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## **Devastating Drop Out Rates, Students at Risk: How Can The Community Respond?**

### **The Role Model Program Launches ‘Take a Role in the Future- The Power of 200’ Volunteer Recruitment Drive**

San Jose, CA ---August 22, 2008 --The recent release of the California high school drop out rates has renewed the often heated debate regarding the state of the California educational system.

Students are failing to achieve the most minimal education requirements for a long term career success, math and science careers awareness is at a new low; as a result, our economy and the future of our community lies in balance.

As students return to the classroom this week—how can we, individually and as a caring community respond? Become a Role Model Volunteer.

The Role Model Program, a classroom-based mentoring program for underserved Santa Clara County elementary and middle school students announces the ‘Take a Role in the Future- The Power of 200’ volunteer recruitment campaign. The campaign will focus on finding 200 caring adults in the community willing to visit one classroom, one hour a week for 6-8 weeks. The Role Model Program inspires youth to achieve ambitious dreams and reach their highest potential through education.

Join us as we bring together 200 caring adults from across our community, dedicated to the future of our children and in turn, the future of our community.

## **About The Role Model Program**

Imagine a community where all children are empowered with the skills and self confidence to succeed, a community where adults reach out to inspire underserved youth to dream.

On an annual basis, The Role Model Program inspires, motivates and empowers over 5,000 underserved elementary and middle school youth to achieve ambitious dreams and reach their highest potential for the future through education.

We achieve this mission through the dedication of our Role Model Volunteers who provide the positive role modeling and inspiration our youth require for a successful future.

## **How to Volunteer**

Volunteering with The Role Model Program is easy. Call 408-246-0433 or visit [www.therolemodelprogram.org](http://www.therolemodelprogram.org) and click on the "Take a Role in the Future" button. Fill out the online application, a Role Model Program staff member will contact you immediately.

An orientation is required and held twice a month; the next session is scheduled for Thursday, September 4, 2008.

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