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Media Contact:

Amy Kapp, Public Relations Coordinator
YouthBuild Philadelphia Charter School
(215) 627-8671x39 (work)/(703) 946-0041 (cell)
akapp@youthbuildphilly.org

**UNIVERSAL COMMUNITY HOMES IN PARTNERSHIP WITH YOUTHBUILD
PHILADELPHIA TO DEDICATE FOUR HOUSES FOR LOW-INCOME FAMILIES**

Students to Celebrate 10 Months of Rehabilitating Properties in South Philadelphia

WHAT: Universal Community Homes in partnership with YouthBuild Philadelphia will hold a special ribbon cutting ceremony to dedicate four, newly completed single-family homes to the Mole Street community in South Philadelphia. YouthBuild was contracted to rehabilitate the homes by Universal, a community development corporation. Universal will sell the completed units as affordable housing.

The dedication marks a year of learning and hard work for YouthBuild students, who have been rehabilitating homes and stabilizing lots in the neighborhood for the past ten months. The school took the houses through every phase of reconstruction including demolition, foundation, framing, drywall, painting and finishing work. YouthBuild's construction students receive extensive hands-on training as part of the school's dedication to vocational programming and post-secondary preparation.

WHO: Gathering to include Universal and YouthBuild (students 160+, staff, partners and supporters), and Mole Street community members. Speakers slated:

- Mayor John F. Street, City of Philadelphia (not confirmed);
- Councilman Michael Nutter, 4th District, City of Philadelphia;
- Kathleen Murray, Special Assistant to Council President Anna C. Verna, 2nd District, City of Philadelphia;
- Kenneth Gamble, Co-Founder, Universal Companies (not confirmed)
- Shahied Dawan, Chief Financial Officer, Universal Companies;
- Simran Sidhu, Executive Director, YouthBuild Philadelphia;
- YouthBuild students Craig Green and Izaiah Daniels;
- Rita Butler, Mole Street community supporter; and,
- a new homeowner.

WHEN: June 22, 2006 – 9 to 10 a.m. The formal dedication will take place from 9:15 to 9:45 a.m.

WHERE: South Mole Street (1141, 1145, 1155-57, 1167-69), Philadelphia, Pa. (connecting Ellsworth and Federal streets, and parallel between 15th and 16th streets). Ceremony will take place mid-block (1155). Please park on side streets, as the block will be closed for the dedication.

MISC.: The event will include refreshments and tours of the completed homes.

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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 Philadelphia offers an innovative 10-month program, which blends a rigorous academic curriculum with valuable community service experience and on-the-job training in construction, technology or nursing.

Students at YouthBuild Philadelphia 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, visit www.youthbuildphilly.org.

Universal Community Homes is a non-profit 501(c)3 community-based organization founded in 1993 by world-renowned songwriter and music producer, Kenny Gamble, to provide homeownership, economic, and educational opportunities to residents of South Central Philadelphia. The company develops and/or manages rental and for-sale housing primarily for low- and moderate-income residents, owns and operates a charter school and oversees the management of three additional K-8 public schools, and provides case-management services to targeted populations.