problems. “Ideally, communities should be able to offer these programs to anybody who could benefit from them,” he says. “But given how limited funds are for workforce development, we’re a long way from that.”

**Steve Savner, CLASP, 202.906.8000, [www.clasp.org](http://www.clasp.org)**  
**Tony Mallon, University of Michigan, 734.615.3975**  
**National Center on Poverty Law, [www.povertylaw.org](http://www.povertylaw.org)**



## **Tops on the reform agenda: boosting teacher quality in low-performing schools.**

Curriculum, finance, governance, standards: improving education demands attention to these factors and many more. But in the end, it all comes down to teachers.

Children taught by high-quality teachers do well; those who aren't risk falling behind. Too often, the children whose achievement falters already face other barriers to getting a decent education: they are kids in poorly funded schools, in tough neighborhoods, where teachers don't stay unless they have to and failure has become an ingrained reality.

"Underlying the achievement gap separating poor and minority students from their peers is a teaching gap of startling proportions," says Ellen Alberding, president of the Joyce Foundation. "To improve educational outcomes for these kids, nothing is more important than improving the quality of teaching." The Joyce Foundation is committing \$15 million over three years to efforts that promise to train, attract, and support first-rate teachers for low-performing schools in Chicago, Cleveland, and Milwaukee.

Grants will support research documenting the patterns and consequences of inadequate and inequitable teaching quality in Midwest schools, and fund policy

development, evaluation, and advocacy to identify and implement the most promising strategies for addressing those problems.

In the Midwest and nationally, the teaching gap is striking. Research shows that children in high-poverty schools are significantly more likely than other children to have teachers who are not certified, who have limited experience, who are teaching subjects they're not trained to teach, and who themselves scored poorly on achievement tests.

In Illinois, teachers who don't have at least a college minor in the class subject are teaching about 15 percent of high school classes in low-poverty schools—and 47 percent of classes in poor schools. Ohio's gap is smaller (26 percent versus 42 percent), mainly because more under-qualified teachers are teaching. A *Chicago Sun-Times* investigation showed that teachers in high-poverty, mostly minority schools were five times more likely to have failed Illinois' teacher competency test than those in other schools.

Any adult who's had the benefit of a good math teacher or an inspiring debate coach knows that the quality of teaching makes a huge difference. For kids at risk, top-quality teaching matters even more. Texas researchers tracked two groups of low-performing kids starting in second grade. After three years, 92 percent of those assigned to high-quality teachers passed fourth-grade reading tests; only 40 percent of those taught by less-qualified teachers did. Studies in Tennessee, Boston, and Chicago show similar results.

The No Child Left Behind Act has turned up the heat on teacher quality. The law requires school districts to document how many teachers are highly qualified (defined by certification and mastery of subject area), to make sure that all classes are taught by "highly qualified" teachers by the 2005-06 school year, and to remedy inequities in teaching quality between affluent and poor schools.

Despite the consensus on the problem, a much harder task is figuring out solutions, especially for schools where the need is greatest. One thing that's not

working is the across-the-board approach, improving quality overall. In evaluating its own four-year effort, the Education Commission of the States recently concluded that “trickle down” policies have failed: “It requires a concerted and specific focus on the staffing needs of hard-to-staff schools in order to address them adequately and improve the quality and retention of teachers significantly.”

Promising strategies are being tried, including:

- Offering training and residencies to prepare teachers specifically for urban schools
- Using alternative certification to attract top-quality people from other professions
- Providing financial incentives for teaching in challenging schools
- Easing the transition to teaching through induction and mentoring
- Providing targeted, high-quality professional development
- Improving teacher evaluation, looking especially at methods that track the effectiveness of individual teachers in improving student performance
- Attracting and training better principals

Evaluating such approaches will be essential to find what works. To date such evaluation has been woefully inadequate, the North Central Regional Education Laboratory observed in a recent report. Documenting results becomes even more critical at a time when states and school districts struggle with tight budgets and competing priorities.

Joyce funding will support research evaluating such approaches as professional development, teacher training, recruitment, and mentoring. Drawing on the findings, grants will support development of policies to attract, support, and retain talented teachers in high-need schools, and advocacy to build support among educators, policymakers, and the public for the most promising strategies.

