

Rebuilding Together Philadelphia

Spring 2009

Carrie Rathmann, Executive Director

ON THE SHOULDERS OF GIANTS



© 2006 S. Bones

Remember The *Big Blue Marble*? I watched this show faithfully after school when I was 12. It made me a pseudo pen pal with children throughout the globe. Having a glimpse at other people's lives made me feel at once very small and very large and connected with a universe of experiences.

Maybe this is one reason why I like being part of RTP? I feel as if our work is manageable enough for me to connect with many of the 1,000-1,500 volunteers that participate each year. I greet old friends who have volunteered for 20 years and introduce RTP to people who just signed their waiver.

By the end of the day, we'll all have unique yet shared experiences.

At the same time, our work is huge. By preserving affordable homeownership, RTP plays a significant role in neighborhood revitalization. I feel as if RTP puts people "on the shoulders of giants." Volunteers have the tools to rebuild plumbing systems, walls, and stairs. Donors' dollars are multiplied five-fold because of the volunteers' efforts. Homeowners who were concerned about their day to day living conditions now stand straighter within their greatest financial asset—their house.

Thank you for being part of this high-impact, powerful organization.

Jennifer Shropshire
President, Board of Directors

P.S. Since knowledge also is power, see the book recommendations throughout this newsletter. Each provides some insight into our work.

CHANGING THE WORLD

We won! On March 15, 2009 HGTV announced that RTP won a \$40,000 grant made possible through the *Change the World, Start at Home* campaign. This is a shared celebration. Through our 104 Ambassadors, 26 Community Ambassadors, and 5 official bloggers, Philadelphia drew tens of thousands of votes since the campaign was launched on January 1. We know that a number of groups adopted this project, including the American Legion of Pennsylvania, a college in Belfast and a troop of soldiers stationed overseas. We know some people voted solo, diligently, every day. Thank you one and all. Every vote made a difference.

Learn more about how this grant will benefit Philadelphia veterans (page 3).

OUR MISSION:

To prevent homelessness by partnering with the community to rehabilitate the homes of elderly, disabled, and low-income homeowners so that they may continue to live in warmth, safety, and independence.



RTP is an independent, local affiliate of Rebuilding Together, Inc., a national network of 206 affiliates serving 2,000 communities focused on preserving affordable homeownership.

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HONEYWELL SWEET HONEYWELL

Team Honeywell is helping three women and their families this spring as part of RTP's Germantown Block Build. Although neighbors, each homeowner has her unique story. At the same time, they all are facing similar circumstances—living in a home in need of essential repairs and lacking the resources to do much about it. Brief profiles provide a glimpse of the impact that RTP volunteers will have.

Phyllis has owned the house where she raised her children for 25 years. She was a local store manager for many years and continues to be active in the Germantown community. She is the primary caregiver for her family, including her teenage grand-son. A leaky roof and exterior problems have caused extensive water damage. She also needs home modifications.

Akilah has lived in her house for more than ten years and raised her children there. Her only current income is her disability check due to complications stemming from severe diabetes and other health issues. Until recently she ran a neighborhood ministry and various support groups. A street construction crew damages her electrical panel, hot water heater, and heater. She also needs home modifications and plumbing work.

Teresita has lived in her home for 27 years and raised her daughter there. She teaches pre-school, is an artist, and has been civically active both in Germantown and in the city at large. A disreputable roofer did not prevent continued water damage and she faces extensive repairs throughout her home.

ST. LUKE'S: THE NEXT GENERATION

For more than a decade, St. Luke's has formed a house management team and "adopted" a homeowner for whom they helped with essential home repairs. The team's main organizers have been Dave Gyza, Mike Brosman and Paul Kosma. This year they made a special effort to recruit both skilled and general volunteers from within the congregation.

