



Excellence. Respect. Perseverance.

Annual Report 2007-08

Rebuilding Lives and Communities Since 1992

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YouthBuild Philadelphia Charter School

provides out-of-school youth in Philadelphia with the broadest range of tools, supports and opportunities available to become self-sufficient, responsible, and contributing members and leaders in their community.

YouthBuild Philadelphia offers an innovative program, which blends a rigorous academic curriculum with 900 hours of community service and on-the-job training in construction, technology or nursing. Students can earn their high school diplomas while preparing for successful transitions to full-time jobs and post-secondary educational programs.

Annual Report 2007-08



YouthBuild Philadelphia Charter School

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Message from Leadership 2007-08



Simran Sidhu
Executive Director



Dr. Erin McNamara Horvat
Board of Trustees Chairperson

Dear Friends and Supporters:

YouthBuild Philadelphia is a second chance program for what are generally considered to be the hardest to serve youth: inner-city, high school dropouts who have aged out of the public school system. Many of our students have experienced multiple academic failures, have been expelled from previous institutions, and have served time in the juvenile or adult prison systems. Many lack stable families and housing, and have young children who depend on them. Despite these obstacles, they astonish us each year with what they can do in turning their lives around and contributing to their community. Each year our students rise to new heights, meeting and exceeding our soaring academic, career, social and personal expectations. Through our program, students build their self-esteem, academic knowledge and vocational skills, and we dedicate ourselves to setting them on a path to a successful future.

As we look back on another successful program year, we take particular pride in the training we provide from academics to real-world skills and certifications that are a first step on relevant career ladders. Nearly all of these pathways involve some post-secondary education, and more and more of our students are choosing to attend two- and four-year colleges, technical and trade schools, and apprenticeship programs. We, in turn, are recognizing the need to support them as they embark on these pathways, and have begun to establish intensive support services for graduates engaged in post-secondary opportunities. Through this initiative, graduates have continued access to the positive peer group they formed at YouthBuild, as well as the social, emotional and academic supports they need to navigate their new environment. We provide an extension of YouthBuild's family atmosphere and loving culture, aiming to keep graduates on track for real, long-term success. The organization has long embraced the sentiment "Once in YouthBuild, always in YouthBuild," but is now truly putting these words into action.

We are also delighted with the new energy surrounding all things "green." For many years, YouthBuild has expertly insulated and weatherized all of the homes we built, stabilized dozens of vacant lots, planted trees and gardens, and recycled and refurbished thousands of computers. It has never been more important to be good stewards of the planet, and prepare for a world of greener work by fully embracing green building practices. As an organization that takes pride in improving and beautifying the community, we are primed to embrace and adopt the green movement and make it our own.

We want to thank all of our funders and friends who continue to support our program. We could not do this without you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Simran Sidhu".

Simran Sidhu
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E Horvat".

Dr. Erin McNamara Horvat
Board of Trustees Chairperson

Leadership 2007-08

Management

Simran Sidhu
Executive Director

Brian Leffler
Director of Program Development

Don Pinkney
Director of Construction and Business Development

Emilia A. Gorbulsky, CPA, MBA
Director of Finance

Meredith Molloy
Director of Development

YouthBuild Philadelphia Charter School Board of Trustees

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Department of Education Leadership and Policy Studies
Temple University

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Global Citizen, *Greater Philadelphia Martin Luther King*
Day of Service

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Jahi Davis, IDA/Loan Fund Manager (Alumnus)
YouthBuild USA

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Department of Education Leadership and Policy Studies
Temple University

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Patricia Lynch-DiFiore, Manager, Accounting
Trust Operated Projects (TOP's) Finance
Pew Charitable Trust

Todd Marzolf, Senior Project Consultant
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Michael J. McPhilly, Vice President
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Southco, Inc.

Samuel Olshin, Principal
Atkin Olshin Schade Architects

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(Development Committee)

Larry Wood, Jr., Partner
Pepper Hamilton, LLP
(Development Committee)

Friends of YouthBuild Philadelphia Board of Trustees

Felicia Coward, Executive Director
Friends Neighborhood Guild

Charles Esser, Director
Philadelphia Community School

John Andrew Gallery, Executive Director
Preservation Alliance

Program Successes 2007-08



Aliyyah Abdullah proudly displays her YouthBuild uniform at the new student welcome ceremony in August 2007.



Antonique Singleton helps to create a community garden in Nicetown on Global Youth Service Day in April 2008.



