



Focus On Renewal

Neighborhood Corporation

701 Chartiers Avenue, McKees Rocks

Phone: 412.771.6460 Web: www.forstorox.org

Media Release

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Contact: Geoffrey Stillson, Interim Director, Focus On Renewal
(412) 771-6460, ext. 306
gstillson@forstorox.org

Focus On Renewal and Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania Partner to Keep Adult Education and Career Development Available in McKees Rocks – Students Wanted

McKees Rocks, PA, September 12, 2011 – After nearly a decade of helping adults obtain their high school diplomas through test preparation, literacy classes and computer training, Focus On Renewal (FOR) made the difficult decision to shutter its Learning Center in June due to funding shortfalls. But as the axiom goes, when one door closes another one opens ... thanks to a new partnership with Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania, FOR will be able to continue to offer adult education and training in McKees Rocks.

Focus On Renewal is extremely pleased to announce that beginning September 12, 2011, Goodwill will provide its successful, customer service oriented Career Pathways Classes in the former FOR Learning Center, 710 Thompson Avenue – in the lower level of the FOR Family Health Center in McKees Rocks. Enrollment is open and adults can register for classes by calling 412-632-1841.

This program prepares adults for entry-level employment as well as employment advancement through evaluation, instruction and job coaching. Students will learn to read or strengthen their reading comprehension, improve math skills, study for their high school equivalency test, develop self confidence and apply learned skills to work experiences.

Collaboration among non-profits is the new paradigm for non-profit sustainability and growth, and FOR continues to be a leader in this movement. This cost-effective collaboration will allow Goodwill to focus on instruction and fill the overwhelming need for educational support to adults seeking more sustainable employment by utilizing the FOR facility. Laurie Cybulski, former Learning Center director, was hired by Goodwill to manage the Career Pathways program at FOR.

“We are excited to have Laurie back and to be working with such a reputable partner, as adult education needs are greater than ever,” said Sister Sarah Crotty, associate director, Focus On Renewal. “Goodwill understands that collaborations are essential to the survival of organizations such as ours, and their dedication to the residents of southwestern Pennsylvania is well-known.”

“This new partnership will build on the adult education program established by FOR,” said Laurie Cybulski. “We are excited to continue offering career-readiness skills to the residents of McKees

Focus on Renewal (FOR) is a non-profit human service agency that has served the McKees Rocks community for 40 years, and is nationally recognized as a model of comprehensive services to low-income people of all ages. For more information please call 412.771.6460 or visit us on the Web at www.forstorox.org.

Rocks and neighboring communities. For most of our students, an education is the first step toward a decent wage that supports themselves and their families.”

Those interested in enrolling in the Career Pathways Classes at FOR should call 412.632.1841. Classes begin September 12, and run daily Mondays through Thursdays from 10 am to 1 pm. The Career Pathways curriculum covers equal hours of work-based training and core academic studies for adult learners.

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