In the past, the team focused on projects that made the best use of their construction skills. This year was no exception, but with more support from others in the congregation, the team undertook a wider a variety of projects. They helped a senior citizen with physical disabilities living in Germantown. Her primary need was for the volunteers to address the effects of a major leak. Wet floorboards attracted termites—as a



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result, several joists were crumbling and the living room floor drooped into the basement. The volunteers shored up the beams, put up support walls, and replaced the flooring. They also replaced the hot water heater and did drywall and ceiling work on the third floor. Kudos to the team for all the muscle and management!

Note: At the April 3 children's Mass Monsignor Flood announced that St. Luke's Chapel House will be named after Steve Seweryn.

READING TIP

Mountains Beyond Mountains

In his Pulitzer Prize winning book, Tracy Kidder describes Dr. Paul Farmer's quest to solve global health problems such as HIV-AIDS.

HGTV CHANGES THE WORLD FOR AMERICAN HEROES



Carter Oosterhouse
Host & construction expert
HGTV's *Carter Can*

2006 HGTV Photo credit Aaron Rapoport

Leveraging volunteer resources, HGTV's sponsorship will transform the Frankford home for veterans in transition run by the Pennsylvania American Legion Housing for Homeless Veterans Corporation. Projects inside the house will turn the living quarters into an environment that will help facilitate a successful transition. Exterior renovations will not only have an impact on the residents of the house, but also the residents on the block. Once completed, the house's curb appeal will ensure that the neighbors continue to be proud that this place is part of their community.

The detailed project planning has just begun and the project already is showing indications of being one of the most memorable experiences in RTP's history. It started with a bang! The on-line voting campaign galvanized thousands of people throughout Philadelphia (and beyond) to demonstrate support for those who have served their country. During the campaign, the RTP ambassador network introduced hundreds of new people to RTP's mission and work. Many voters are now poised to volunteer their time and effort to projects that will make the idea a reality.

Kitchens are the heart of any home; naturally, this kitchen will be a major focal point of the work. It will be gutted and restored from top to bottom. Every room of the house will receive the attention it needs both on

a systems/structural level as well as on a cosmetic level in true HGTV fashion. By the end of this project, the house will not only be functional, but stylish.

The scope of work being done for this house is not RTP's typical work. HGTV's leadership is magnifying its investment by attracting other resources to this special project. At the same time, this project is very much in the RTP tradition, in the spirit of rebuilding communities and focusing on an important population in need. As soldiers return stateside, an increasing number of them are not finding the services they need.

Many thanks to all who voted during the campaign and have volunteered to work on the project. We will do our best to take everyone up on his or her offer. Stay tuned as we reach out to you.

READING TIP The Things They Carried

Tim O'Brien's series of gripping Vietnam stories made him a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize. It is a testament to those who risked their lives in America's most controversial war.

2 0 0 8 - 2 0 0 9 P R O J E C T O V E R V I E W

Y E S T E R D A Y

Homeowner Project, Chester
 Sponsored by ConocoPhillips

**Mitzvah Mania Block Build,
 JCC Klein Center, Northeast**

Sponsored by The Jewish Federation
 of Greater Philadelphia

**MLK Day of Service, Face to Face,
 Germantown**

Sponsored by various donors/funders

**Technology Center, Logan CDC
 Northeast Philadelphia**

Sponsored by Pepsi Bottling Group

T O D A Y

West Philadelphia Block Build

◀ Homeowner projects

Sponsored by various donors/funders

◀ Home Modifications

Sponsored by Lowe's

Germantown Block Build

Sponsored by various donors/funders

Homeowner Project, Northeast

Sponsored by Sears "Heroes at Home"

Homeowner Projects, Germantown

Sponsored by Honeywell International

Homeowner Project in Norristown

Sponsored by Epiphany of Our Lord

T O M O R R O W

**Block Build Clean Up
 Germantown, West Philadelphia**

**Face to Face, Washeteria
 Germantown**

May

Sponsored by Opus East, LLC

Veterans Home Project

June/July

Sponsored by HGTV

20 years
neighbors
helping
neighbors

THANKS TO OUR 2008-2009 SPONSORS*

Community Leaders—

\$25,000-\$49,999

HGTV

Jewish Federation of Greater

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American Petroleum Institute

Connelly Foundation

ConocoPhillips

Dragon Boat Teams/Sponsors

Honeywell International

Lowe's

Merck & Co., Inc.