While organizing the school's library during the Fall Session, Teacher Brian Flynt and a group of students break to discuss book topics.

Enrollment

YouthBuild Philadelphia serves young people between the ages of 18 and 21 who have dropped out of high school in the city of Philadelphia. The vast majority of the school's applicants are at-risk youth who must overcome multiple barriers to achievement and success, including poverty, homelessness, and negative social and home environments. Each year, between one-third and one-half of YouthBuild Philadelphia's students support dependent children, and roughly one-quarter to one-third of the students have been through either the juvenile or adult justice systems.

Despite these circumstances, YouthBuild Philadelphia's young people have made the choice to return to the classroom and create better futures for themselves and their families. Ideal applicants come to the school with motivation and determination, and, in turn, receive extensive personalized instruction and support in order to earn their high school diplomas and transition to colleges, training programs, apprenticeships and meaningful full-time jobs.

For the 2007-08 school year, YouthBuild Philadelphia received more than 900 applications and enrolled 211 young people.

Enrollment by sex:

Female –	52% (109)
Male –	48% (102)

Enrollment by race:

Asian –	4% (8)
Black/African American –	86% (182)
Caucasian –	1% (2)
Hispanic/Latin American –	5% (11)
Multi-Racial –	4% (8)

Curricula

During the school year, students completed a one-year accelerated program, which included intensive academics, hands-on vocational training and 900 hours of community service. Every six weeks, students alternated between classroom instruction at the school's North Broad Street facility and vocational training at various off-site locations around Philadelphia.

Spotlight on Samuel Alvarez

Academics

The classroom component included a core curriculum in Math, Language Arts, Science and Integrated Humanities, with enrichment courses in Career Development, Service Learning and Civic Engagement, Life Skills and Academic Support.

Vocational Training

The vocational training component includes a blend of occupational skills training with hands-on experience in construction, technology or nursing.

Construction

One hundred and seventy students worked toward the rehabilitation of seven homes for low-income families—three projects in partnership with the Nicetown Community Development Corporation (CDC) (including two historical renovations following standards at both the local and federal levels), and four projects in partnership with Resources for Human Development.

YouthBuild Philadelphia required each construction student to pass at least three modules of the nationally-recognized Home Builders Institute certification (including the safety module) as a condition for diploma attainment.

Technology

Twenty-four students engaged in a variety of technology services for organizations around Philadelphia, including: refurbishing more than 300 used computers for Wireless Philadelphia (which were donated to various welfare organizations); providing hardware and networking support for the Nicetown Community Center; setting up a new YouthBuild Philadelphia Technology Lab (housed at Honickman Learning Center); providing helpdesk support for the Pennsylvania Prison Society; and, creating websites for the Youth Art and Self-Empowerment Project and the Eastern Pennsylvania Organizing Project.

YouthBuild Philadelphia required each technology student to earn the IC³ (Internet and Computing Core Certification) as a condition for diploma attainment.

Nursing

In partnership with District 1199C Training and



Class of 2008 Graduate

Samuel Alvarez dropped out of school in the eighth grade. His troubles began in middle school; he was not interested in his classes and he did not take his work seriously. He was held back for a year. Samuel motivated himself to improve, but he was attending classes in what he felt was an extremely disruptive environment, and he failed the seventh grade. He tried home school and successfully completed the seventh grade during the second try, but he felt isolated learning on his own. He enrolled in public school again, but he felt his learning environment was as disruptive as before, and so at age fifteen, he dropped out of high school altogether.

For the next couple years, Samuel worked several under-the-table jobs. Eventually, he grew tired of living from pay check to pay check, and realized that in order to build a better life for himself, he needed to graduate from high school and find a career path.

Samuel applied to, and enrolled at YouthBuild Philadelphia in 2007. The personalized attention and family atmosphere renewed Samuel's academic energy and drive. He established himself as a hard-working student, maintaining a 3.6 GPA and excellent attendance. Samuel was respectful and thoughtful in his interactions at YouthBuild, and he was often chosen to represent the school during site visits and events.

Samuel graduated in June 2008. He is currently attending the CHI Institute Electrical Technician Diploma Program, and is planning for a career in the construction industry.

Program Successes 2007-08 cont...



Stephon Derrick and Domonique Carr practice their skills during a nurse aide training lab at District 1199C.



James Suarez helps to rehabilitate a house in Nicetown as part of his training in the construction program.



Class of 2008 Valedictorian Rashaad Johnson smiles for the camera shortly after YouthBuild Philadelphia's June 2008 graduation ceremony.

