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News Release



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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YouthBuild KCK answers Obama's call

KANSAS CITY, Kan. – YouthBuild KCK is answering President Obama's call to service with community projects Thursday morning at Juniper Gardens public housing project in Kansas City, Kan. More than 20 of the program's trainees will clean up the community garden and its surrounding areas. They also will restore a housing unit in Juniper Gardens for a low-income family.

"YouthBuild KCK regularly performs community service to demonstrate that community service is necessary for the maintenance and continued health of our neighborhoods," Victor Hernandez, Director of YouthBuild KCK, said. "We wanted to make sure we did a specific community service project this week in conjunction with President Obama's new initiative, Summer of Service."

President Obama's summer of service called, *United We Serve*, began Monday, June 22. It's a call to action for everyone to address community needs in education, health care, energy independence, economic renewal and other issues.

"With these service events, trainees will continue to be exposed to the true value of community service, and they will experience those feelings of genuine care, concern and ownership that this program strives to instill," Hernandez said.

YouthBuild KCK is a program overseen by United Way of Wyandotte County that teaches 16-24 year-old high school drop-outs to rebuild themselves by completing their education while receiving job training in the construction field and building homes for low-income families. The program is funded by grants from the US Department of Labor and AmeriCorps.

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About United Way of Wyandotte County

United Way of Wyandotte County, a non-profit human service organization founded in 1921, is dedicated to increasing the community's understanding of human needs and mobilizing resources to meet those needs. Through its annual community campaign, United Way supports 53 social service programs provided by 29 Wyandotte County and area agencies.

LIVE UNITED is a call to action to give, advocate and volunteer in our community in order to improve the common good in three key areas: education, income and health. To learn more about United Way and how to LIVE UNITED, visit [United Way of Wyandotte County's website](#), [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) pages.