

# Turtle Creek News

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## Bridge Lacrosse Dallas Raises \$100,000 For Local Youth

Lacrosse is the hottest sport around, and in the past several years Texas has become the fastest growing region for lacrosse in the United States. The only drawback to playing lacrosse is equipment can be expensive, you have to pay to join a league, and in many cases top coaches with Lacrosse experience are recruited by schools with a lot of financial support. This is where Edie Lycke stepped in to make lacrosse more accessible to all kids. Edie formed BRIDGE (Building Relationships to Initiate Diversity, Growth and Enrichment) Lacrosse Dallas in 2005.

Edie knew this sport could help provide a cross cultural exchange for inner-city youth players, so she tirelessly put together fund's to form a team, provide equipment, and coaching for St. Phillips School & Community Center and Irma Rangel Young Women's Leadership School in

Oak Cliff. Edie then recruited a veteran lacrosse player from Cornell University, Head Coach, Jack Tierney, Jack helped bring Edie's vision into reality at St. Phillips by implementing his tremendous coaching skills.

Today lacrosse players 3rd through 6th grade at St. Phillips say, the discipline of the game has helped them with other aspects in their lives like education, teamwork. Kids say their enormous interest in this sport is because it moves fast, they can play many different positions, and the ball is always in play. Additionally, lacrosse combines elements of football, soccer, baseball and basketball.

"In our wildest dreams we never imagined the kind of success we've had with our first evening event," Lycke said. "The North Texas lacrosse community can be proud of what it has done in sharing and spreading the sport to neighborhoods that would never see lacrosse otherwise."

Lacrosse fans, coaches, officials, parents and friends gathered at Northwood Club for BRIDGE Lacrosse Dallas: "Going for the Goal 2010". The event netted over \$100,000 for expanding programs. Guests enjoyed comfort food stations, an open bar, live DJ music, over 100 silent auction items and nine live auction items ranging from Caribbean and Colorado vacation homes to private dinners for up to 20 people with lacrosse superstars, Sue Heether and Kyle Harrison.

BLD senior player, Keni Nooner, who gave a testimonial and participated in the raffle drawing said, "It's wonderful to see so many people who love lacrosse come together. It's exciting to see how many people support BLD and the sport that has been in my life since I was in seventh grade. It has impacted my life in so many positive ways."

-Stephanie Oakes, Fitness Expert  
([www.stephanieoakes.com](http://www.stephanieoakes.com))