Pepsi Bottling Group

Block Sponsors—\$5,000-\$7,499

Anonymous

Gerhard's Appliances

Individuals via United Way

Sears Holdings *Heroes at Home*

House Sponsors—\$3,000-\$4,999

Peter Beale

Robert Bellinger

Booz Allen Hamilton

The Philadelphia Contributionship

Resource Real Estate, Inc.

Wharton Graduate Association

Whole Foods Market

Henrietta Tower Wurts Memorial

Foundation

Neighbors—\$1,000-\$1,499

Anonymous

Duck for Cover Dodgeball

Tournament

Epiphany of Our Lord, Plymouth

Meeting

Diane Fitzgerald

W.L. Gore & Associates, Inc.

Hankin Foundation

Home Depot

Honeywell Hometown Solutions

Robert Hughes

Jones Apparel Group USA, Inc.

John Keith

Kenneth J. Kempf

Michelle and Jason Kopp

William R. May Funeral Home

Margo and Rich MocarSKI

Moody's Foundation

Red Oar White

The Philadelphia Committee of

the Garden Club of America

Vasoli Electric Co., Inc.

Waste Management

Wayne Presbyterian Church

continued...

S H O U T O U T S T O . . .

Several projects are happening behind-the-scenes and should not go unacknowledged. Thank you!

University of Delaware

A team of students from the University of Delaware, studying business with a minor in management and information systems, are focusing on three technology-based projects with RTP this semester. To boost the efficiency of the warehouse, they are creating a database that will track the inventory of power tools. The team has identified specialized software and is using it to create a system for RTP to archive and manage photographs of projects and volunteers. Finally, they have researched list acquisition services. This will help RTP reach out to new people who have an affinity with the mission.

Local Artists

Led by Marianne Bernstein, a group of artists is working with six to ten RTP homeowners to create art together. A few projects have already started. Katie Tachman is collaborating with

homeowner Zettie Brown to paint a cherry blossom tree on Zettie's dining room wall. Filmmaker Danielle Lessowitz will be filming homeowner Juanita Wooten in her garden. The products of this creative exchange will be exhibited at a Center City gallery this fall.

Philadelphia Committee of the Garden Club of America

For each of the past few years, the Philadelphia Committee of the Garden Club of America has made a grant to RTP. While house management teams work on home repair projects, other volunteers (including neighborhood residents and student groups) work outside. Debris and weeds are replaced by mulch, plants, and trees, which transform the aesthetics of a block. Residents see a strong visual transformation within a short period of time. A beautiful and clean streetscape often uplifts the homeowners' sense of pride in their block.

READING TIP

Idealist.org Handbook to Building a Better World

Idealist.org along with Stephanie Land outlines resources for individuals who want to turn their good intentions into actions that make a difference.

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OPUS: A PARTNERSHIP IN HUMANITY



Veterans honored at Face to Face © 2009

This spring Opus East, LLC, commercial real estate developer, is sponsoring a special project at Face to Face in Germantown by providing the financial resources as well as time and talent of its employees. The volunteers will create a Washeteria—a place for people to take a shower and wash their clothes while getting a nutritious meal in the Dining Room, visiting the health center or legal clinic, or participating in the art or creative writing program. This project is ambitious, and would not have been possible without the leadership of Erika Rymsha, LEED A.P., Project Manager at Opus. As an active RTP volunteer, she has been instrumental in coordinating this effort with the homeowner projects taking place within RTP's Germantown Block Build.

