



**Providence
Center** 

A Ministry of the Society of the Holy Child Jesus

Summer 2016

The Providence Center Family

At Providence Center's event in May, Catalyst for Change, we highlighted the ways our new building will be a safe and joyful home for our students. Three of our students spoke at the event about how Providence Center feels like a family:

"Sometimes I worry about the violence in our neighborhood, but being at Providence Center makes me feel like I am at home because I am around friends and staff who are like family to me." Aisha, 7th Grade.



Arisitdes, Aisha, and Isaiah all spoke about what Providence Center means to them.

"The kids know the minute they get there [Providence Center] they are going to feel safe, they're going to be welcomed, and they're going to be protected. No matter what, they'll be there for us." Arisitdes, 7th Grade.

"When I come to Providence Center, whether I've had a tough day at school or not, it's like a family. You feel it." Isaiah, recently graduated Teen Leader enrolled at LaSalle University.



The welcoming area in our new building.

We can't think of a more moving compliment for our programs. Like a family, we support each other and help each other overcome obstacles. There are difficult challenges in our community, including the highest poverty and violence rates in the city, but our students know that we are there for them. This commitment is at the heart of Providence Center. It is the mission we inherited from the Sisters, who would not abandon Fairhill when St. Edward's parish and school closed. This mission is a love full of action, and it changes lives and communities.

Thank you for being a part of our family! ♦

Our Mission

Committed to North Philadelphia's Fairhill community since 1993, Providence Center offers education programming for children, youth, and adults. Our mission is to educate people to have the power and spirit to transform their lives and community.

Our Programs

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

- "Power" After School
- Teen Leaders
- Summer Leadership Academy

ADULT EDUCATION

- English Language Classes
- Individual ESL Tutoring

FAITH AND FAMILY

- Prayer Group
- Women's Retreats

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Scenes from Catalyst for Change



To the Left: Angel and Hannah spoke to our guests, including Margaret Dalesandro, about Empathy, one of the assets that we teach in our program. Children who learn empathy are better able to solve their problems peacefully, they grow their emotional intelligence, and they are more effective leaders and team members.

To the Right: Hannah and Jayanne talk to Sr. Florence Rice and Christa Tinari about “Chill Skills.” Persistent stress has serious health implications for children and impacts their ability to learn. At Providence Center, children learn a variety of ways to calm themselves, including stress balls, coloring, and breathing exercises. Each of our classrooms has a “Chill Skills” box, and the kids make some materials to use at home.



Above Left: Bill Streich with his wife Sharyn reconnect with Sr. Rosemary Tedesco, Bill’s teacher at St. Edwards in the 7th grade.

Above Right: Emily Siegel, from the Holy Child Sisters’ Archives, speaks with Erlis and John Wickersham about the display from the St. Edward’s Archives. We are humbled to continue the over 100 year legacy of the Sisters in Fairhill.



Left: Angel shows Sr. Eileen Moughan some of the peace poetry that our students wrote before the Peace Walk in November.

A Joyful Place to Learn



Anna-Maria Moggio Community Room

This 1,500 square foot multi-purpose room will provide space for children to play games and sports, for teens to attend college preparation workshops, and for families to enjoy exercise classes and movie nights.



Second Floor Classroom

Our students will have access to shelves full of books and a bank of laptop computers, helping children, youth, and adults to practice their English, complete school work, develop a love of reading, and explore colleges.



First Floor Classroom

One of our four classrooms that will be used for adult education, such as English as a Second Language classes, as well as space for children and teens in our after school program.



Second Floor Art and Science Room

Education at Providence Center will be fun and experiential, with children learning to understand themselves and the world around them through creative expression and hands-on science projects.

You Can Make a Difference!

Please join with us to make Providence Center's building a safe and joyful home for children, teens and adults. Because of your support, children learn to believe in their futures, teens become role models and go to college, and adults gain the skills and confidence to build better lives for themselves and the children who depend on them. Thank you!

- * Donate online with your credit card: ProvidenceCenterSHCJ.org/donate
- * Sign up online to become a monthly donor
- * Ask your employer to match your gift
- * Consider a bequest to Providence Center
- * Invite us to come and speak, or visit us. We'd love to meet you! ♦



Teen Leader Sam helps Samir with his Earth Day project.

Volunteer with Us!

Volunteer on your own or bring your family, co-workers, or parish! *There are many ways you can make a difference!*

- * We need reading buddies for the kids! Come and read books with the kids after school.
- * We need tutors after school to help kids with their homework.
- * We need help in our office with data entry and mailings.
- * Let us know if you have a trade or skill you'd like to contribute, such as computer maintenance, carpentry, plumbing, etc.



You can also volunteer to help us collect school supplies or raise funds for our programs. Contact us for ideas!

To volunteer, contact:
info@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



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Moving in early 2017! Look inside for pics!