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Students' Service Efforts in Philadelphia to be Recognized at Sixers Game

Philadelphia, Dec. 20, 2007 – YouthBuild Philadelphia Charter School will be recognized before thousands during the pre-game session of the Philadelphia 76ers vs. Miami Heat basketball game at the Wachovia Center on Dec. 26. A brief presentation will acknowledge YouthBuild's achievements over the past fifteen years in community service, technology, nursing and house rehabilitation for low-income families. The presentation, which will include two minutes of YouthBuild video footage, is scheduled for 5:25 p.m.

Those representing YouthBuild on the court include Community Outreach Coordinator Margy Wilcox, and Class of 2008 students Joshua Ward and Sophally Ngeth. Wilcox represents the hardworking AmeriCorps members that help to coordinate YouthBuild's community service initiatives. Ward and Ngeth are two of this year's YouthBuild Way award winners. YouthBuild Way awards are granted to students that best demonstrate YouthBuild's values (excellence, respect and perseverance) as chosen by teachers and staff. More than 150 students, staff, and supporters will also be in attendance at the game.

YouthBuild is dedicated to helping out-of-school youth (ages 18 to 21) rebuild their lives and escape the cycle of urban poverty. In the past fifteen years, the school has graduated more than 1,200 students, rehabilitated more than 65 houses for low-income homebuyers, refurbished more than 2,000 computers for local organizations and schools, and provided thousands of hours of community service around Philadelphia.

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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 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 and post-secondary educational opportunities. For more information, visit www.youthbuildphilly.org.