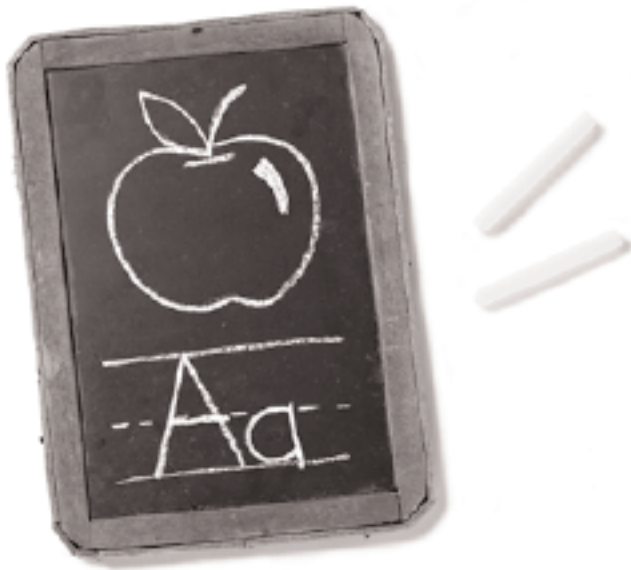
In addition to the teacher quality focus, Joyce is also supporting efforts to expand access to early childhood education for disadvantaged children in Midwest states, as announced last August. (See page 14.)

Leading off the grantmaking on teacher quality is a two-year, \$1,055,998 grant to the Education Trust, a Washington, DC-based think tank on education issues. The Trust will work with state leaders in Illinois, Ohio, and Wisconsin. The first order of business will be a more fine-grained analysis of teacher quality and student achievement in individual schools. “It’s a real data challenge,” says the Trust’s senior policy analyst Kevin Carey, noting the complexities of tracking teacher qualifications, demographics, funding, and all the other variables that influence achievement. “But once we have a good set of data on distribution, we can’t stop there. We have to ask why.”

The Trust hopes to draw on the experience of state and school district leaders, unions, elected officials, universities, and community and civic groups to identify issues that affect teacher quality. After that, it’s up to the participants to come up with solutions. Says Carey: “We want the process to conclude with a shared commitment to implementing reforms.”

That may be easier said than done. Some teachers may be skeptical of differential pay schemes to attract high-performing teachers to high-need schools. Universities may resist proposals to change teacher training programs. Legislators from strong school districts may worry about losing their own good teachers. “We’re going into it with our eyes open,” says Carey. “We don’t think it’s a zero-sum game—we think we can have a fairer system and also improve the overall level of teacher quality. But the bottom line is, the most vulnerable students need good teachers—they’re the ones for whom it really matters. A lot of students, particularly in large urban areas, who have struggled in school and been written off are quite capable of meeting high academic standards, if they’re given the right teachers.”

**For grantmaking guidelines, see [www.joycefdn.org](http://www.joycefdn.org).  
Kevin Carey, Education Trust, 202.293.1217,  
[www.edtrust.org](http://www.edtrust.org)**



## Making sure kids in child care get opportunities to learn.

Research dramatizes the impressive learning potential of young children, yet one out of three children showing up at kindergarten is judged unready for school. Last fall, Joyce committed \$6 million to promote universal access to preschool for children in the Midwest, in particular by improving the educational content of child care. Now, Illinois and Wisconsin are taking steps on that path.

Wisconsin's constitution mandates funding for pre-kindergarten. But fewer than half of districts have taken up the offer, serving only about a quarter of eligible children. Here, as in other states, many of the poorest children are in community-based child care. Governor Jim Doyle has committed to expanding pre-K to such settings. Helping out will be the Wisconsin Council on Children and Families. With a two-year, \$1.3 million Joyce grant, the Council will bring together school districts and community groups to provide training and technical assistance to child-care providers, promote public support for early learning, and study the impact of early childhood education on later success in school.

The Council's director, Charity Eleson, expects communities to try different approaches to expanding early education. Some might bring in teachers to work with 4-year olds in a child-care facility; others might

offer early education along with other family services. "Communities need to look at the families they serve and decide what will work best for them," she says.

