



Phipps Community Development Corporation

2010 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Phipps CDC serves more than 8,000 children, teens and adults in programs that provide access to a range of opportunities to help them succeed in school and at work, build strong families, and forge even stronger communities. We are committed to maintaining high-quality programs, providing innovative opportunities, and helping our participants achieve success.

We are proud to share some of our accomplishments to date:

New Initiatives

- Phipps has launched an **Early Head Start program** that provides home-based education and support for expectant moms and dads, and families with very young children, newborn to 3 years. Services include specialized age-specific activities to promote healthy development for children, and additional resources will help parents strengthen their roles. To date, six families have joined the program, and space is available for 38 more.
- **Phipps Cornerstone Community Program** serves more than 180 children, teens, and adults with learning and recreation activities through after-school, evening and weekend programming. It is also one of our seven summer camp sites. Phipps assumed operation of the Department of Youth & Community Development (DYCD) funded community education and recreation program at Soundview Houses in January.
- In partnership with Seedco, Phipps has implemented a large-scale outreach and enrollment campaign to promote the **Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 (CHIPRA)**. Activities focus on educating families about the importance of health insurance, eligibility, and enrollment procedures. Educational workshops, one-on-one information sessions, benefits screenings, referrals, and an on-site enrollment specialist are all facilitated by Phipps staff.

Education & Youth Development

- **Bridge to College Early Awareness** served 61 middle school students at the Urban Assembly School for Wildlife Conservation, C.S. 11, and Phipps Beacon at the Piagentini and Jones Campus. The program helps kids aspire to higher education by familiarizing them with the process and tools needed to apply and get accepted to college. Of graduating high school participants, a total of 98 are headed to college this fall.
- **Transition to High School** served 34 ninth graders at the Leadership Institute High School to help them adjust to the new academic environment and get the support needed to complete their freshman year. The participation rate was over 90%, and students showed improvement on their report cards during the 2009/2010 school year.
- Phipps CDC **Summer Camp** is serving 650 kids at seven camp sites this summer. This year's theme of "Fitness FUNatics: Getting Fit in Body, Mind and Spirit" is teaching campers the value of physical, moral, and social fitness through popular education and recreation activities. A survey of 2009 campers found that 60%-70% reported gains in feelings of responsibility, competency, exploration, family citizenship, teamwork, and friendship skills.

- The **Phipps Beacon** teen programs at Wings Academy and the Piagentini and Jones Campus were selected to participate in DYCD's 2010 Summer of Service, which supports youth programs in completing local community service projects. Both sites participated in a rigorous application process, and were awarded \$2,000 each to cover costs to ensure that projects were successfully completed.

Work Readiness

- **NYC Justice Corps launched an Alumni Center** in March to continue support for program graduates. The Center offers one-on-one job readiness coaching and workshops, ongoing guidance for educational planning, referrals for other social services, and social activities for former Corps members. To date, 30 Corps alumni have taken advantage of services at the Center, which is funded by the Robin Hood Foundation.
- A contract from DYCD is providing a **new job training component for NYC Justice Corps**, enabling 38 Corps members to become certified Building Trades Technicians through Bronx Community College. The certification program also addresses green topics including energy efficiency, environmental sustainability, and resource renewal and conservation. The first semester of the 3-month program begins in the fall, and enrollment is ongoing throughout the year.
- Phipps' **Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP)** has placed 350 youth aged 14-24 into summer jobs that will last for six weeks. Participants are gaining a range of experience in jobs at 62 worksites, including CVS Pharmacy, Bronx Zoo, St. Barnabas Hospital, Rudin Management Company, Emmis Communications, the Offices of Councilman Joel Rivera, Museum of the City of New York, New York Restoration Project, Regional News Network TV, and the New York Academy of Medicine.

Language & Literacy

- The **Adult Basic Education** program at the Phipps Opportunity Center is hosting a medical student through the City's Health Literacy Fellowship to help students improve their functional literacy while learning about health. The Fellowship builds communication skills for the medical student while helping literacy students overcome common obstacles faced when communicating with medical staff and accessing health care.
- The work of three Phipps **Pre-GED** and **ESL** students was selected for publication in *Literacy Review: Volume 8*, a compilation of student submissions to the NYU Literacy Review Program. The Phipps students' work was among the 74 essays, poems and letters chosen from 550 citywide submissions.

Community Education & Services

- **Financial Empowerment Center** began its second contract year in July 2009 and to date, staff has conducted 2,215 individual counseling sessions and served 1,192 clients. Counselors have guided 904 clients in reviewing their credit reports, helped 989 individuals reduce their debt, and assisted 440 with increasing their total savings.
- **Healthy Families** walk-in service has screened a total of 217 clients since January and more than 90% have been able to access benefits, or receive necessary help with educational, vocational or legal services.

- The Phipps CDC 2010 **Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program** exceeded last year's record by filing 1,811 standard tax returns and 604 EITC returns for the 2009 tax year, with clients receiving tax refunds totaling more than \$2.5 million. Since it was the only VITA tax site in the Bronx, Phipps added 3 staff members to serve the increased number of clients.
- The **Psychology Externship program** expanded to 9 externs this year. Doctoral students provide free, on-site individual and group counseling and psychological evaluations to children, teens, and adults in our programs to help participants overcome barriers to success in education, employment, and parenting.
- A partnership with Harvest Home is supporting the fifth season of the **West Farmers' Market** at Drew Gardens. The Harvest Home West Farms Market launched in July, and will operate every Wednesday through November. The Market offers fruits and vegetables from local farms, in addition to produce from Phipps community gardeners' individual plots.

Learn more about Phipps CDC and how to support our programs and services:
visit www.phippsny.org or call (212) 243-9090, ext 355.