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Nearly 200 Volunteers Perform Community Service for PHA & The Salvation Army

Volunteers from Faith-Based World Changers Travel to Philadelphia on Service Mission

(PHILADELPHIA-June 27, 2016) – The World Changers have returned to Philadelphia for community service at Philadelphia Housing Authority (PHA) and Salvation Army Greater Philadelphia sites Monday, June 27 through Thursday, June 30. This visit marks the fourth consecutive summer that the volunteer group, an initiative of LifeWay Christian Resources, has partnered with PHA to donate their time doing maintenance work at several locations.

Close to 200 volunteers from 10 churches across the country will participate in painting and landscaping at six PHA developments including: Harrison Plaza, Johnson Homes, Oxford Village, Spring Garden Apartments, Westpark and Wilson Park. The volunteers' work is estimated to save PHA nearly \$100,000. Members of the building trades unions employed by PHA are also working with volunteers and will supervise their activities.

“Partnerships with groups such as World Changers are most welcome, especially during a time when financial resources are shrinking,” said PHA President and CEO Kelvin A. Jeremiah. “It is both a privilege and an opportunity to offer service and I heartily thank each of these volunteers.”

PHA Commissioner Rev. Bonnie Camarda, who also serves as the Director of Partnerships for the Salvation Army of Eastern Pennsylvania and Delaware, originated the partnership with World Changers.

“There is no better gift than when someone gives of themselves,” Camarda said. “The World Changers project provides students and adults a venue in which to live out their faith. Service shows people that you care, and that’s what PHA residents and our community will see.”

The World Changers group will perform maintenance at The Salvation Army’s West Philadelphia Corps Community Center, Roxborough Corps Community Center and its headquarters located in Wynnefield. The volunteers will be installing new bathroom stalls, replacing flooring and painting rooms, patching drywall and building shelves.

Salvation Army canteen trucks will provide water at the work sites throughout the week.

World Changers volunteers come from across the U.S. and pay their own way to Philadelphia. On average, participants pay \$250 to take part in the week.

This summer, World Changers projects will take place in more than 75 cities in the U.S. and Puerto Rico. Since 1990 there have been more than 300,000 participants in the World Changers program.

Photo, video and interview opportunities can be arranged at the work sites Monday, June 27, through Thursday, June 30.

Work sites include:

PHA

Harrison Plaza: 1350 N. 10th St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19122

Johnson Homes: 2500 Norris St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19121

Oxford Village: 6150 Algon Ave., Philadelphia, Pa. 19111

Spring Garden Apartments: 715 Brandywine St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19123

Wilson Park: 2500 Jackson St., Philadelphia, Pa 19145

Westpark: 300 N. Busti St., Philadelphia, Pa 19104

The Salvation Army

West Philadelphia Corps Community Center: 5501 Market Street, Philadelphia, Pa 19139

Roxborough Corps Community Center: 6730 Ridge Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa 19128

The Salvation Army Greater Philadelphia headquarters: 4050 Conshohocken Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa 19131

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About PHA:

The Philadelphia Housing Authority is the nation's 4th largest housing authority, serving nearly 80,000 residents. PHA is also a major real estate developer. Learn more at www.pha.phila.gov

About The Salvation Army Greater Philadelphia:

The Salvation Army Greater Philadelphia is a faith-based, comprehensive human service organization whose programs help individuals, families and whole communities lead healthier, safer and more productive lives. The Salvation Army is equipped to respond to both acute disasters such as fires and floods as well as the daily, ongoing struggles of the region's less fortunate individuals. Since 1879, The Salvation Army has a record of success stemming from its holistic approach to providing for the needs of the whole individual – physically, emotionally, economically and spiritually. The Salvation Army's programming operates community centers and residential facilities throughout the Philadelphia region offering shelter, hot meals, counseling, early childhood development, recreational opportunities, music programs, after-school arts and educational programs, job training, activities for older adults, spiritual development, and drug rehabilitation. For more information, please visit www.SAPhilly.org.