

Heading Out to California this Summer?

Did you know that The Salvation Army of Greater Philadelphia will be home to a 12 acre, 104,000 square foot Salvation Army Ray & Joan Kroc Corps Community Center in Nicetown? If you plan to take a business trip to California, don't miss the opportunity to see first-hand what a Salvation Army Kroc Center has done for distressed neighborhoods in San Diego and San Francisco and what it will do for North Philadelphia when it opens in 2010.

When I first heard that a Salvation Army Kroc Center was coming to the neighborhood, I got on a plane to San Diego to see the nation's first Center. I was amazed by its impact. This "super" community center has completely transformed the economy, offering quality educational and recreational opportunities for children and teens, enabling enhanced and coordinated social services, and offering seniors a place for social and recreational activities. Mostly, it gave the neighborhood much-needed hope and a path for a productive future. Philadelphia's Salvation Army Kroc Center can offer our at-risk population alternative paths to violence and encouragement to stay in school.

I'd be happy to talk to you about my visit and how you can get involved in this seminal project. If you will be traveling to California this summer, I urge you visit the Center in San Diego or San Francisco to see for yourself how a Salvation Army Kroc Center can transform a community. To learn more, please visit www.SalvationArmyKrocCenter.org. To arrange a visit, please contact Chaz Watson at 215-787-2839 or CWatson@use.salvationarmy.org.

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