



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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New Vision of Barbour County Helping to Lead National DOJ Youth Mentoring Grant

January 14, 2013 – Philippi, WV– New Vision Renewable Energy is one of three national organizations that are partnering together to support mentoring programs in 38 states involving over 3,000 students in a variety of mentoring activities. The United States Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) announced the award and details in December 2012 to the partners of the Leadership Foundations Mentoring Initiative: Leadership Foundations, headquartered in Tacoma, WA, **New Vision Renewable Energy**, based in Philippi, WV, and COPHANI, based in Boston, MA.

The Leadership Foundations Mentoring Initiative includes the successful approaches of COPHANI, New Vision Renewable Energy and Leadership Foundations to strengthen and expand mentoring programs for youth age 17 and under in 38 states and Tribal communities. The program's goal is to reduce juvenile delinquency by increasing protections and lowering risks for America's underserved and at-risk youth through mentoring relationships. These goals will be achieved through (1) one-to-one, group, and peer mentoring relationships; (2) increased educational achievement, job readiness, and social skills; and (3) strengthened mentoring programs through collaborative community approaches. These best practices will guarantee decreased juvenile convictions and offenses and that youth will exhibit positive change in targeted behaviors. The Leadership Foundations Mentoring Initiative will use systems and tools created by Wilder Research (St. Paul Minnesota) to track performance measures.

The partnership consists of the following national and international networks: New Vision Renewable Energy, a Christian Community Development Organization working to ReEnergize Communities both locally and globally. New Vision evolved from a rich 50 year history of ministry and development in rural communities in Appalachia and around the country. COPHANI, a Fellowship of Hispanic Pastors of New England, representing over 80 Latino churches, promotes collaboration of Latino churches and faith-based organizations with the aim of sustaining and mobilizing these organizations to promote social transformation that will improve the lives of Latino families throughout the region. Lastly, the Leadership Foundations leverage impact in cities, takes innovative model programs to scale, and serves as a distribution system for best practices and resources.

"It is very exciting to be connected to so many great community organizations in this national demonstration project and to host folks from across the country here in Philippi, in seeking ways to effectively bring out the best in young people and the adults who are working to invest in them." Said Ruston Seaman, President of New Vision. New Vision will be overseeing community-based projects in 12 states including Alaska, Colorado, Kansas, Iowa, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Carolina and West Virginia. Leaders from these sites will be in Philippi January 19-25, 2013 for orientation and training.

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ABOUT NEW VISION:

New Vision Renewable Energy is a nonprofit 501(c) 3 organization launched in Philippi, West Virginia on September 11, 2009 and is growing as a grassroots community-based organization working to ReEnergize Communities to implement renewable energy solutions in their own neighborhoods. New Vision is an educational and innovation movement focusing on applicable technologies within the emerging “green” economy and serves as a hub of collaborative discussion, training and invention bringing together renewable energy innovators, community leaders, youth, companies, organizations as well as public and private partners. For more information, contact Ruston Seaman at rseaman@nvre.org or by calling 304-457-2971.