Upgrading Fund, 17 students trained to become state-certified Nurse Aides. As part of their training, students provided more than 1,200 hours of volunteer care to residents of Simpson House.

YouthBuild Philadelphia required each nurse aide student to earn a state certification as a condition for diploma attainment.

Community Service

Over the course of the 2007-08 school year, students engaged in a service-learning class twice per week and participated in weekly service projects. Students also participated in school-wide service projects for the National Conference on Volunteering and Service, the Martin Luther King Day of Service and Global Youth Service Day.

As part-time members of AmeriCorps, and as a condition for diploma attainment, the school required each student to complete 900 hours of community service throughout the school year. Students who successfully completed their service hours earned a stipend of approximately \$2,300 (valid for seven years) for education costs at qualified institutions of higher education, for educational training, or to repay qualified student loans.

Retention, Attendance and Performance

YouthBuild Philadelphia takes many steps to ensure that students are maintaining high academic and attendance standards. Staff members call students regularly, hold progress meetings and one-on-one report card conferences, and provide instructional supports such as tutoring and Saturday school hours in order to ensure that the students are moving forward and at all times understand their academic and vocational status.

Of the 211 students enrolled during the 2007-08 school year, 148 (70%) completed the program. Of the 148 students retained, 125 (84%) earned their high school diplomas (with additional students in the retention group slated to graduate by the end of the 2008-09 school year).

The average attendance of the students during the school year was 82%.

Spotlight on Danielle Manigault

On June 19, 2008, YouthBuild Philadelphia held a special graduation ceremony at Ben Franklin High School. Students received high school diplomas in front of more than 1,000 family members, friends, supporters and school staff. YouthBuild Philadelphia also held formal graduation ceremonies in August and November of 2008.

Transitions

The Transition Services Department provides students with the tools they need to prepare themselves for the challenges that lie ahead in their education, employment and life pursuits. The transition team works with an extensive list of community partners in order to ensure that students have access to a variety of opportunities, including: job fairs, college fairs, financial aid training sessions, college tours and interviews, job interviews, internships, apprenticeships and job shadows. The transition team takes special care to follow up regularly with both students and partners.

Post-Secondary Highlights

YouthBuild Philadelphia worked formally with upwards of 40 employers and post-secondary institutions during the 2007-08 school year. In addition, the transition team continued to develop new relationships and opportunities.

Highlights:

- 26 students completed the SAT.
- 79 students completed college applications.
- 43 students completed internships.

Post-Secondary Placement

As of September 2008, transition placements for graduates were reported as follows:

Post-Secondary Enrollment* -	25% (31)
Part-/Full-Time Employment -	40% (50)
Work and Post-Secondary -	6% (8)
Service-City Year -	2% (2)
Service-AmeriCorps	
Digital Service Fellow -	2% (2)

*49 students (40%) of the graduating class had been accepted into at least one post-secondary institution.



Class of 2008 Graduate

It was the desire to fit in that led to Danielle Manigault's initial chronic cutting of school. "My friends used to cut, so I would cut with them," she said. "I wanted to be popular and fit in."

When Danielle was eighteen, her grandmother became ill. Danielle decided to stay home and care for her grandmother, and was eventually dropped from her high school roster. Her grandmother then deteriorated and passed away in the hospital. Danielle moved in with a sibling, but it was a tense environment, and Danielle felt helpless and confused about her life. Shortly after moving in, she became pregnant and gave birth to a daughter.

Danielle decided that she needed to change her life, for both her sake and for her child. She applied to and enrolled at YouthBuild Philadelphia in 2006 after hearing about the program from a cousin, but a lack of focus kept her from completion. She applied again in 2007, this time bringing determination and a mature outlook. Putting everything she had into her studies and training, she excelled, making the honor roll for the first time in years and earning spots on Student Congress, the Peer Connectors and the Dean's Team. In 2008, she graduated as salutatorian of her class.

Danielle intends to become a registered nurse. She is currently enrolled in the Pennsylvania Institute of Technology (PIT) Medical Assistant program, and has plans to attend PIT/Drexel's Accelerated Associates Degree program in 2010.

Community Successes 2007-08



Technology student Ontra Levi refurbishes a computer for Wireless Philadelphia during the 2008 Martin Luther King Day of Service at Germantown High School.

