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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **YouthBuild Lake County Recognizes Friends, Partners, and Volunteers at 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Summer BBQ**

North Chicago, IL, July 18, 2013 -YouthBuild Lake County (YBLC), a non-profit organization that helps young adults transform their lives through education and job training, hosted its 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Friends of YBLC Summer BBQ last Friday to thank its supporters for the difference they have made for the organization and the students it serves. Over 100 guests and supporters gathered to celebrate the tremendous impact YBLC has on its students and the local community.

U.S. Congressman Brad Schneider kicked off the speaking program by congratulating YBLC for being awarded a \$1.1 million YouthBuild grant from the U.S. Department of Labor, which will provide critical funding to help make the YouthBuild program possible for 75 young people over the next two years. Congressman Schneider said “Lake County is strong because of YouthBuild Lake County. And it’s strong because of the communities within Lake County.”



State Representative Rita Mayfield shared good news on State funding for YBLC and announced that YBLC could expect \$50,000 for its student programs this year. She recounted meeting with YBLC students both in Springfield and in North Chicago, “I met some YBLC graduates while Mayor Rockingham and I were walking a site for a new business in town. The graduates were well-spoken and confident. I was so proud of them and of YouthBuild Lake County.



North Chicago Mayor Leon Rockingham also shared his enthusiasm for YBLC and its students, “YouthBuild students never cease to impress me with their professional behavior. I have always supported YBLC and will continue to support YBLC.”



During the event, Garvey’s Office Products presented YBLC with a check for \$10, 861.92 from its *Recycle for a Reason* toner and electronics recycling program. In 2007 Garvey’s established *Recycle for a Reason* to reduce landfill waste while raising money for local charitable organizations. Bernie Garvey told the crowd, “As a business owner, we want to support opportunities for young people to be successful. We were glad to partner with YBLC.”



As always at the Summer BBQ, YBLC will recognize its outstanding volunteers and supporters. This year awards were given to:

- Dr. Chinni Chilumkurti, Community Partner of the Year
- Lake County Housing Authority represented by David Northern, Employer Partner of the Year
- Durell McBride, Alumni of the Year
- Volunteer Appreciation Awards MB Financial Bank, represented by William Almond
- Volunteer Appreciation Awards to Grainger Corporation, the Human Resources and International Operations, represented by Kristen Lawrence.
- Golden Hammer Awards for in-kind donations were presented to Mr. Patrick Hull, and Mr. Chris Moorman.

### **About YouthBuild Lake County (YBLC)**

**YBLC** is a non-profit organization that provides the education and training necessary to help at-risk young adults become gainfully employed and build a more hopeful future. YouthBuild Lake County is affiliated with YouthBuild USA, voted among the nation's most effective non-profit organizations because of its successful partnering with local community businesses to reach its goals. For more information, visit [www.youthbuildlakecounty.org](http://www.youthbuildlakecounty.org).