The Washeteria will advance Face to Face's service to the community. Eileen Smith, Face to Face's Executive Director explains, "The Washeteria is so important to the people who come here. They have no alternative. The meaning is in the connective element, bringing people out of the isolation that often comes with poverty." Eileen

asked Terry to be part of this article. Terry has a long history with Face to Face and attends the art and creative writing classes. He comes to the Dining Room every weekend and visits the health clinic for help in monitoring his high blood pressure. Terry describes his experience with Face to Face as follows: "I am a little older than most people who come here. I am a grandfather. I didn't want to sit on the porch all day. I am a Vietnam War veteran and this takes my mind off that. I've met quite a few friends there. It's like a lifeline. It gives me something constructive to do during the day. Idle hands and all that. I'm learning about abstract art. This is something new to me. My work has been in a few of the art shows. I'm also getting into creative writing. It's a chance to express things and make people feel what I feel. I'm working on a story about when I was young and when my mother used to make a cake. Me and my brother used to lick the bowl."

Terry's words underscore what is at the core of RTP—the joy of being part of humanity.

READING TIP

Nickel and Dime: On (Not) Getting By in America

Barbara Ehrenreich investigates the impact of welfare reform on the "working poor" in the United States.

Friends—\$500 to \$999

Beneficial Bank
Michael Brosman
Leo Carey
Center for Social Responsibility
Celeste Duke
Shannon Farmer
Foremost Finish Works
The Home Depot
Wendy Klein Keane
Denise and Douglas Leach
Lisa Most and Christopher Evans
Carmelan Polce
Carrie and Robert Rathmann
Amanda Axelrod & Eric Redline
The Scullin Group
Edward F. Swenson & Associates, Inc.
Tolson Solutions LLC
Waste Management

ENDOWMENT

MAJOR GIFTS 07-08

Robert Bellinger
To the Peter C. Daggett Fund
Jones Lang LaSalle Americas, LLC
Lisa Most & Christopher Evans
Tolson Solutions LLC
Daniel A. Schryer
To the Stephen C. Seweryn
Memorial Fund:
Anonymous (2)
Kathleen and Jay Bellwoar
Robert Bellinger
Russell Bjorkman
Marianne and Jim Koller
Mercantile Beneficial
Association
Margo and Rich Mocarski
John Messina, Sara & Betsy Snyder,
Amanda & Cynthia Roach
Beth Goodell and Janet Scannell
Colleen Yaeger

** Note: list as of press time.*

**STILL WANT TO
MAKE A GIFT TO
HELP HOMEOWNERS IN
NEED THIS YEAR?**

VISIT

[www.rebuildingphilly.org/
howyoucanhelp.htm](http://www.rebuildingphilly.org/howyoucanhelp.htm)

PEPSI BOTTLING GROUP: GLOBAL & LOCAL

"Pepsi is a global brand with a commitment to making a local impact."

Catherine Patterson, Pepsi Foundation

Truer words were never spoken. The impact that Pepsi Bottling Group (PBG) made on March 27 will resound throughout the community served by Logan CDC (Community Development Corporation). Through a national partnership with Rebuilding Together, PBG sponsored the creation of a community center with a technology lab as the focal point. PBG employees were eager to volunteer their time and energy; the Technology Center was created in memory of Carlton Simmons, a PBG co-worker.

The paint hadn't even dried and the Logan CDC Carlton Simmons Community Technology Center was already attracting the attention of neighbors interested in taking classes. A number of people inquired about the start date as the volunteers sanded and painted inside and out as well as planted flowers and shrubs. By the end of the day, a rowhouse that had been vacant for years became a professional building with a computer lab that will offer public Internet and Wi Fi access; a meeting space for community groups;



Councilwoman Marian Tasco thanks Pepsi Bottling Group, Logan CDC, and RTP for serving her district. © 2009 T. Vachon

and a satellite office for the Logan Neighborhood Advisory Committee.