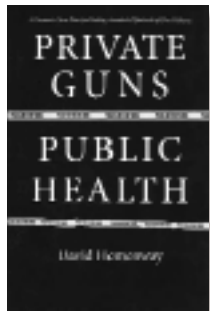
In Illinois, Governor Rod Blagojevich has promised to commit an additional \$90 million over three years toward preschool for disadvantaged kids, and has appointed an Early Learning Council to recommend policies. Here, too, a major effort will center on child care, which cares for two-thirds of the state's low-income children. With Joyce funding, Action for Children (formerly the Day Care Action Council) will launch an innovative project to get educational services to children—and providers—in such settings.

Action's Maria Whelan points out that low-income parents often work erratic hours and depend on license-exempt child-care providers (a neighbor or sister) willing to take kids whenever they're needed. The project will work with community organizations and schools to develop preschool programs for such children, and will provide other supports—home visits by educators, field trips, educational sessions—to give child-care providers training, resources, and encouragement. Out of the work, Whelan says, will come a model for bringing education to kids in care.

In addition, Joyce grants to the Ounce of Prevention Fund, Voices for Illinois Children, and Action Against Crime and Violence Education Fund/Fight Crime: Invest in Kids will enable those groups to make the case for early education with state and federal policymakers and K-12 educators. A grant to the City Colleges of Chicago will go toward improving the preparation of early childhood teachers.

These efforts, along with the work of the governor's Early Learning Council, should push forward the goal of giving young citizens in every Illinois community a chance to learn. Or, as Whelan puts it more poetically, "We look at whatever's in the community as building blocks for the kingdom of children."

**Action for Children, [www.actforchildren.org](http://www.actforchildren.org)  
Wisconsin Council on Children and Families,  
[www.wccf.org](http://www.wccf.org)**



## Gun Violence

### Private Guns, Public Health

With nearly 30,000 deaths each year, gun violence is a public health problem on a scale comparable to automobile accidents, HIV, drug overdose, and other causes of premature death. In his new book, *Private Guns, Public Health*, David Hemenway, director of the Harvard Injury Control Research Center, offers an invaluable guide to the research on the nature of, and possible solutions for, this American tragedy.

An economist and one of the nation's foremost experts on injury prevention, Dr. Hemenway argues that a public-health approach—which emphasizes prevention over punishment, and which has dramatically reduced the rates of injury and death from automobile accidents—can be applied to gun violence.

Key to the public health approach is sound information. Hemenway summarizes what we know from the research on a long list of topics: gun ownership and use; the role of guns in homicide, suicide, and accidental deaths; the impact of guns in the home, in schools, and in other public places; and how guns affect women and children. The research sheds light on

controversies—e.g., how often Americans use guns in self-defense—and on the effectiveness of various policy approaches (although Hemenway argues that more data are needed for solid evaluations).

“Public health is pro-health; it is not anti-stairs, anti-swimming pools, anti-cars, or anti-guns,” writes Hemenway. “Unfortunately, many people who lobby for uncontrolled gun access dichotomize the world—into ‘progun’ and ‘antigun,’ ‘us’ and ‘them,’ ‘good guys’ and ‘bad guys,’ ‘criminals’ and ‘decent, law-abiding citizens.’ Dividing people into such categories is anathema to public health, whose mission is to unite diverse groups of people and to improve the health—and the conditions that promote health—for all peoples.”

Dr. Hemenway has been a Joyce grantee for his pioneering work in developing a national system for tracking violent deaths and injuries, which became the model for the National Violent Death Reporting System. Some of the research cited in the book also was funded by Joyce.

**University of Michigan Press, [www.press.umich.edu](http://www.press.umich.edu)**

## Environment

### Great Lakes Protection on the National Agenda

Advocates and policy-makers in the Midwest are calling 2004 “the year of the Lakes,” as several initiatives are underway to protect and restore the Great Lakes.

Hearings are planned in mid-May on bipartisan legislation to create a Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, with significant funding (\$4 billion in the House bill, \$6 billion in the Senate) to carry it out. To date 122 members of Congress, including virtually the entire delegations of the eight Great Lakes states, have signed on as cosponsors.

