PHOENIX PROJECT RECRUITS FOR 2008 SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAM

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Body

The College of William and Mary issued the following news release:

The Phoenix Project, a statewide nonprofit organization, is now accepting applications for its 2008 Nonprofit Leadership and Social Entrepreneurship program, June 15th to July 26th in Petersburg, VA. The Project's partners include the College of William and Mary, the University of Virginia and the City of Petersburg, VA. Application forms and information are available on-line at www.phoenixproject.org/nlp.

Admission to the program is highly competitive. The 2008 class will be limited to 30 students and is open to current sophomores, juniors, seniors and graduate students from universities across the Commonwealth of Virginia. Last year's class included 28 students from 14 different colleges including the College of William and Mary. The early application deadline is January 7, 2008.

The Phoenix Project seeks to build a sustainable partnership between Virginia's colleges and universities and its most distressed communities that adds civic capacity to communities, strengthens the mission of universities, and provides a powerful context in which to train students to become nonprofit leaders and social entrepreneurs who can assume leadership roles across Virginia.

"Projects completed by our students last summer ranged from organizing a dental clinic for low-income residents to creating an external marketing and communications plan for the Petersburg Public Schools," said Phoenix Project Director Greg Werkheiser.

The six-week summer program is Virginia's premier statewide opportunity for exceptional students to obtain the knowledge, skills and relationships required for their roles as the Commonwealth's next generation of social entrepreneurs. The program includes an intensive two week academic session that prepares students to tackle projects during four weeks of fieldwork in the community.

In 2007, the students worked with various nonprofits, such as the American Red Cross, the Petersburg Chamber of Commerce, and Tri-Cities Habitat for Humanity. They conducted research on education, healthcare, employment, the arts, and various city policies. The project is in its second year.

Additional information about Project Phoenix is available on-line at <u>www.phoenixproject.org</u>. To receive additional information about the Project or the application process contact Project Phoenix by e-mail at <u>nlp@phoenixproject.org</u> or phone at 703.425.3532.

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