YouthBuild Recognized at Sixers Game

December 26, 2007 – YouthBuild Philadelphia was recognized during the pre-game session of a 76ers game at the Wachovia Center. Student leaders Joshua “Suhayl” Ward and Sophally Ngeth and AmeriCorps representative Margy Wilcox stood at center court during a tribute to YouthBuild Philadelphia and its service efforts in the city.

Martin Luther King Day of Service

January 21, 2008 – YouthBuild Philadelphia joined thousands of volunteers for the 13th Annual Greater Philadelphia Martin Luther King Day of Service.

The construction program provided free home repair services to several local homeowners who were victims of a fraudulent contracting program. This housing outreach project was made possible in part by Robert P. Cocco, Esq. and State Senator Shirley M. Kitchen. At Philadelphia’s signature volunteer site at Germantown High School, students refurbished and installed wireless access on desktops provided by Wireless Philadelphia, and constructed three park benches for Nicetown Park. In West Philadelphia, students and staff members cleaned and cleared a building of waste and old furniture in order to ready the space for a future health center.



Technology student James Thornton speaks to the crowd at the June 2008 Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.

Global Youth Service Day

April 24, 2008 – YouthBuild Philadelphia celebrated Global Youth Service Day by providing volunteer services to several organizations throughout the city. In partnership with the Nicetown CDC, YouthBuild Philadelphia installed three benches in Nicetown Park, prepared a plot of land for a community garden, and cleaned and painted the curb along Germantown Avenue. At The Village of Arts and Humanities, students and staff members reset the steps of the administrative building, reinstalled a bathroom in a community center, and planted a community garden. Students and staff members also performed office space demolition for Caring About Sharing, repainted a playground space in South Philadelphia, and assisted Wireless Philadelphia in the transportation of computer equipment.



Students and staff members pose together with a Wal-Mart Foundation ceremonial check at the national press conference to announce Wal-Mart’s \$5 million grant to help support YouthBuild programs nationally. YouthBuild Philadelphia received \$200,000.

Community Highlights 2007-08

National Conference on Volunteering and Service

July 15, 2007 - YouthBuild Philadelphia, in partnership with YouthBuild USA, coordinated two service projects for the 2007 National Conference on Volunteering and Service at the Pennsylvania Convention Center. Students and staff members joined conference participants and volunteers from Prudential Fox & Roach, REALTORS to construct the frame of a home, which was then sent to Gulfport, Mississippi for completion by the YouthBuild AmeriCorps Katrina Rebuilding Project. YouthBuild Philadelphia and conference volunteers also constructed a playhouse for an area recreation center.



Katrina Rebuilding Efforts

March 14-20, 2008 - Fifteen students and ten staff members spent five days (during Spring Break) rebuilding housing in Waveland, Mississippi—one of the communities hardest hit by Hurricane Katrina. The participants volunteered their time through a Katrina rebuilding project sponsored by YouthBuild USA.

Wal-Mart Grant Celebration

May 21, 2008 - On May 21, 2008, the Wal-Mart Foundation announced a \$5 million grant (YouthBuild Philadelphia received \$200,000 for its healthcare and construction training tracks) to YouthBuild USA in a morning press conference. The announcement was made from YouthBuild Philadelphia's rehabilitation site at 1541 Rowan Street in Nicetown.

Participants included Wal-Mart Foundation President Margaret McKenna, YouthBuild USA President Dorothy Stoneman, State Senator Shirley Kitchen, Councilwoman Donna Reed Miller, Councilwoman Curtis Jones, and Deputy Education Advisor (for Mayor Nutter) Sharon Tucker. Student Carreather Atcherson and Class of 1995 graduate Lamont Jackson spoke during the event.

Deloitte Impact Day

June 6, 2008 - In celebration of Deloitte IMPACT Day and the United Way of Southeastern Pennsylvania's Day of Caring, 25 employees from Deloitte LLP volunteered their time as student mentors at YouthBuild Philadelphia. The Deloitte volunteers facilitated practice sessions and provided constructive critiques for students as they presented their academic/personal growth portfolios (a requirement for graduation).

Ribbon Cutting on Rowan Street

June 18, 2008 - YouthBuild Philadelphia, in partnership with Nicetown CDC, held a ribbon cutting ceremony on the morning of June 18, 2008 to dedicate a newly rehabilitated, single-family home to the Nicetown community. The event marked a year of hard work for the students, who rehabilitated seven homes during the school year as part of their vocational training.