Low-income communities feel the effects of the Digital Divide profoundly. Often they lack not only broadband access to the Internet, but also home computers or even well-equipped computers and access at their local schools and libraries. Technology is key to education and workforce development. As more and more information moves on-line, and our

reliance on technology grows, low-access neighborhoods are at risk of being left even farther behind. Volunteer-driven workshops at the Center will increase "digital literacy," ensuring that Logan residents not only gain access, but also the skills to maximize their access. Programming will expand in tune with the needs and interests of the community as Cicely Peterson-Mangum, the Executive Director of Logan CDC, and her staff will encourage neighbors to be actively involved in program development. "This technology center is a small, but important step toward ensuring that Logan residents have access to critical information resources, says Peterson-Mangum. By focusing on free and low-cost solutions, we can eliminate economic barriers to participation in the 21st Century global community."

READING TIP

The World is Flat: A Brief History of the Twenty-First Century

Thomas L. Friedman analyzes the causes and effects of the accelerated convergence of globalization and technology within the past ten years.

PEPSI'S UNQUENCHABLE SPIRIT

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The Logan CDC Carlton Simmons Community Technology Center was named in memory of Carlton Simmons. Carlton was an area Pepsi Bottling Group employee who was killed on January 1, 2009. His co-workers were particularly eager to volunteer their time and energy to celebrate Carlton's life and legacy. Carlton had grown up in the Logan area so the location of this special project was a fitting tribute.

[Photo:Center] Carlton Simmons (Carlton's father) talks with Pepsi Bottling Group employees outside the new Center.

PROFILE: WAYNE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MEET KEVIN BLACKNEY

Age: 54

Family: Married with three daughters, 22, 19 and 14

Education: Bachelor of Architecture from Drexel University

Occupation: Architect

Current Day-to-Day Responsibilities:

Founding Principal of Blackney Hayes Architects, a 50-person Architectural firm in Philadelphia. Much of the firm's work focuses on urban renewal designing affordable housing and schools, both public and private. The firm also has extensive experience in adaptive reuse of historic structures.

Construction Background:

As an architect I deal with complex construction issues everyday. In addition I graduated from Williamson Trade School where I was trained to be carpenter and I worked building houses for several years before getting my architectural degree.

Why He Helps RTP:

It became clear that it was time to use my God-given talent to help others, and RTP facilitates that by finding people in need and creating the opportunity to work directly with those people in a way that makes an impact in their life.

BACKGROUND ON WAYNE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Kevin and Jim are members of Wayne Presbyterian Church located on East Lancaster Avenue in Wayne. The Church has a strong mission program, including its construction ministry, "Hammers with Heart." From time to time, as many as 50-75 members can be counted on to participate. Some volunteers are more skilled in construction trades than others, but everyone contributes to work that provides people in need with homes or other facilities that improve quality of life.

They help with their hands, their hearts and their funds. Each year, the construction ministry gives more than \$30,000 to facilitate both large and small construction projects.

* * * * *

Many thanks to Jerry McVeigh, Rod Robert, Ted Laws and the other skilled volunteers for lending their expertise to ensure high quality needs assessment and repairs.

MEET JAMES E. (JIM) RUSH

Age: 73

Family: Married with three daughters

Education: Ph.D. in chemistry from University of Missouri (Columbia)

Occupation: Retired (formerly senior management)

Current Day-to-Day Responsibilities:

Mostly volunteer work in or related to construction. Heads Wayne Presbyterian Church's (WPC'S) construction ministry called "Hammers with Heart." Works with RTP, Good Works, Inc. and Habitat for Humanity. Helps manage a variety of projects undertaken by WPC and is a Deacon, Steward Captain and Usher.

Construction Background:

Learned construction at an early age using the trial and error method. Enjoys the work and built (foundation to finishing) a 1,400 sq.ft. addition to his home in Ohio (circa 1970). Led major construction projects at Cornerstone Christian Academy in the Kingsessing area of Philadelphia.

