

## **Volunteers brave heavy rain and mud bog to build playspace for 100-child Roxbury daycare**

*CB Richard Ellis, NELSON Strategies, and Bank of America pitch in  
to create greenspace for Children's Services of Roxbury.*

**Roxbury, MA, May 18, 2007** – Despite 1" to 2" of rain and cold temperatures, trainees from YouthBuild Boston along with more than 35 volunteers began work at 9:00 am on Friday to replace a mud filled lot with a playground.

The empty space behind Children's Services of Roxbury (CSR) paints a dismal picture. It consists of a rocky, fenced yard with a small, plastic play structure. Each day, more than one hundred children use the space as a playground. They play games and dream big. But the yard's bleak character is far from a suitable backdrop for sparking young imaginations.

Soon, this will change. Roxbury nonprofit, YouthBuild Boston (YBB), is partnering with CB Richard Ellis (CBRE), NELSON Strategies, and Bank of America, and on May 18, they will transform the rocky lot into an inspiring, green place to play and grow. Volunteers from each organization will work together to make it happen.

This is the latest project by YBB's UBuild Service Partners network, which connects local nonprofits, like CSR, with YBB, enabling them to leverage YBB's expertise in the building trades. Corporate partners fund service projects and provide volunteers, who work alongside YBB's construction trainees and professionals to help these nonprofits fulfill their missions.

Negative, tragic headlines about young people in Boston's low-income neighborhoods have dominated recent news coverage. This new playspace will mean that CSR will not have to navigate the city streets in order to enjoy playtime in the grass. YouthBuild Boston and Children's Services of Roxbury are two organizations that work to improve urban conditions on a daily basis, providing more opportunities — and a better overall quality of life — for residents of Boston's most neglected neighborhoods.

Bank of America is a long-time supporter of YouthBuild Boston. They are now working with CBRE and NELSON Strategies to bolster the civic engagement of all three companies.