Speakers included Alvin Spivey (representing Congressman Chaka Fattah and Councilman Curtis Jones), Mary Suttles (representing Councilwoman Donna Reed Miller), Nicetown CDC CEO Zakariyya Abdur Rahman, Nicetown CDC COO Majeedah Rashid, YouthBuild Philadelphia Executive Director Simran Sidhu, construction student Antonique Singleton and potential homeowner Dionna Minnall. Technology student James Thornton presented a refurbished computer to the home, and nurse aide student Rhondicia Cash presented a welcome basket and first aid kit.

Our America Town Hall Meeting

April 1, 2008 - Thirty-three YouthBuild Philadelphia students joined 500 young leaders from across the country for the "Our America" town hall meeting on April 1, 2008 in Washington, D.C. The meeting was organized by YouthBuild USA in partnership with Think.MTV.com to ensure that low-income youth have a voice in the political debate on ending poverty in America. Jesse Jackson and Senator John Kerry keynoted, and Class of 2007 YouthBuild Philadelphia alumna Shardell Martin spoke about improving inequalities within the American penal system.

Grants and Donors 2007-08

Public Sources

AmeriCorps National Direct (via YouthBuild USA)
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (via YouthBuild USA)
E-Rate (via FCC – Universal Service Administrative
Company Schools and Libraries Program)
PennSERVE: AmeriCorps State
Pennsylvania Department of Education
Phila. Office of Housing and Community Development
Philadelphia Youth Network
School District of Philadelphia
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
U.S. Department of Labor (via YouthBuild USA)

Foundations and Corporations

Charles Stewart Mott Foundation
(via YouthBuild USA)
Chestnut Hill Friends
Philadelphia Youth Network
Partially Subsidized Internships Program
Sovereign Bank
St. Martin-in-the-Fields Parish
Target Field Trips
The Lenfest Foundation
The Saturday Club
Wal-Mart Foundation (via YouthBuild USA)
White and Richardson Trust

Individual Donors

(\$5,000+)

Pew Charitable Trusts Matching Gifts Program
John B. Rosenthal

(\$1,000-\$4,999)

Ravi V. Acharya (*UWDE Gift*)
Regina Austin
Martin K. Brigham and Harriet Rubenstein
Jacqueline and Jim Delaney
James Delaney
Patricia Lynch DiFiore
Jay Feldstein
Todd Marzolf
Michael J. McPhilmy (*UWSEPA Gift*)
Samuel Olshin
DMi Partners
Towers Perrin Matching Gifts Program

(\$500-999)

Ann Baruch
Anthony Fullard
Scott Kapp
Wachovia Bank Matching Gift Program
W.S. Cumby & Son, Inc.

(\$250-\$499)

Chambers Brothers
Michael Mangos

James J. Rowley (*UWSEPA Gift*)
Jennifer Sweet (*UWSEPA Gift*)
Tina M. Zane (*UWSEPA Gift*)

(\$0-249)

Stasia L. Andrucci (*UWSEPA Gift*)
Dawn Ang and Emmet Linn
Bodo and Mary Baltycki
Gertrud Baltycki
Jennifer Bastress Tahmasebi
Gabriele and Louis Bernhardt
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Bonnie and Thomas Marzolf
Theodore McBride
Gene McGurk
Laura McHugh
Patrick McKenna
James V. McNamara
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Koren Parker (*UWSEPA Gift*)
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Jon W. Peterson (*UWSEPA Gift*)
Kristina Rodriguez
James J. Rowley
Laura J. Rowley (*UWSEPA Gift*)
S&S Resources, Inc.
Lee Sargrad
Abraham Shaw (*UWSEPA Gift*)
Cynthia J. Skinner
Phyllis and Richard Taylor
Eugenie Vitale
Marvin and Diane Waxman
Diane and Eugene Zavacki

Financial Information 2007-08

Financial Statement - July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008

Supports and Revenues

Public Sources (Local, State, Federal)	\$3,852,099
Foundations, Corporations, Individuals and Other	\$242,698
Fee-for-Service Income	<u>\$430,448</u>
Total Supports and Revenues	<u>\$4,525,245</u>

Expenditures

Program Services	\$3,400,994
Management and General	<u>\$859,482</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>\$4,260,476</u>

