Come Celebrate with Us!

“I feel like it’s a second home for me.” Paola, Teen Leader

On October 2, 2014, Providence Center will celebrate its 20th Anniversary. Look at the pictures and quotes on this page. These are our neighbors and our students. They are our inspiration and our motivation. We hope that you can join us to celebrate all that they have accomplished for themselves, their families, and their community.

Of course, none of this would be possible without the Sisters who founded Providence Center and continue to support our work and community. On the 2nd we will be honoring these founders: Holy Child Sisters Nancy Hagenbach, Peggy Doherty, Nancy Logan, Eileen Moughan, Elizabeth Barber (dec.), Muriel Ratigan (dec.), and Mary Agnes Toomey (dec.), and Sister of St. Joseph Sheila Falls.

Invitations will be in the mail the first week of September. We have so many reasons for gratitude and inspiration! It will be a joyful celebration!

“‘I feel like it’s a second home for me.’” Paola, Teen Leader

“They really inspired me to be a good learner.” Julius, 4th Grade

Summer 2014

Our Mission
Providence Center engages children, youth and adults in educational opportunities within the Fairhill/West Kensington community of North Philadelphia.

The Center values respect for the dignity of each person and creates a safe, hospitable place for learning.

Our Programs

CHILDREN AND YOUTH
- “Power” After School
- Teen and Grad Leaders
- Summer Camp

ADULT EDUCATION
- English Language Classes
- Individual ESL Tutoring

FAITH AND FAMILY
- Prayer Group
- Women’s Retreats

In This Issue

Highlights from the “Power” Youth Program

“Moving Out!” A poem by Ben Figueroa

St. Edward’s Corner

Empowered through Learning English

How You Can Help!
We hope that many of you will be able to join us for our 20th Anniversary Celebration, particularly because of the important role you have played in helping us reach this milestone.

You and your families deeply touched the Sisters; quite a few from the parish even joined the Society! With such fond memories and close relationships, how could the Sisters leave when the parish closed? You helped the Sisters build an over 100 year legacy in Fairhill, and your support has sustained Providence Center!

Please send us any photos or updates to include in our Fall newsletter! ♦

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**Highlights from “Power” Youth program**

We can’t wait for the new school year to begin! Last year we had a blast with field trips and fairs in Fairhill Square, and the kids all grew as caring, bright, and joyful children. With your help, we can do even more in the coming year! ♦

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**St. Edward’s Corner**

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**Moving Out!**

A poem by Benjamin Figueroa, one of Providence Center’s Teen Leaders.

“Dedicated to anybody that has been abused.”

Push me down, I might seem weaker You, thinking I might not seem brighter but I’m wiser! with every cut! with every bruise! I have covered, your strength made me weaker... for a short time you made me bleed thinking you were wiser but thanks to you I’ve became a lot stronger made my skin a little bit tighter through out the black and blue I have been afraid to hurt the thing I love noticing I need to move forward show the world who contains the Real power! not physically but mentally you where my worst nightmare i didn’t run away, I thought you cared nightmares always end they’re a project that I could fix over time you’re the reason I’ve moved on and the reason I found WHO I AM! ♦

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Elizabeth has the Peace Bear!

Breyanna and Carmen using their new library cards!

Julius is excited by science at the Franklin Institute!

Anthony and Daniella showing off the plants they grew!

Michael cooling off at the Spring Fair.

Teen Leaders Jana and Ben trying new produce at the Reading Market
Our Summer semester ended a year of adult English as a Second Language classes, during which we enrolled almost 300 students. We feel privileged to teach amazing men and women who are working hard to learn a new language and build a better life for themselves and their families. So, what do our recent class graduates have to say about studying at Providence Center?

“I learned to communicate better, especially with my daughter. I can help her with her homework.” — Nayeli

“I understand people better, I know new vocabulary words, and I’m conquering my fear of speaking English.” — Saudia

“I can speak with my boss by myself.” — Juan

Providence Center students are incredible learners! Using pre-/post-tests, on average our students gained over 50%!

Did you notice our new logo?

Providence Center has a new logo, designed by Anthony Howard from Savvy ID. Anthony did the work pro bono! We hope that you see the rising sun of our “P” logo representing hope for our community. And, of course, the SHCJ seal continues to show our close relationship with the Holy Child Sisters. Stay tuned for our new website, coming soon, that will include a video about Providence Center. All this work is being donated by talented volunteers!
WAYS YOU CAN HELP
“Generosity, generosity, generosity must be the beginning and ending of our life.” - Cornelia Connelly

We serve needy families, and so our programs are either free or charge only a nominal fee. Please help us sustain this mission with a gift!^

* Become a monthly donor
* Ask your employer to match your gift
* Consider a bequest to Providence Center
* Donate online with credit card/PayPal: www.providencecentershcj.org

Volunteer on your own or bring your family, co-workers, or congregation! There are many ways you can become involved in our work!

* Tutor adults learning English
* Spend time with our kids and teens
* Help in the office
* Volunteer your trade or skill

^Gifts to Providence Center are tax-deductible

For information, contact David Chiles at dchiles@providencecentershcj.org.

Help Us Spread the Word!
Invite us to speak at your parish or community group! If you would like to arrange a presentation, contact David Chiles: dchiles@providencecentershcj.org

facebook.com/providencecentershcj

Providence Center’s 20th Anniversary
Honoring the Founding Sisters
October 2, 2014
5:30 to 7:30, Holy Child Center, Rosemont

Providence Center
A ministry of the Society of the Holy Child Jesus

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Philadelphia, PA 19133

A Love Full of Action | ProvidenceCenterSHCJ.org | 215.739.7465