

Appleseed This Week

Social Justice Leaders Join Appleseed in Chicago

April 10, 2008 - Last week in Chicago the national office of Appleseed and **Chicago Appleseed** held their annual fundraising event, "**Building Strong Communities**," where Appleseed honored **Lowell Sachnoff** of **Reed Smith Sachnoff & Weaver**; the firm **Schiff Hardin**; and **Ron Grzywinski** and **Mary Houghton** of **ShoreBank**.

All are leaders in promoting social justice. For decades, Lowell Sachnoff has used the law as a tool of social change. Schiff Hardin is an exemplar of the best traditions of the bar in its commitment to pro bono service. And Ron Grzywinski and Mary Houghton, and the companies and nonprofits they created and inspired, have used markets to build prosperity in long-neglected communities, from the south side of Chicago to Bangladesh.



From left to right: Hon. Abner Mikva, Cornelia Grumman, Frederick Sperling, Lowell Sachnoff, Mary Houghton, Ron Grzywinski.

"ShoreBank's motto is 'Let's Change the World,'" said **Betsy Cavendish**, executive director of Appleseed. "That could be the motto for everyone who joined us at the InterContinental Hotel on April 4th to honor those who are changing the world and to support Appleseed's efforts to provide justice and opportunities for all."

Cornelia Grumman delivered the evening's keynote address. She won the 2003 **Pulitzer Prize for Editorial Writing** for her series of editorials focusing on Illinois' flawed death penalty system and spent seven years on the editorial board at the *Chicago Tribune*, writing about juvenile justice, education, the death penalty and social policy. **Senate Majority Whip Richard Durbin** (D-Ill.) commended the honorees in a video presentation. Another special guest speaker at the event was **Abner Mikva**, a former U.S. Representative, federal judge, White House Counsel and law professor.

Together and separately, the honorees, speakers and guests are building a stronger Chicago and promoting community and justice around the world.

Appleseed's next event will be Thursday, June 19, at Gotham Hall in New York. The event will celebrate Appleseed's 15th anniversary and will honor **Robert L. Mallett**, co-chair of Appleseed's board of directors, senior vice president for Worldwide and Public Affairs for **Pfizer, Inc.**, and president of the Pfizer Foundation. [Click here](#) for more information.

For more information on Appleseed, visit www.appleseednetwork.org. To support the work of Appleseed, donate [here](#).

Appleseed, a non-partisan and non-profit organization, is a network of public interest law Centers working to identify and address injustices in their communities. Appleseed works to build a just society through education, legal advocacy, community activism and policy expertise, addressing root causes and producing practical solutions. As one of the nation's largest legal pro bono networks, Appleseed Centers work both independently and collectively, bringing their own experiences to create local solutions that are nationally relevant. We connect the top private practice lawyers, corporate counsel, law schools, civic leaders, and other professionals to tackle problems locally, at their root cause.