The region's mayors and governors are enthusiastically backing the legislation. Public opinion is behind it as well, according to a survey released in April by the National Wildlife Federation. Four out of five Michigan residents support Great Lakes restoration, according to the NWF poll, and two-thirds say they “strongly support” such measures.

The fate of the comprehensive legislation remains uncertain in the face of budget deficits and competing priorities. But in the meantime, smaller scale efforts to deal with specific threats to the

Lakes are already in the works. USEPA Administrator Mike Leavitt announced in January a commitment of \$45 million for cleanup of toxic sediments under the Great Lakes Legacy Act.

In early March, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers agreed to move forward with construction of a barrier in the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal to keep the Asian carp out of Lake Michigan. A voracious eater, the Asian carp escaped from fish farms and has been making its way up the Mississippi River system; if it enters the Lakes, it could devastate the aquatic life on which lake fish depend.

The Corps designed an electronic barrier to replace a temporary one, but then put construction on hold, citing wartime spending in Iraq and Afghanistan. Protests from the region's congressional delegations and environmental groups got the barrier back on the Corps' to-do list. Meanwhile, the National Aquatic Invasive Species Act awaits action in Congress.

Coming in June will be the draft of a new agreement to control withdrawals and diversions of Great Lakes water. The

# Grants Approved

The following grants were approved at the April 8, 2004 meeting of the Board of Directors:

agreement is being drafted by the region's governors and premiers through the Council of Great Lakes Governors. It will spell out steps for implementing a 2001 statement of principles mandating that future water withdrawals must avoid adverse impacts and contribute to an "improvement" of Great Lakes water. The agreement will be open to public comment this summer, with signing of the final document set for early 2005. After that it will go to state and provincial legislatures and Congress for ratification.

With these and other items on the national agenda, Great Lakes environmental and citizen groups are putting in place a broad strategy for raising public awareness of the importance of protecting the Lakes. The Lake Michigan Federation plans "adopt-a-beach" days, involving people in cleaning up trash and also highlighting the dangers of beach closings because of bacterial pollution. The National Wildlife Federation is preparing to release a report in May spotlighting problems caused by invasive species. Both groups have also been working to oppose recent federal regulations on mercury and sewage, which

they argue will exacerbate chemical and biological pollution in the Lakes. Great Lakes United is using its annual meeting in June to call attention to the troubling "dead zone" in Lake Erie.

Meanwhile, this summer in Wisconsin, the Madison-based Biodiversity Project is planning everything from radio and print ads to bumperstickers and signs in state parks, reminding the public that such steps as reducing lawn chemicals and cleaning up after pets all help protect the Great Lakes. Says Biodiversity's Jane Elder, "People on vacation aren't going to go right home and write their congressman about restoration (although we'd be delighted if they did). But we can tap into their sense of responsibility for the Lakes, and over the long haul that translates into public support for policies to protect them."

[www.cglg.org](http://www.cglg.org)  
[www.nwf.org](http://www.nwf.org)  
[www.lakemichigan.org](http://www.lakemichigan.org)  
[www.glu.org](http://www.glu.org)  
[www.biodiversity.org](http://www.biodiversity.org)

**And coming soon:**  
[www.restorethelakes.org](http://www.restorethelakes.org)  
[www.greatlakesforever.org](http://www.greatlakesforever.org)

## Education

### Action Against Crime and Violence Education Fund

#### Fight Crime: Invest in Kids

Washington, DC \$250,000

To educate state and federal policy makers in Illinois about the crime prevention impact and other benefits of high-quality pre-kindergarten for children. (2 yrs.)

### Action for Children (formerly Day Care Action Council of Illinois)

Chicago, IL \$700,000

To develop models for delivering state-funded pre-K to children in license-exempt child-care settings toward the goal of designing a comprehensive system for early care and education in Illinois, especially for children from low-income working families and those at risk of academic failure. (2 yrs.)

### City Colleges of Chicago

Chicago, IL \$200,000

For the Child Development Studies Initiative, an effort to enhance early child development degree programs across the colleges. (2 yrs.)

### Education Trust

Washington, DC \$1,055,998

To develop and analyze strategies to improve the distribution of effective teachers to low-income and minority students in Illinois, Ohio, and Wisconsin. (2 yrs.)