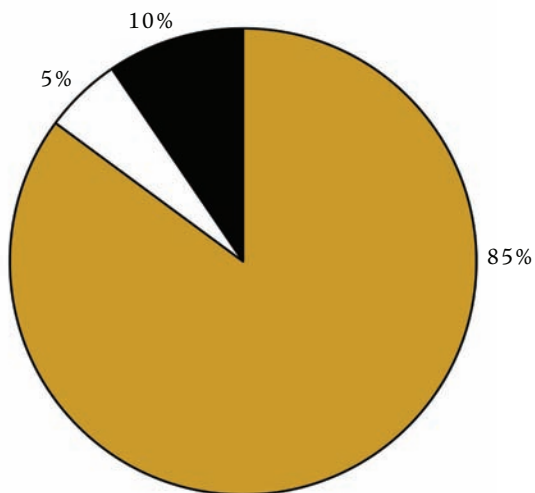
Excess of Revenues Over Expenditures \$264,769

Fund Balance/Net Assets (Beginning of Year) \$737,106

Net Assets (End of Year) \$1,001,875

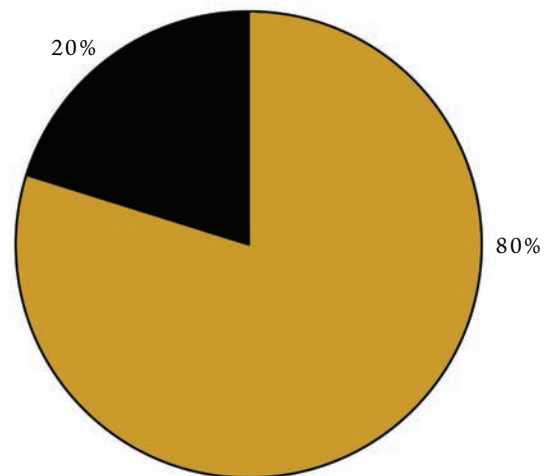
Supports and Revenues

- Public Funding (Federal, State, City)
- Foundations, Corp., Individuals and Other
- Fee-for-Service Income



Expenditures

- Program Services
- Management and General



Partnerships 2007-08

Partners and Friends

Aker Philadelphia Shipyard
American Reading Company
Aviation Institute of Maintenance
Awbury Arboretum
Bayada Nurses
Big Picture Learning
Books Through Bars
Caring About Sharing
Center for Literacy
Change X: Journalism & Leadership Institute
CHOICE
CICADA Architecture/Planning, Inc.
Ciro Electrical Supplies Co.
Citizens Bank
Cliveden of the National Trust/Walnut Lane Bridge
CM Electric
Comcast
Community College of Philadelphia
Corporation for National & Community Service
Curtis Perry Drywall
David Bell Contractor
Deloitte LLP
District 1199C Training & Upgrading Fund
Eastern Pennsylvania Organizing Project
Fairmount Park Historic Preservation Trust
George F. Kempf Supply Co.
Girard Coalition, Inc.
Greater Philadelphia Cares
Greater Philadelphia Martin Luther King Day of Service
Global Citizen
Honickman Learning Center
Intergen International
Jewish Community Centers of Greater Philadelphia
Keep Philadelphia Beautiful
Kramer/Marks Architects
La Salle University
LEADERSHIP Philadelphia
Liberty Court, Genesis ElderCare
MANNA
Mazzoni Center
Men United For a Better Philadelphia
Mercy Hospital of Philadelphia
Mercy LIFE
New Deal Lumber
Nictown Community Development Corporation
Northeast Building Products
Norwood
Office of Housing and Community Development
PA Career Link
Pennrose Properties
PennSERVE
Pennsylvania Prison Society
Philadelphia AIDS Consortium
Philadelphia Gas Works

Philadelphia Higher Education Network
for Neighborhood Development (PHENND)
Philadelphia Job Corps
Philadelphia OIC, Inc.
Philadelphia Senior Center
Philadelphia Workforce Investment Board
Philadelphia Youth Network
Project H.O.M.E.
Prometheus Radio Project
Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Cruelty
to Animals (PSPCA)
Prudential Fox & Roach, REALTORS
Public/Private Ventures
Redevelopment Authority
Resources for Human Development
Robert P. Coco, Esq.
Roy Sims Plumbing & Heating
SHARE Food Program of Pennsylvania
Simpson House
SouthCo, Inc.
South Philly Silk Screen
Southwest Airlines
Spiral Q Puppet Theater
St. Christopher's Hospital for Children
The Arc of Philadelphia/PDDC
The Galman Group
The Middleburg Sustainability Group
The Village of Arts and Humanities
Universal Rehab
West Supply Center
Wireless Philadelphia
World Trade Center of Greater Philadelphia
Youth Art and Self-Empowerment Project
YouthBuild AmeriCorps Katrina Rebuilding Project
YouthBuild USA



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