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Moving Dayton Forward

University of Dayton

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NEWS

Wednesday March 25, 2015

Moving Dayton Forward

In its 30th year, the CityLinks conference will bring regional and neighborhood leaders together to share strategies to revitalize Dayton neighborhoods and empower grassroots leadership.

They will gather 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Friday, April 10, at the 1700 South Patterson Building on the University of Dayton River Campus for the conference.

The Rev. Greg Boyle, S.J., will deliver a keynote address about his work as founder and director of Homeboy Industries in Los Angeles, which is now the largest gang intervention, rehab and re-entry program in the world. Boyle, author of the *The New York Times* best-seller *Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion*, is an acknowledged expert on gangs and intervention approaches. His approach is to use unconditional love and hope as powerful tools to help move toward a society of peace and kinship.

CityLinks participants can attend one of the following early-morning sessions — Communication with the Media, Power Gardening, or Seeing the Future: Next Generation Taking the Lead — or one of the following late-morning sessions — Faith-based Connection in the Neighborhoods, Immigration and Refugee: A Success Story, or Power Talk with Dayton Police.

Also during the conference, the University of Dayton will announce the winner of the 17th annual Mattie Davis and Joe Kanak Community Builders Award, given to an area resident who exemplifies vision and compassion toward neighborhood or community.

Registration (see related link) is required by March 30. A limited number of spots remain for the conference.

CityLinks is sponsored by the University of Dayton's Fitz Center for Leadership in Community, the Dayton Power and Light Foundation and the city of Dayton.

For more information on the conference, contact Char Cook Robinson in the University of Dayton's Fitz Center for Leadership in Community at 937-229-4641 or crobinson1@udayton.edu. For interviews, contact Shawn Robinson, associate director of media relations, at 937-229-3391 or srobinson1@udayton.edu.