



# Press Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **The Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation Awards *Community Grant* to the Chinatown Neighborhood Center of Boston**

*ESL programs will support low-income Chinese immigrant students to finish high school*

**Boston, MA, January 28, 2008** – The Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation Corp., a nonprofit, tax-exempt entity established by attorneys from Brown Rudnick Berlack Israels LLP, today announced that it has awarded one of its *Community Grants* to the Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center (BCNC). The grant will support the English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL) curriculum that is part of the Oak Street Youth Center (OSYC) program offered by the Neighborhood Center. Specifically, the funds will be used to purchase classroom materials such as standardized assessment test forms, bilingual dictionaries, college application materials, and career exploration resources.

The OSYC serves youth between the ages of 11 and 18 from the neighborhoods of Chinatown and the South End as well as Greater Boston's Asian-American community. OSYC offers after-school programs that include academic, leadership and enrichment studies, and recreational activities. According to Carol Wan, BCNC ESL teacher, "Most of our students are Chinese immigrants from low-income communities, and our ESL classes are important in helping these students and their families to integrate socially, academically and culturally into the Boston communities. We are grateful for the support of organizations like Brown Rudnick, so we are able to purchase resources and supplies to improve the quality of our program and provide more services for young people."

Albert W. Wallis, executive director of the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation Corp., commented, "Many low-income immigrant students are at a higher risk for failing or dropping out of school. To keep these children in school, there is a clear need for strong academic and culturally relevant support from organizations such as OSYC. The mission of the Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center aligns with our focus on improving inner-city education and reducing truancy and drop-out rates. We are pleased to offer our support."

Created to support front-line educators who often do not have a voice in funding decisions, the *Community Grants* subsidize small, concrete projects, which will improve inner-city education within Boston, Hartford, Providence or New York within the coming year. The Foundation will generally consider grant applications monthly and award grants in an amount totaling not more than \$2000 in any one month. The grant applications and an explanation of the program can be found at <http://www.brownrudnickcenter.com/foundation/communitygrant.asp>.



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Brown Rudnick is an international law firm with offices in the United States and Europe. The firm represents clients from around the world, providing business-focused solutions that address today's ever-changing, ever-demanding competitive marketplace. With an entrepreneurial and collaborative mindset, Brown Rudnick offers a broad slate of capabilities and talents in areas that include: Bankruptcy & Corporate Restructuring, Complex Litigation, Corporate & Securities, Energy, Finance, Government Law & Strategies, Health Law, Intellectual Property and Real Estate. For more information, please visit [www.brownrudnick.com](http://www.brownrudnick.com).

The Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest is a measure of the Firm's strong commitment to the community and serves as an umbrella entity encompassing the Firm's pro bono legal work, charitable giving, community involvement and public interest efforts. For more information, please visit [www.brownrudnickcenter.com](http://www.brownrudnickcenter.com).

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