Why He Helps RTP:

RTP locates people in need and creates the opportunity for me to work directly with those people to improve their quality of life. Helping others is important for me.

LOWE'S : WELCOME NEIGHBOR!

Lowe's is a giant corporation worldwide, and through its national partnership with Rebuilding Together, is making a significant impact on the West Shore community of West Philadelphia. With their new store (opened in January 2008) on 1500 N. 50th Street, Lowe's has already proven to be a good neighbor. Their grant to RTP is providing home modification support for our West Philadelphia Block Build. This means that homeowners who are elderly can "age in place" and homeowners with limited mobility can move around their home more safely. With the guidance of student occupational therapists from University of the Sciences in Philadelphia

and professionals from POTA (Pennsylvania Occupational Therapists Association) District V, volunteers are installing a range of supports for homeowner including grab bars, stair railings, step stools, and bath seats. Chris Adomat, District Commercial Account Specialist is proud to be a RTP sponsor. "Lowe's is eager to provide as much support as we can to help neighborhoods. We are united with Rebuilding Together in working to preserve affordable homeownership, and it is important for Lowe's to help build community in the areas that we are located."



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MERCK: POSITIVE IMPACT AND QUALITY OF LIFE

Starting with a \$2,500 grant in 1999, Merck & Co., Inc. has been one of RTP's most consistent sponsors. Several years ago Connie Wickersham, Director of Global Communications for Merck Manufacturing Division called in to say that their process had changed. The giving committee had undertaken an extensive analysis to ascertain the impact of their philanthropic dollars. The great news was that, with more scrutiny, Merck was doubling its gift to RTP! As a result, Merck has been providing support to RTP at the \$10,000 level for the past four years.

This increased affirmation of RTP's activities has been energizing, encouraging us to stay true to our mission and to maintain the dogged attention to using volunteer resources to leverage every dollar contributed in order to have maximum impact. Typically, Merck's support each year has helped

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subsidize RTP house kits. Every house kit contains the core supplies for each project, so the kits are fundamental to all that the teams of volunteers are provided.

The company's statement on philanthropy resonates with RTP's philosophy. "Philanthropy is a major element of Merck's commitment to corporate responsibility. Through our philanthropic programs we have the ability to make a positive impact on health, science and quality of life issues facing the world's communities. We believe that improving global health through our philanthropic giving and related initiatives

is one of the most responsible and important contributions we can make to societies around the world."

Ms. Wickersham states, "Merck has repositioned its philanthropy to support the Company's mission of access to medicines, vaccines and quality healthcare as well as human services. RTP's mission fits into the human services category and we are delighted to be able to help this outstanding effort." Merck's support of RTP truly does illustrate its commitment to communities here in Philadelphia as well as on a global scale.

CONTACT US:

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Call 215.568.5044
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Philadelphia

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Dear Friends:

I'm writing to ask you to make a financial gift to Rebuilding Together Philadelphia's 2008-2009 program year. We are nearing the end of a great deal of activity (43 homeowners and 5 community-based organizations in the process of being served so far). Yet there are still projects to be completed. With additional resources we will be able to **provide the homeowners with all that we had hoped to do versus all that we could afford to do.**

Through my consulting firm, Talson Solutions, LLC, I provide capital project consulting and construction audit services to companies across the United States and abroad. Over the last several months, I have been particularly reflective about my business and the real estate industry. There is no doubt that many are affected by the current economic crisis; however, my take on the situation is that by focusing on **building and maintaining lasting relationships**, we can mitigate the adverse impacts. At work, I continue to encourage all staff to exceed client expectations and deliver value for their investment in Talson.

As a RTP volunteer for more than fifteen years, I am very confident in the value that RTP provides to low-income communities.

