

Behind the Scenes

On Friday and Saturday, EOWS staff were onsite at the Philadelphia Marriott making preparations for the Weed and Seed 2001 National Conference. Take a “behind the scenes” peek at our setup efforts in these photos.



On Saturday, while fellow EOWS staff assemble participant packets, Sylvia Garza (left) and Cheryl Driscoll put together participant name badges.



Prevention Through the Arts

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talents. Approximately 45 percent of the residents in this island community live below poverty; however, the area celebrates its richness in cultural traditions and community pride. Using EOWS Special Emphasis funding, the Eulalie Rivera Safe Haven offers afterschool arts programming for target area youth. This program serves approximately 40 children between the ages of 5 and 16. Each child is taught the fundamentals of composing music, writing lyrics, and training of vocals. These artists have entertained audiences at such events as the Crucian Christmas Festival and the St. Thomas Carnival and at local school functions. Instructors from the target area spend 3 hours a day, 4 days a week, teaching the youth the traditions and history of calypso music, composition, and production . . . that is, as long as their homework is complete and they participate in additional tutoring after school.

Camille Macedon, who is known as King Derby because of the 11 times he was tapped Calypso King of St. Croix, is the group’s instructor. King Derby has hosted a number of local calypso workshops in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

EOWS Sees Record Attendance for 2001



The Weed and Seed “10th Anniversary” airplane is hung above the Neighborhood Exhibit Hall during conference setup.

The 2001 National Conference drew the highest number of registrants in the 10 years of Weed and Seed training history. More than 600 people registered on Sunday, and planners predict that numbers will reach more than 1,700 by Wednesday.

Most registrants who checked in on Sunday attended one of eight daylong Learning Labs. “I received excellent information on prevention programs and strategies that I can use at my Weed and Seed site,” commented one attendee on the lab evaluation form.

Let's Play "Who Wants To Be A Weeder and Seeder"!

How well do you know Weed and Seed history, your fellow attendees, and the fine city of Philadelphia? Give it your best shot!



1. In what three pilot sites did Operation Weed and Seed begin in 1991?
2. When was the first issue of *Weed & Seed In-Sites* published?
3. Just last week, President Bush announced his intention to designate what former EOWS Director to serve as the Acting Administrator for the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention?
4. At what Philadelphia location did our founding fathers debate, adopt, and sign the Declaration of Independence and U.S. Constitution?
5. What city leader and friend of Weed and Seed played police officer "Bubba" on the television series *Heat of the Night*?



U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft, standing before the New Mexico Army National Guard's "Climbing Wall" (used at local DEFY camps) with DEFY youth and New Mexico Army National Guard members.

Ashcroft Applauds La Mesa-Trumbull

On Tuesday, August 14, 2001, U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft announced that he had renewed a Federal grant to help fight drug-related crime and gang activity in an Albuquerque neighborhood he praised for its efforts at community improvement. Ashcroft said he was heartened by how the La Mesa-Trumbull neighborhood in southeast Albuquerque, New Mexico, "is working together effectively to drive crime out of the neighborhood . . . and to make these neighborhoods safe places for families to live, work, and play." He announced that the U.S. Department of Justice has awarded the city of Albuquerque a \$225,000 Weed and Seed program grant for the La Mesa-Trumbull neighborhood.

NOWS Hosts Session on Faith-Based Initiatives

The National Organization of Weed and Seed hosted a standing-room-only workshop following Sunday's Learning Labs that outlined funding and technical assistance resources for implementing faith-based and community initiatives. Guest speaker Reverend Marcus W. Harvey inspired the crowd and commended them for their commitment to community service. Reverend Harvey is the U.S. Senate Congressional Fellow to Sen. Rick Santorum (PA) and Special Advisor to the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives.



Answers

1. Kansas City, Missouri; Trenton, New Jersey; and Omaha, Nebraska. 2. December 1992. 3. Terry Donahue. 4. Independence Hall. 5. Alan Autry, Mayor of Fresno, California.