### Ounce of Prevention Fund

Chicago, IL \$250,000

For its work to expand the availability of high-quality early childhood education in Illinois. (2 yrs.)

### Voices for Illinois Children

Chicago, IL \$200,000

To build support within Illinois' K-12 education community for early childhood education. (2 yrs.)

### Wisconsin Council on Children and Families, Inc.

Madison, WI \$1,300,000

To support Early Education Matters, a statewide collaboration focused on building partnerships between school districts and community-based child-care providers to expand the delivery of preschool and to document and disseminate the lessons learned. (2 yrs.)

**Total Education \$3,955,998**

## Environment

### Action, Inc.

Gloucester, MA \$95,000

For a report on funding opportunities for alternative approaches to water management and greater integration of water resources management. (1 yr.)

### American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy

Washington, DC \$100,000

To support analysis and advocacy directed towards new state policies to cut energy waste in Michigan and Wisconsin. (2 yrs.)

### Center for Agricultural Partnerships, Inc.

Asheville, NC \$90,500

For a project to improve water quality by increasing upper Midwest farmers' participation in agricultural conservation programs. (1 yr.)

### Center for Neighborhood Technology

Chicago, IL \$400,000

To support its research and input into federal, state, and local transportation decision-making. (2 yrs.)

### Clean Wisconsin, Inc.

Madison, WI \$202,680

To develop constituents on local and Great Lakes issues such as groundwater protection and conservation, Great Lakes restoration, and the need to protect water quality. (2 yrs.)

### EcoCity Cleveland

Cleveland, OH \$274,000

To protect watersheds in the Lake Erie basin by supporting a public-private process promoting balanced growth. (2 yrs.)

### Edmund S. Muskie Foundation

Washington, DC \$200,000

To recruit new members to the National Caucus of Environmental Legislators, to convene an annual issues forum, and to recruit a more bipartisan membership. (2 yrs.)

### Environmental Defence Canada, Inc.

Toronto, Ontario, Canada \$180,000

To expand and enhance its PollutionWatch web site and to link the information about environmental contamination with policy initiatives related to Great Lakes water quality. (18 mos.)

### Environmental Law and Policy Center of the Midwest

Chicago, IL \$150,000

For continued transportation efforts in Illinois and Michigan advocating for high-speed rail, and to provide technical assistance to advocates of transportation reform in the region. (1 yr.)

#### **Funders' Network for Smart Growth and Livable Communities**

*Coral Gables, FL \$40,000*

To support strategic planning among organizations working on transportation reform. (1 yr.)

#### **Illinois Environmental Council Education Fund**

*Springfield, IL \$160,000*

To support its efforts to improve state policies governing Illinois' water resources. (2 yrs.)

#### **Michigan Land Use Institute**

*Beulah, MI \$80,000*

To cultivate support in the business community for protection of Michigan's water resources. (1 yr.)

#### **Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance**

*Chicago, IL \$100,000*

To promote improved building codes in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, and Michigan. (2 yrs.)

#### **National Audubon Society**

*Washington, DC \$350,000*

To build support for environmental protection and restoration of water-based ecosystems through its Ohio chapter. (2 yrs.)

#### **Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc.**

*New York, NY \$100,000*

To encourage stronger implementation of the Clean Water Act in the upper Midwest. (1 yr.)

#### **Ohio Environmental Council**

*Columbus, OH \$200,000*

For its efforts to improve Ohio policies governing the protection and restoration of the state's rivers, streams, and lakes, including Lake Erie. (2 yrs.)

#### **Pacific Institute for Studies in Development, Environment, and Security**

*Oakland, CA \$168,500*

To develop and disseminate a guide to water privatization for elected officials in the upper Midwest region. (16 mos.)

#### **Rails to Trails Conservancy**

*Washington, DC \$89,935*

To advocate for the continuation and expansion of federal transportation programs that support nonmotorized forms of transportation, such as walking and biking. (18 mos.)

#### **Redefining Progress**

*Oakland, CA \$200,000*

To promote tax policy innovations that will lead to environmental benefits in the Midwest. (2 yrs.)

