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NJSDA CEO MARC LARKINS CONTINUES CHRISTIE ADMINISTRATION “SEASON OF SERVICE” BY VOLUNTEERING IN HOBOKEN

HOBOKEN – As part of the Christie Administration’s “Season of Service” initiative, New Jersey Schools Development Authority (SDA) CEO Marc Larkins and Chief of Staff Jason Ballard volunteered to mentor and provide homework assistance to children at the Jubilee Center in Hoboken through the Jersey Cares program on Wednesday, December 14.

The “Season of Service” was announced by the Governor and First Lady on Thanksgiving Eve as a way to encourage volunteering and highlight service opportunities in the state. The initiative builds on the same commitment to community the Governor emphasized in his 2010 inaugural address with members of the cabinet volunteering their time in a variety of ways during the holiday season. Nearly, 1.5 million New Jerseyans are positively influencing communities across the state by volunteering their service through local groups, houses of worship and civil organizations.

The Jubilee Center is a project of All Saints Community Service and Development Corporation (ASC), a non-sectarian, non-profit organization. The Jubilee Center is an after school and summer safe haven for children in Hoboken’s public housing neighborhood. The Center provides quality after school programming for over seventy students from Kindergarten through 6th grade from 3 pm to 6 pm during the school year and from 8:30 am to 6 pm during the summer and provides needed activities full time during school breaks throughout the year.



Marc Larkins with Craig Mainor, Program Director at Jubilee Center

Their programs include providing a safe haven from the streets, after school homework help, positive recreational activities, an arts curriculum encouraging creative self-expression and a summer program featuring workshops, crafts, swimming and field trips. The Jubilee Center also provides young people with a snack and a full evening meal during the week. By continuing to work with the same base of children year round, the staff’s familiarity with the challenges each child faces will grow, enabling staff to better assist them. By making a seven year, year-round commitment to all of the children enrolled in the program, ASC provide a solid, academic base during the children’s elementary school years to better prepare them for junior high and high school. Further, by continuing an academic focus during the summer, the children receive extra preparation time to meet the educational challenges they will face during the upcoming school year.

Jersey Cares, a nonprofit organization established in 1993, recruits and engages volunteers in rewarding, effective efforts that address community-identified needs. Jersey Cares partners with local nonprofits to identify needs and implement volunteer projects to meet those needs. They provide individuals, families,

corporate employees and community groups with a wide variety of volunteer opportunities that range from tutoring children to painting new murals in schools.

To learn more about The Jubilee Center and Jersey Cares, visit <http://jubileecenterhoboken.org> and <http://www.jerseycares.org>

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