



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**YOUTHBUILD STUDENTS PREPARE FOR
MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY OF SERVICE**

Philadelphia, Pa., Jan. 11, 2006 – On Wednesday morning from 9 to 10:30 a.m., a group of YouthBuild Philadelphia students will be at Annunciation BVM School in south Philadelphia preparing for the 11th annual Martin Luther King Day of Service. Activities include the construction of windows and doors and the beginning of the framing process for a single-family “Home In a Box,” a project implemented in conjunction with Habitat for Humanity Philadelphia.

The preparation materials will be transported to Martin Luther King High School for completion on January 16. Once complete, the frame will be shipped to Lafayette, Louisiana to help a family displaced by Hurricane Katrina.

“We do a lot of service in the local area, but this is a way we can contribute to other communities on a national level,” said YouthBuild Director of Program Development Brian Leffler.

In addition to Home in a Box, YouthBuild will also celebrate the Martin Luther King Day of Service on January 16 by finishing construction on a two-story playhouse for an emergency care facility. Activities will take place under a 50x100 ft. pavilion, with a kickoff at 9 a.m. that will include Mayor John Street. For more information about the Martin Luther King Day of Service, go to www.mlkdayofservice.org.

PREPARATION FOR MLK DAY EVENT

WHO: YouthBuild Philadelphia students and staff
WHAT: Preparation for Martin Luther King Day of Service
WHEN: Wednesday, Jan. 11, 2006, 9 to 10:30 a.m.
WHERE: Annunciation BVM School/Third Floor, 1150 Wharton Street
WHY: YouthBuild cares!

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YouthBuild Philadelphia Charter School is a not-for-profit organization that provides out-of-school youth in Philadelphia the broadest range of tools, supports and opportunities available to become self-sufficient, responsible and productive citizens. YouthBuild offers an innovative 10-month program, which blends a rigorous academic curriculum with valuable community service experience and hands-on job training in construction or technology.

Students at YouthBuild can earn their high school diplomas and make successful transitions to full-time jobs, post-secondary educations, or further service with AmeriCorps. For more information about YouthBuild, visit www.youthbuildphilly.org.