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OIC INVITES THE CANDIDATES

Philadelphia, PA – March 8, 2007 – The Philadelphia OIC has extended an invitation to all of the mayoral candidates to address the staff and students of OIC.

OIC is the education and training institution founded by the late Reverend Leon H. Sullivan in 1964 here in Philadelphia. The mission of the organization is *“the elimination of poverty, unemployment and illiteracy to ensure a meaningful quality of life for families and individuals within the Philadelphia community.”* Founded on a philosophy and operational mandate of, *“Helping People Help Themselves”*, OIC has served 3 million people world-wide and 66,000 in Philadelphia over the last 43 years.

According to Bob Nelson, OIC’s President & CEO, “the important element in this mission statement is a *“meaningful quality of life”*. “This goes well beyond having a job as people have to contend with crime and violence, quality education, particularly for their children, housing, urban blight, high taxes, etc. Thus, people need to know what the next mayor plans to do about the myriad of problems & issues that confront our community. It is important that they hear from the candidates directly and have the opportunity to ask questions, and above all else, vote as it does make a difference”.

Tom Knox has confirmed for Tuesday, March 27 at 11:30 a.m. The events will be held at the OIC headquarters located at 1231 North Broad Street – 4th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19122.

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