

Dream Becomes Reality With April 22nd Groundbreaking

“When I see the shovel dig in for that first bite of earth, I will know that reality is finally catching up to our dream,” says Nancy Bloom, Executive Director for Youth Services.



About 100 friends, contributors, and village officials are expected for the April 22nd ceremonial groundbreaking on 1.6 acres of land in The Glen, donated by the Village of Glenview. Glenview Village President Kerry Cummings will hand over the deed for the land to Youth Services Board President Bill McKinley, to be followed by brief comments from several important supporters of the capital project.

“
*Reality is
finally catching
up to our dream.*”

Nancy Bloom
Executive Director
Youth Services of
Glenview/Northbrook

Besides the land donation from Glenview, the organization is benefiting from two very generous \$1.5 million donations, one from the McLennan family of Glenview, and one from PotashCorp of Northbrook. The new 20,000 square foot facility will be formally known as the McLennan Center for Youth on the PotashCorp Campus.

Representing Potash at the groundbreaking will be Bill Doyle, President and CEO, and Jane Irwin, Senior Vice President, Administration, as well as other executives. According to Ms. Irwin, Potash reserves its largest charitable contributions for areas where they feel the funds will have a significant impact, and a new building for Youth Services fit the criteria. “We feel that Youth Services has a very big impact on the youth and families in the communities where we work and where many of us live.” She added that due to the size of the gift, members of their Donations Committee from both the U.S. and Canada needed to give approval. “One thing that made a big impression on many of us was seeing Youth Services’ current space. When we saw their cramped facility we realized that our contribution would make a big difference for the agency and for local families.”

According to Board President Bill McKinley, “We hope to have the building open for the children in about nine to 12 months, at which time, we plan to expand our programming and shorten our waiting list.” Demand for services in the community runs high and many program offerings have a waiting list due to lack of space. Many programs are hosted off-site at local schools; where appropriate, Youth Services would like to bring most programming into their new home beginning next summer. In the meantime, the agency will continue to operate out of its current 1,700 square foot temporary building just a stone’s throw away from the construction site.

The groundbreaking will take place at 4:30 p.m. with a reception to follow. If you wish to join us, you must RSVP to Youth Services at 847-724-2620.



Board Members

President

- Bill McKinley - Sr. Vice President, Harris Bank

First Vice President

- Rick Klare - Vice President of Sales, Fidelity Container

Second Vice President

- Howard Eirinberg - President, Vienna Beef

Treasurer

- Myrna Newman - Accountant

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- Donna Gulley - Retired School Counselor

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- Robert Anthony - Retired
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- Nancy Firfer - Senior Advisor, Metropolis 20/20 and former President, Village of Glenview
- Dan Fraser - Senior Relationship Manager, First American Bank
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- Joe Muldoon - Surgeon, Evanston Northwestern Healthcare
- Harry Omartian - Owner, AAA Lock & Key
- Rian Spencer - Credit Associate, Harris Bank
- Doug Welch - Vice President of Operations, Allstate Insurance



From the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

On April 22nd we break ground on a dream six years in the making. The dream isn't mine, though I share it. The dream belongs to the children we serve who told us they wanted the new Youth Services space to be more than a building; they wanted it to be a *home*. To me, that is a very powerful request. It means that the children we see and work with everyday share some very strong emotional ties with us and they want the place where we gather to reflect the feelings of warmth, comfort, love and acceptance embodied in the word *home*.



So, with the very generous help of many, many donors and volunteers, that is what we have set about designing for them. We have planned a welcoming building where the children will have room to play and meet and work with our counselors. The new Youth Services building will be a place where they not only belong but that belongs to them. It will be a home for the youth of Glenview and Northbrook and Northfield Township and all of the communities that send children to our doors. This new building will say to them—you count. It will also be an environmentally friendly building; as such, it is our promise to do our best to be good stewards of the community's resources that we share with all of you.

To our supporters and volunteers, I offer the heartfelt thanks of all of the Youth Services staff. You have made no small commitments to this project. For the last six years you have helped us dream and plan and raise a very substantial portion of the money we need to construct and support our children's new home. Because of your financial assistance, we will be able to shorten our waiting list and add new programs for children in need. I can't thank you enough.

But we have to ask for just a bit more. As you know, building costs have gone up in the last six years, and constructing eco-friendly structures costs more up-front, though it is well worth it in the long run. In addition, we plan to begin building an endowment that will allow us to secure the future of Youth Services for today's as well as tomorrow's children. We are nearing our financial goals, but we are not there yet. You can help put us over the top. Please call me to learn more about how you can help bring this new home and more services to our community's children.

Maybe you don't know, but for 36 years Youth Services has lived in temporary quarters, moving from place to place when our space was needed by others. But next year will be our final move. Our kids will call this their new home, and it will feel an awful lot like coming home for me, too.

With gratitude for all you do,

Nancy Bloom

“

We realized that our contribution would make a big difference for the agency and for local families.”

