



Bellewood

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Kent School of Social Work

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Mentoring project targets homeless youth

Congresswoman Northup to inaugurate on December 13

Louisville, KY— Project THRIVE, a collaborative project in the Louisville Metro area, will provide opportunities for self-sufficiency among homeless youth.

Project THRIVE (*Together Helping youth Reach Independence, Vocations & Education*) targets homeless youth, ages 16 to 26, with emotional and learning disabilities.

The project will link these youths, who have limited independent living skills and unstable living conditions, with mentors from the local community. The project will assist youth to access resources for education, vocational training, job placement, and supportive services.

Project THRIVE is a collaborative effort by three local community agencies to meet the needs of challenged youth. They are Bellewood Presbyterian Homes for Children, The Kent School of Social Work, at the University of Louisville, and Goodwill Industries of Kentucky.

- ◆ Bellewood is the primary grant recipient. Responsibilities include recruiting and training mentors, recruiting youths for the program, and linking mentors with youths.
- ◆ The Kent School of Social Work will assist Bellewood in recruiting mentors. They will also evaluate and assess the effectiveness of the Project.
- ◆ Goodwill Industries of Kentucky will provide workforce development needs and academic assistance.

Project THRIVE is funded with a \$ 1.2 million grant from the Department Of Education over a five year period.

Congresswoman Anne Northup, a strong supporter of Bellewood's grant request, will inaugurate the project on December 13 at 11:30 A.M. The event will be held at THRIVE's offices located at Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church, 1722 Bardstown Road, in Louisville.

For more information contact:

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List of Contacts for the Mentoring Grant

Jerry Cantrell, Executive Director, Bellewood	(502) 544-3453 (For questions about Bellewood Presbyterian Homes For Children)
Dr. Russ Williams, Director of Operations, Louisville	(502) 544-3456 (For questions about the Project T.H.R.I.V.E)
Thuji Lhamu, Public Relations, Bellewood	Phone: (502) 245-4171 ext 509 (For assistance to set up interviews with staff and mentors etc. if needed)
Sharon Duke, Workforce Development Manager Goodwill Industries of Kentucky	502-585-5221 (For questions related to Goodwill's role)
Liz Dumbaugh Martin, Kent School of Social Work, University of Louisville Erin Beth Moran, Kent School Of Social Work, University of Louisville	(502) 852-8159 (For general questions related to University of Louisville's role in the program) (502) 852-0416 (For questions related to University of Louisville's role in data collection and recruitment of mentors for the program)