The Philadelphia Brotherhood Rescue Mission has been helping the homeless and rebuilding lives since 1908. As an anchor building in the community, façade improvements were needed to enhance their image, improve their physical presence, and foster community relations.

The New Kensington Community Development Corporation’s mission is to strengthen the physical, social, and economic fabric of the community by being a catalyst for sustainable development and community building. The NKCDC staff worked with the Brotherhood Rescue Mission to plan all aspects of painting the exterior of the building.

The men at the rescue mission volunteered throughout the day, many of them out of work laborers. Providing service to the community helps these individuals through strengthening of personal resolve, giving back to the community, and enhancing self-esteem through volunteerism. Community response has been overwhelmingly positive.

“The new coat of paint has transformed the feeling of that intersection. The Brotherhood Rescue Mission looked run down and was becoming an eyesore, despite the great work they do for the community. Before the new coat of paint the building was a beacon, but not in a positive way. With a fresh paint job in a more appealing color the building now blends in with neighbors.”

Angie Williamson
Economic Development Director
NKCDC