#### **Smart Growth America**

*Washington, DC \$100,000*

To make the case that federal transportation legislation and states' implementation of new transportation projects should take into account how road construction affects water quality. (1 yr.)

#### **Southeastern Wisconsin Coalition for Transit Now, Inc.**

*Sussex, WI \$100,000*

To build consensus for a plan to extend commuter rail service connecting Chicago and Kenosha with Racine and Milwaukee. (2 yrs.)

#### **Taxpayers for Common Sense**

*Washington, DC \$75,000*

To build support for economically and environmentally sustainable water infrastructure systems, especially in the Great Lakes region. (1 yr.)

#### **Union of Concerned Scientists, Inc.**

*Cambridge, MA \$200,000*

To engage state and local officials in Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin in discussions of the impact of global climate change on the waters of the Great Lakes and potential policy responses. (2 yrs.)

#### **Valerie Denney Communications**

*Chicago, IL \$40,000*

To support media efforts informing the public about the restoration needs of the Great Lakes ecosystem. (1 yr.)

#### **Total Environment \$3,695,615**

## **Employment**

#### **Center for Labor and Community Research**

*Chicago, IL \$125,000*

To advocate for state policies that would promote career pathways in manufacturing at the local and state levels. (1 yr.)

#### **Chicago Jobs Council**

*Chicago, IL \$406,000*

To support policy advocacy work aimed at increasing access to work supports, education, training, and career advancement opportunities in Illinois. (2 yrs.)

#### **Economic Policy Institute**

*Washington, DC \$250,000*

For labor market analysis at the national level and for technical assistance to Midwest state organizations engaged in similar analysis. (2 yrs.)

#### **Heartland Alliance for Human Needs and Human Rights**

*Chicago, IL \$100,000*

To support the National Transitional Jobs Network. (1 yr.)

#### **Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law, Inc.**

*Chicago, IL \$425,000*

For continued advocacy efforts on welfare reauthorization, work-related benefits, and experimentation with transitional jobs programs. (2 yrs.)

#### **Workforce Strategy Center, Inc.**

*Brooklyn, NY \$232,300*

To provide technical assistance to state advocates to improve connections between workforce development and community college programs targeting low-skilled and low-wage workers. (1 yr.)

#### **Total Employment \$1,538,300**

## **Gun Violence**

#### **Consumer Federation of America**

*Washington, DC \$75,000*

To educate the public and policy makers about the public health and safety impact of failing to regulate guns, particularly assault weapons, as consumer products. (9 mos.)

#### **Entertainment Industries Council, Inc.**

*Reston, VA \$125,000*

To work with the entertainment community to accurately and responsibly address gun violence on television. (18 mos.)

#### **Handgun-Free America**

*Arlington, VA \$35,000*

To coordinate and support efforts on college campuses to educate students, the public, and policy makers about the dangers of civilian access to assault weapons. (1 yr.)

#### **Iowans for the Prevention of Gun Violence**

*Cedar Rapids, IA \$250,000*

For its work at the state and national level to promote public health strategies to prevent gun-related deaths and injuries. (2 yrs.)

#### **Legal Community Against Violence**

*San Francisco, CA \$125,000*

To provide legal assistance to state and local policy makers and advocates working on gun violence prevention measures and to launch a national membership program for lawyers. (18 mos.)

#### **Physicians for Social Responsibility**

*Washington, DC \$100,000*

To train, expand, and mobilize its membership around firearm injury prevention with a particular focus on assault weapons and on the nexus between firearms and domestic violence. (1 yr.)

#### **University of Pennsylvania**

*Philadelphia, PA \$200,000*

To support its Firearm Injury Center's research and dissemination activities. (18 mos.)

#### **Total Gun Violence \$910,000**

## **Money and Politics**

#### **Campaign Finance Institute**

*Washington, DC \$550,000*

To support policy research and education activities focused on strengthening the presidential campaign financing system, evaluating the effects of the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act, and improving disclosure of election-related expenditures. (2 yrs.)

#### **Campaign Legal Center**

*Washington, DC \$200,000*

To support development and dissemination of a published and on-line guide to the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act and to support research and advocacy to clarify broadcasters' obligations to cover political candidates, election issues, and public affairs. (1 yr.)

