



Fresh from the Village Green

2006 Forest City Volunteers pose for the now traditional photograph after completing 805 hours of work on the Fairhill Campus. See article below.



items that have accumulated over time, to get ready for the contractors. They also plan to tackle landscaping improvements adjacent to

Taking Stock: The arrival of Spring (we think!), seems like the perfect time to say something about the project – Kinship Village™ – that our campaign will fund.

While fund-raising efforts continue steadily (most recently a \$5,000 gift from Park View Federal Savings Bank) there is also a good deal of work being put into planning for the building renovations. Of the six buildings that will contain the 30 dwellings planned for the first phase of Kinship Village, four are already in use and will need very little attention in order to create six townhouses suitable for inclusion in the Village. The other two, however, have stood unused for many years and require considerable effort to refurbish and remodel into 24 apartments.

The act of planning for the removal of asbestos and the remediation of lead-

based paint; and the development of the preliminary, schematic drawings for the new apartments brings the realization and encouragement of knowing that we are making a start, no matter how modest, on the physical part of the Kinship Village project. Of course, we cannot start major work until we have collected the necessary funds – if you know any angels please let us have their contact details! But sweat equity also makes the project move.

Among Fairhill's own celestial contacts is a whole host of angels—the employees of **Forest City Enterprises** have for the past two years donated a day of hard work. They plan to descend upon us again on June 1 and, among many other blessings, have agreed to remove from the main Village buildings

Kinship Village. The project is on the move. Please do whatever you can to help maintain the momentum. We thank this team and other angels who come to us with sleeves rolled up.

Frequently Asked Questions (and some answers):

Q. Was there a fund-raising study and/or marketing study before the campaign was launched?

A. A marketing study was prepared by Northland Research in 2003, which supported our plan for Kinship Village. Demographics have since been updated.

Address comments/enquiries about the Campaign to Michael C. Gathercole, Associate Director – at mcg@fairhillcenter.org or (216) 421-1350

Village Vignettes

Building Blocks from springbreak.you: volunteer work on campus and with older adults in the Senior Guest House and in the Computer Learning Center; a group shot and a just plain fun shot!



- In a Fairhill partnership with Junior Achievement completing 9 modules of Success Skills programming;
- Meeting one on one with Fairhill staff to make concrete plans for summer employment and/or volunteer experiences;
- Visiting 3 colleges in one week (all participants were impressed by John Carroll, Cleveland State and Case Western Reserve Universities) - for many their first time on a college campus;
- Spending time volunteering in our community. Several teens learned that they enjoy working with older adults. Six volunteered at the Senior Guest House helping temporarily homeless elder residents compose and share their life stories in Fairhill's computer learning center;
- Other teens volunteered on campus to help clean up the grounds and provide childcare for young children whose grandparents were at a support group.

As students walked the Fairhill campus and interacted with staff, participants and older adults, important job and life skills were being honed. And echoing through every evaluation was the satisfaction of working together as a team to complete a goal - a team of committed teen leaders. Each of these young adults also is a current or future caregiver: they live, full-time, with a grandparent or older adult relative so a distinctive part of the springbreak.you curriculum included learning more about the normal and not-so-normal changes and opportunities of aging.

Two more leadership weeks for teens are planned for Summer 2007. **If you are interested in volunteering or know a kinship teen, please contact Mary McNamara at 216.421.1350 ext 182.**

springbreak.you and **summerbreak.you** are **Fairhill Building Success for Kinship Teens** programs supported by grants from the Harvard Business School Club, Sisters of Charity Foundation, The Treu-mart Fund (*a supporting organization of The Cleveland Foundation and The Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland*), The Cleveland Foundation and contracts with both the Shaker Area Development Corporation and the Buckeye Development Corporation.

Building Success For . . . Kinship Teens?

Much of Fairhill's effort to support kinship families over the past decade has been devoted to nurturing and encouraging children of families headed by a grandparent or older adult caregiver. When Kinship Village is completed and occupied, it will be a major additional plank in a platform designed to strengthen and build Kinship Families in our community. Against this background, we report some of the outcomes of "springbreak.you," which was foreshadowed in the March issue.

20 teens from 13 different Kinship families in the Greater Cleveland area (eight teens from families new to Fairhill) spent spring break building success at Fairhill Center. Just how do teens build success for themselves and their families? They build success one block at a time: