



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: DIANNE KIRTLEY, SR. MARLENE SCHEMMELE, LOURDES DUARTE, SR. JEANNE OURSLER, AND CONSTANTINE BITSAS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF TEACH.

On Location with Dianne Kirtley, Teach President

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I want to tell you about my experience yesterday, February 7, at WGN TV.

I JOINED THE BOARD OF TEACH, TEACHING ENGLISH TO ADVANCE CHANGE, LAST JUNE AND IN OCTOBER I WAS CHOSEN CHAIR OF THAT GROUP. This is an organization, formerly known as Schools and Tutors on Wheels, that was started by the Congregation of St. Joseph in LaGrange Park as one of their ministries 25 years ago. Its work is incredibly noble and is dedicated to not only the teaching of English on a one-to-one basis, but also engaging in work that can help acculturate immigrants to our American way of life. Assistance can be in many areas including preparing for citizenship tests, advising parents of their rights at parent-teacher conferences, navigating medical terms with doctors, etc. The goal is to develop a level of comfort between the student and teacher so that all needs can be at least discussed if not addressed. Currently, there are 18 locations, from Cicero to Naperville, mainly libraries and churches, which TEACH uses for its tutoring sites.

Each year we choose some people to recognize for their accomplishments, either as immigrants who have achieved success or those who have contributed significantly in aiding the immigrant and/or underprivileged community. Last year we recognized six Loyola DACA medical students and the professor who made their achievements possible.

This year on May 4th at the McDonald's Lodge in OakBrook, we will recognize two missionary doctors, Celine and Don Woznica and Lourdes Duarte, now WGN news anchor. Their stories are remarkable in distinct ways: two Americans whose lives have been devoted to other cultures, and one Cuban born immigrant, who has achieved obvious success and recognition via media.

Yesterday, representatives of TEACH, met with Lourdes Duarte, listened to her remarkable story and then were introduced to other members of the WGN news crew including Ben Bradley and Tom Skilling. We watched the in studio broadcast of the five o'clock news with Micah Materre, Dan Roan and Tom Skilling. We also had a walk-through of the production area, a screen/computer packed room, which controls the on-air productions.

FYI: The WGN TV location is on the north side of Chicago at 2501 Bradley Place.

Sr.Marlene and Sr. Jeanne represented the Congregation of St. Joseph, which started the School on Wheels Ministry.

If you would like more information, the TEACH website is teachempowers.org or if you would like to buy tickets to our 9th Annual Benefit Gala where Lourdes Duarte and the Woznica will be honored, visit our website [here](#).

Thanks,
Dianne