#### **Center for Media and Public Affairs, Inc.**

*Washington, DC \$60,000*

For monitoring, evaluating, and issuing weekly reports on the quantity and quality of network television news coverage of the 2004 presidential campaign. (1 yr.)

#### **Common Cause Education Fund**

*Washington, DC \$240,000*

To support campaign finance, judicial, and communications policy reform efforts. (2 yrs.)

#### **Democracy 21 Education Fund**

*Washington, DC \$220,000*

To support policy research, development, and advocacy to ensure effective enforcement of the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act, replace the Federal Election Commission, and revitalize the presidential public financing system. (2 yrs.)

#### **Fannie Lou Hamer Project Incorporated**

*Kalamazoo, MI \$40,000*

For policy research, education, and organizing activities aimed at increasing the involvement of communities of color in the campaign finance reform movement. (1 yr.)

#### **Ohio Citizen Action Education Fund**

*Cleveland, OH \$220,000*

To support the Ohio Open Secrets Project. (2 yrs.)

#### **Total Money and Politics \$1,530,000**

## Culture

### **Chicago Theatre Group, Inc.**

Chicago, IL \$75,000

To support the Goodman Theatre's second Latino Theater Festival in July 2004. (1 yr.)

### **Guild Complex**

Chicago, IL \$30,000

To support the 2004 Signature Series. (1 yr.)

### **Luna Negra Danza Teatro**

Chicago, IL \$75,000

For implementation of a strategic plan including staffing, office space, audience development, and marketing activities. (15 mos.)

### **Ravinia Festival Association**

Highland Park, IL \$40,000

To support the production of the Zulu opera *Princess Magogo* as well as community outreach and marketing to attract African-American audiences. (1 yr.)

### **University of Chicago**

#### **Irving B. Harris Graduate School of Public Policy Studies**

#### **The Cultural Policy Center**

Chicago, IL \$128,634

To fund a research study, *Mapping Cultural Participation: A Study of African-American and Hispanic Participation in Chicago Cultural Institutions*. (18 mos.)

**Total Culture \$323,634**

## Special Opportunities

### **Center for Governmental Studies**

Los Angeles, CA \$50,000

To plan a new Internet-based archive of foundation-funded public policy research. (1 yr.)

### **Lawyers Trust Fund of Illinois**

Chicago, IL \$50,000

To conduct a comprehensive statewide study of the civil legal needs of poor and low-income people in Illinois and to support the Equal Justice Illinois Campaign, an advocacy effort to educate opinion leaders and policy makers about the need to increase state funding for legal services. (1 yr.)

### **Public Interest Projects, Inc.**

New York, NY \$150,000

To support the Four Freedoms Collaborative Fund, an initiative designed to strengthen immigrant-serving local, regional, and national organizations whose communities are predominantly Arab, Muslim, and South Asian. (18 mos.)

### **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**

#### **Department of Political Science**

Urbana, IL \$142,483

For staff support for the Civic Leadership Program. (1 yr.)

**Total Special Opportunities \$392,483**

## **Total Grants Approved**

**\$12,346,030**

## **New Guidelines in Education**

The Joyce Foundation last month released its new guidelines in Education, committing \$15 million over three years to improve teacher quality in Chicago, Cleveland, and Milwaukee schools (see cover story). Grants will support research and policy initiatives to attract, support, and retain talented teachers in low-performing schools in those districts. An earlier initiative, announced in August 2003, supports efforts to expand access to early childhood education for disadvantaged children in Midwest states (see story page 14). The new Education guidelines are posted on the Foundation's web site, [www.joycefdn.org](http://www.joycefdn.org), or are available by calling the Foundation at 312.782.2464.

### **The next proposal deadlines are:**

**August 16, 2004, for the December 2004 board meeting**  
**December 10, 2004, for the April 2005 board meeting**

### **Program Officers**

#### **Education**

**Roseanna Ander**

**Gretchen Crosby Sims**

#### **Employment**

**Jennifer Phillips, Program Manager**

**Shelley Davis**

#### **Environment**

**Margaret O'Dell, Program Manager**

**James Seidita**

#### **Gun Violence**

**Roseanna Ander**

#### **Money and Politics**

**Lawrence N. Hansen**

#### **Culture**

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