



“BUILDING STEPS” LAUNCHING EXPANSION

Milford Mill Academy and Randallstown High School students to benefit from science and technology-based program

(BALTIMORE - April 11, 2007) - Building STEPS, Inc. in partnership with the Baltimore County Executive Office and Baltimore County Public Schools, will announce the first phase of the educational and professional development program's expansion in to two Baltimore County high schools.

When: Tuesday, April 17, 11:00 a.m.

Where: Milford Mill Academy, Library

3800 Washington Avenue

Baltimore, Maryland 21244

Who: Nathaniel Gibson, Principal, Milford Mill Academy

The Honorable James Smith, Baltimore County Executive

The Honorable Kenneth N. Oliver, Fourth District Councilman

Members of Baltimore County State House Delegation

Debra Hettleman Plant, Executive Director, Building STEPS

Alicia Lee, Building STEPS student, Woodlawn High School senior

Representatives of Baltimore County Public Schools

Why: 94% percent of Building STEPS' 90 high school graduates have advanced to college. Collectively, they have been accepted to 38 colleges and universities, and have earned nearly \$2 million in scholarship funds. 85% of the students are graduating with Bachelor degrees, more than half focused on science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Building STEPS has several students continuing their education in graduate school and 1 doctoral candidate. The typical Building STEPS students lives in a single or no-parent household, qualifies for free or reduced lunch, and is the first in their family to go to college.

Building STEPS (Science, Technology, Education PartnershipS) is a non-profit organization that exposes bright, underserved high school students to science and technology-based careers, and helps them excel in these fields where minorities are overwhelmingly underrepresented. The multi-year program includes seminars, a summer internship, college counseling and alumni services. More than 90% of Building STEPS students have advanced to college, almost all of whom are the first to do so in their family. FMI, visit www.BuildingSTEPS.org.