- By using volunteer resources, RTP is cost-effective. I know, firsthand, that every dollar is thoughtfully spent. We make tradeoffs by maintaining a low overhead costs so that more can be provided to homeowners.
- We focus volunteers' attention on the most essential repairs. Cosmetic changes are just that – too superficial to make an enduring difference. So much of what RTP does now is systems work; invisible to the eye yet vivid once you realize that the homeowner no longer wears three sweaters and tries to warm herself by the open flame of the gas stove.
- We're responsible for keeping homeowners in their homes. Our goal is to preserve affordable homeownership. We are strengthening multi-generational communities, which is key to neighborhood revitalization and a robust city and region.

RTP is a philanthropic priority for me. I hope you will join me in giving all that you can to support the work of RTP, a charitable and solid organization.

Respectfully,

Robert S. Bright
Founder and President, Talson Solutions LLC
Former President of the Board and Current RTP Board Member

Please consider this letter official receipt of your tax deductible contribution. No goods or services were provided to you in consideration of this gift. Our federal tax identification number is 23-2549594. This organization is a 501c(3) tax exempt organization. The official registration and financial information of Rebuilding Together Philadelphia may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1.800.732-0999. This information also is available at <http://www.dos.state.pa.us/char/site>. Registration does not imply endorsement.



CARRIE'S FOUR-MONTH IMPRESSIONS



Left to right: Cicely Peterson-Mangum, George Taylor, Carrie Rathmann © 2009 T. Vachon

After four months as Executive Director, Carrie Rathmann has learned a great deal about RTP. Each week is full of a wide variety of activities, ranging from meeting with corporate executives to pest control to presenting to students to sitting with a homeowner in a community garden. She offers a series of impressions as fresh insight into RTP:

"I am amazed that the volunteers cover so much ground on so few financial resources. In the short time I have been

involved, volunteers have helped 32 homeowners (spring Block Builds), done a project at Face to Face (multi-layered human services organization), street scaped six lots, and created a community center. Yes, we actually kick-started a satellite office for Logan CDC so that they could provide a technology center and other on-site services to a particular neighborhood.

"Another theme is how engaged so many of the volunteers are. People are so willing to roll up their sleeves on behalf of the homeowners we serve. I am impressed by the combination of being a grass roots organization—we become closely involved with the people of a neighborhood—and being uncommonly professional in the way we operate as an organization.

"We are celebrating our 20th anniversary, and while I'll be eager to meet

people from the early years, I have already worked alongside some who have been involved since the beginning. The detailed knowledge that key players have of past volunteers, homeowners and partners is also impressive.

"Finally, I have heard from multiple homeowners that RTP has restored their faith in people. The work we have done has led them to believe that people do really want to help out one another. I understand why 'neighbors helping neighbors' is a recurrent theme."

Although the spring Block Builds are winding up, Carrie still has a lot of work to do before she reaches her six-month milestone. She is leading the follow-up of the homeowner projects as well as working on two major projects: the Washeteria and the veterans housing transformation. Onward!



Yes, I'd like to support Rebuilding Together Philadelphia!

For the 2008-2009 Program—to be put to work immediately:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$3,000 pays for work on an entire home | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 fixes basement steps (another \$25 illuminates the steps for safer access to laundry facilities) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$2,000 provides a new roof | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 replaces a door lock |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 buys materials to build a handicapped ramp | <input type="checkbox"/> \$35 installs a handrail |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 subsidizes a major plumbing repair | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 equips a bathroom with two grab bars, a handheld shower and chair, and a toilet seat riser | (any amount you can give is much appreciated) |

For the endowment—to build a legacy for the future. Amount of gift \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Work Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

To give on-line, visit <https://www.networkforgood.org/donation/MakeDonation.aspx?ORGID2=232549594>

Please mail your gift to: Rebuilding Together Philadelphia
P.O. Box 42752, Philadelphia, PA 19101-2752

www.rebuildingphilly.org

5/09

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