



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:

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

**MORE THAN 200 VOLUNTEERS TO STABILIZE
NEIGHBORHOOD LOTS FOR NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE DAY**

Philadelphia, April 2006 – More than 200 YouthBuild Philadelphia students, staff and community members will converge to clean and stabilize abandoned and uninhabited lots on South Mole Street in Philadelphia on Friday, April 21 in celebration of National Youth Service Day. The group will engage in various activities including trash pickup and general beautification.

YouthBuild chose the Mole Street location (between Ellsworth and Federal Streets) because it is currently in the last stage of rehabilitating four houses on the block for low-income families. The completed houses will be dedicated to the community in a special ceremony in June.

“Our school is committed to Mole Street because we have been rehabilitating homes in the neighborhood for eight months,” said AmeriCorps member and Community Projects Coordinator Katie Siegmund. “We have noticed that the area is in dire need of clean-up and we feel called to make it happen.”

YouthBuild is active with service to communities both local and national. Earlier this year, students and staff helped to construct a single-family “House in a Box,” which was shipped to Louisiana for a family displaced by Hurricane Katrina.

WHO: YouthBuild Philadelphia students, staff and community volunteers

WHAT: Mole Street lot stabilization/house viewing may be arranged for press

WHEN: Friday, April 21, 2006, 8 to 11:30 a.m.

WHERE: South Mole Street (connecting Ellsworth and Federal Streets, and parallel between 15th and 16th Streets (closer to 16th Street). Registration will take place in the middle of the Mole Street block (press may inquire at this location).

###

- more -

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.