

Support, Training, & Resources for Educating Able Minorities: Project STREAM, 1988-2000

How many Wisconsin school districts would or should be interested in Project STREAM (Support, Training & Resources for Educating Able Minorities)? That was the question proposed when the late Dr. Donna Rae Clasen of the University of Wisconsin - Whitewater authored the first Javits Grant ever awarded to a Wisconsin initiative. The grant was in place from 1989 to 2000 and was a highly progressive initiative. We lost Dr. Clasen in March of this year, and this article and request is crafted in her memory and honor.

The Javits grant funding of 1989-2000 provided professional development for educators and a series of Summer Institutes at the University of Wisconsin - Whitewater for middle school students. The goal of the STREAM collaboration was to substantially increase the number of minority youth who enroll and succeed in higher education, an important goal then and now.

The grant recruited middle school students from Delavan-Darien, Beloit, Waukesha, Milwaukee, Racine, and Kenosha. Those hundreds of students would be in their 40s now. We have just started to find the names and cities for those who attended the STREAM collaboration, and are interested in their trajectories. Additionally, scores of teachers and educators attended the graduate level coursework offered for those who worked as counselors and advisors to the students throughout the Summer Institutes, and we want to thank them for their service.

We are looking for anyone from the districts listed, or with contacts from former grant participants to help us. We hope to locate these former Project STREAM participants and ask them to share their memories. We'd like to know what influence the program had on them and their lives. There are also possibly

scores of educators who worked at the Summer Institutes with Dr. Donna Rae Clasen, and we would appreciate their memories as well.

If you can help with this worthy project, please contact WATG at watg.org. We believe that this would be a beautiful way to celebrate the life and the work of Dr. Donna Rae Clasen.

Ruth Robinson, Past President (2003-2004)