Jane Irwin
Sr. Vice President, Administration
PotashCorp



2008 Events

Mark Your Calendar

Friday, May 9th

Coffee House at Glenbrook South High School. Sponsored by GBS senior Nicole Baxter and the Student Council from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the Student Activity Center. Free admission but donations accepted to benefit Youth Services.

Friday, May 16th

Our annual benefit gala, *A Night of Stars*, is fast approaching and if you do not already have your tickets, there is still time to purchase them. The event will begin at 7 p.m. at the Hilton Northbrook and feature a live and silent auction, live entertainment, dinner, and exciting raffles. Tickets are \$75 each and seating for the evening is open unless you reserve a table of 10-12. For more information and to request tickets please call Youth Services at 847-724-2620 and ask for Monica. If you are unable to join us, donations are also gladly accepted.

Sunday, June 29th

The *YOUth Make a Difference* 5K Run/Walk kicks off at 8 a.m. sharp at Gallery Park on Chestnut Avenue in front of the Glenview Park Center. Sign up at www.signmeupsports.com or call Jessica at 847-729-5605 for more information.

Saturday, July 12th

Set aside some time and join us at John's Park for *Family Day*. The children will be entertained and you will have a great time, too. Co-sponsored by Allstate, Glenview Police, Glenview Park District and YSGN. Look for more information soon.

Saturday, October 4th

Casino Night at the Sunset Ridge Country Club promises to be another splendid event. Don't miss the most fun east of Vegas. For an invitation please contact Monica at mgarvey@youthservices-gn.org.

A Volunteer's Story

Bill McKinley, Board President



Board President Bill McKinley recalls when a consultant told him that the families who use the programs of Youth Services "loved" them, but, to the rest of the community, they were a "well kept secret." For the last several years, Bill says, the organization has been working hard to raise its profile in the community. One of the most significant ways that will happen is with the construction of a new facility in The Glen.

"When complete, our new building will be highly visible to local residents and it will make people more aware of who we are and what we have to offer the young people in our area."

Bill, an 18-year resident of Glenview, has two sons, Ryan (16) and Riley (12), in local schools. He has volunteered on various boards and projects including coaching youth hockey in the past, but for the last seven years he has also devoted much time and attention to Youth Services. "I knew Nancy Bloom through the Rotary, so when I was looking for an organization where I could volunteer my services, I called her because I wanted to know more about their programs. I was convinced rather quickly that this was a good fit for me.

"The organization runs over 35 different programs that help local kids with a variety of issues. And, it does it very successfully. Often Nancy will come to board meetings and read letters from families or past clients who are now successful adults and they say how much they owe to Youth Services. In some cases, the children of former clients are now participating in our programs. To me, that says quite a lot about the value this agency has for the community."

As a businessman, Bill is Commercial Sales Manager for Small Business Banking at Harris Winnetka. He is also acutely aware that financial stability is important to keeping the doors open and programs running. "The next important challenge we face is to build up an endowment for Youth Services. For years we have been spending almost every dime on direct services to children. It's time we begin building up a reserve that will assure that these services remain available to our kids now and for the future."

Friends of Youth Services Events

May 27th-31st

Charity Boutique at The Glen Town Center. Do you have some great second hand items like kids' stuff, adult clothing, DVDs, CDs, etc. you'd like to donate? Items can be dropped off on-site from May 5-23. Then, come back and see what will be offered during our weeklong extravaganza. For more information contact Anne at pillion99@yahoo.com or 847-486-8190. To volunteer contact Kim at kimhand@comcast.net.

Thursday, July 17th

Wine Tasting and Wine Auction at Café Lucci. Let the wine lover in you loose. Bring your friends and family for a delightful evening of summer

fun. Wine will also be available for order. For more information please contact Natalie at Nssch1000@aol.com or 847-998-3435.

Friday and Saturday, September 12th and 13th

Canning Days! We're not talking the spinach and beans type of canning but the kind that garners a different type of green. Volunteers will be out at Metra stations and on street corners asking drivers and pedestrians to give generously to support Youth Services. Please remember, any size contribution is important. If you wish to volunteer for an hour shift please contact Kim at kimhand@comcast.net or 847-724-8149.

Proceeds benefit Youth Services



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Volunteer Opportunities

We always have room for caring volunteers. If you have time to share, please call us at 847-724-2620 to find out what opportunities are available.

For More Information on Youth Services please visit our website at www.youthservices-gn.org.

Why “People Care”?

When we were looking for a name for this newsletter, we asked the people who are the motivation behind it—the kids we serve. They came up with “People Care,” and we can’t think of a more fitting title.

Reserve Your Spot!

There is still time to support our annual benefit gala, *A Night of Stars*, on May 16th. The event will begin at 7 p.m. at the Hilton Northbrook and feature a live and silent auction, live entertainment, dinner, and exciting raffles. Tickets are \$75 each and seating for the evening is open unless you reserve a table of 10–12. For more information and to request tickets please call Youth Services at 847-724-2620 and ask for Monica. If you are unable to join us, donations are also gladly accepted.