



## **MEDIA ALERT**

### **WHO:**

Episcopal Community Services

### **WHAT:**

The Next Level Expo

### **INFO:**

More than 200 of Philadelphia's youth are set to attend The Next Level Expo, a career and opportunities fair organized by Episcopal Community Services' R.I.S.E. Initiative. With over 30 exhibitors made up of employers, higher education institutions, and trade/apprenticeship programs, The Next Level Expo's primary goal is to help youth ages 18 through 25 identify their next steps in life.

An acronym standing for *resources, independence, success, and employment*, the R.I.S.E. Initiative promotes the development of resources and skills that support employment obtainment, career development, and self-sustainability.

No two people travel down the same path, and everybody's next step in life looks different. For some, it may be starting an apprenticeship program, for others it is joining the work force – and The Next Level Expo will be a one-stop-shop, hosting unions, colleges, and employers under one roof to expose young adults to the variety of opportunities before them.

With an emphasis on entry-level positions, employers in attendance will be from various industries, such as childcare, food services, hospitality, and law enforcement.

During the expo, four workshops will be offered to provide guidance and offer professional development. These workshops will focus on how to obtain financial aid for college, time management tips and strategies, how to dress for success, and how to access alternative pathways to higher education.

### **WHEN:**

Friday, November 20, 2015  
10:00am - 3:00pm

### **WHERE:**

The Enterprise Center  
4548 Market Street  
Philadelphia, 19139

### **CONTACT:**

Molly McAndrew  
Director of Institutional and External Relations  
[mollym@ecsphilly.org](mailto:mollym@ecsphilly.org), 215.351.1490

Robert Pierson  
Manager of Marketing and Communications  
[robertp@ecsphilly.org](mailto:robertp@ecsphilly.org), 215.351.1459

### **ABOUT:**

**Episcopal Community Services'** mission is to empower vulnerable individuals and families by providing high-quality social and educational services that affirm human dignity and promote social justice. ECS' diverse programs target children experiencing or at risk of abuse or neglect, homeless families, youth and adults lacking the skills to become self-sufficient, and elderly persons needing care to maintain independence. For more information, please visit [www.ecsphilly.org](http://www.ecsphilly.org).

**The R.I.S.E. Initiative**, an acronym standing for Resources, Independence, Success, and Employment, promotes the development of resources and skills that support employment obtainment, career development, and self-sustainability. The year-long R.I.S.E. Initiative begins with 10 weeks of intensive programming, in which participants receive one-on-one support and career counseling as they move through the steps necessary to gain employment, such as resume building, submitting job applications, interviewing, and networking.