



Student Volunteerism at Rutgers

and the



**Global Literacy Project, Inc.**

A Non-Profit Charity Organization

## Make-A-Difference Day



# Walk For Literacy

Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2004

On Saturday, October 23, 2004, some 100 Rutgers students, New Brunswick residents and supporters from across the tri-state area participated in a Make-A-Difference Day "Walk for Literacy" held by G.O.Y.A. (Student Volunteerism at Rutgers), in conjunction with the Global Literacy Project, Inc. (GLP).

This year's "Walk for Literacy" was aimed at raising awareness of literacy issues and struggles in local New Jersey communities as well as internationally. Locally, GOYA intends to work with GLP to supply books and resource materials to the New Brunswick Teen Center as well as two middle schools for the G.O.Y.A. "Kids Reading Harry Potter" program.

The Caribbean country of Grenada was the focus of international reflection because schools and libraries in Grenada were recently devastated by hurricane Ivan. "It is important to bring books and to promote literacy to countries in the developing world because literacy is a tool for development and success. I am very proud of all the students that are involved in this walk for literacy," said rally keynote speaker Dr. Gregory Blimling, Vice President for Student Affairs at Rutgers University.

"It is important for all people to see themselves as global citizens and to care for the welfare of all human beings on our planet," said Dr. O. Olubayi, president of GLP ([www.glpinc.org](http://www.glpinc.org)).

Maribel Garcia, president of G.O.Y.A., said, "We, as Rutgers students, also support several volunteer literacy projects in the local New Brunswick community. Part of the money that we raised today will be used to support those projects. The projects include one-on-one tutoring in reading and math."

"It's fantastic that G.O.Y.A. members are able to be simultaneously concerned about the needs of children and teens both locally and globally. Locally, GLP will be assisting GOYA in reaching out to New Brunswick pre-teens and teens. We will also make a special effort to assist children in New Brunswick schools who are coming from homes where English is not the primary language. Our goal is to make their transition a positive and rewarding one," said Denniston Bonadie, Vice President-Program Development of GLP.

We expect to place a very good collection of resource materials in the New Brunswick Teen Center through this walk," said Anne Mbui, vice president of G.O.Y.A.



Rally at end of walkathon. In center (wearing a suit) is keynote speaker Dr. Gregory Blimling, Rutgers University Vice President of Student Affairs. Flanking him are Olubayi Olubayi and Maribel Garcia



Brian Korenstein, Dineo Thompson and Islah Nuriddin eagerly registering for their chance to walk!



Laureen Obbayi, Rutgers PRCC Director Prosper Godonoo and Diane Adams



Walkers debating design of one of the banners



Laureen Obbayi, Justin Rose, TWESE rep. Toussain Davis and Ian Kairu

**Supporting Rutgers Organizations:** RCGA, HARU, TWESE, BSU, DBSC, Alpha Nu Omega, RAAA, Paul Robeson Cultural Center, Office of the Vice President of Student Affairs, Rutgers Libraries Global Outreach Office, Lambda Theta Alpha

**Supporting New Brunswick Businesses:** Cook/Douglass Coop Bookstores, The Rutgers University Bookstore (Follett Bookstores), Starbucks, Safari at Eclips, Radio Shack-New Brunswick, Qdoba, Optical Boutique, Onyx Hair Salon, New Star Salon, New Jersey Books, Legal Grounds Café, La Fontana Restaurant, King Pita's Palace, Kaplan-New Brunswick, Jersey Subs, Gold Coast Jewelers, Fillipo's Pizza, Bombay Bistro, Bailey's Bail Bonds, 99 Cent Dreams



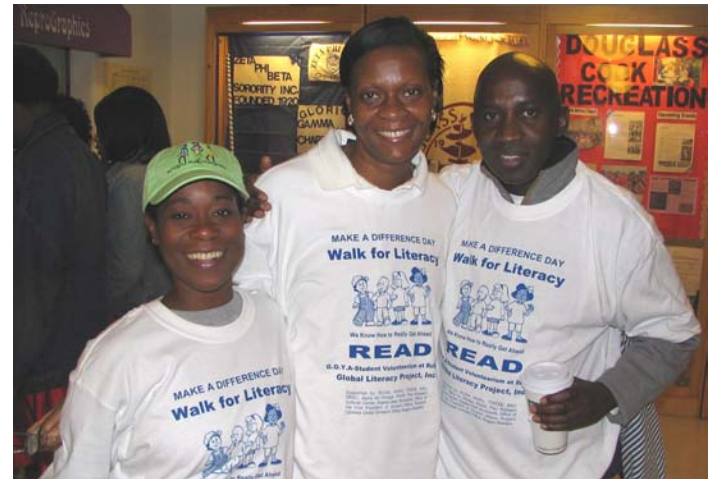
Justin, Betsy, Jaymie, Maribel, Sadaf



Several Lambda Theta Alpha members supported the walk



One of the banners completed!!



Rutgers African American Alumni Alliance members Michele Lee and Althea Dyer with Olubayi Olubayi of GLP



Joanne Adams getting enthusiastic at rally



Amina Adams & her son; Olubayi and Maribel



1st yr students Namibia Donadio and Julianna Wilkins and Toussaint Davis



Eva Sas and Brian Korenstein



Anita Ramachandran with Lord Acton



Lauren Obbayi, Naomi Ndura, Gabe Toppins, Janet Ndura, Anne Mbui, Ian Kairu



Ameer Zackery



Phung Tran



Rally speakers: Olubayi Olubayi & Dr. Greg Blimling



Members of Alpha Nu Omega