

Home makeover family gets insurance and scholarships

One family continues to benefit from generous community support. The Py family of Northeast Philadelphia received a complete renovation of their 50-year-old home from local builder Dewey Cos. part of the ABC network's "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition," which aired April 30. Recently some other local organizations have stepped in with more charitable help.

The Py home had been found to contain toxins that could poison their grandchildren. William and Carole Py became guardians of their three grandchildren after their son-in-law and daughter tragically died within the same year.

Now, Harleysville Insurance in Montgomery County, through Sylvester & Keating, an independent insurance agency in Penndel, is providing a free one-year policy for the family's new home.

"The way the Py family has responded to their difficult circumstances is truly heartwarming," said Michael Browne, president and CEO of Harleysville Insurance, in a statement. "Just as these grandparents stepped up on behalf of their family, we felt it was important for Harleysville Insurance to step up and provide them with a year of free homeowners' insurance."

Additionally, Drexel University is offering full scholarships to the three grandchildren: Will Py, 14; Samantha Rosario, 11; and Joey Rosario, 10.

"Drexel has always been engaged in Philadelphia-based initiatives and has a tradition of providing community service," said Drexel President Constantine N. Papadakis in a statement. "The university, just like ABC, reached out to help a family in dire need. We look forward to the Py children enrolling at Drexel and having successful academic careers at our university."

More home repair

This year marks Keystone Mercy Health Plan's 10th year working with Rebuilding Together Philadelphia, a national volunteer group.



William Py, right, shows Harleysville Insurance President and CEO Michael Browne (left) and insurance agent Dennis Keating (center) of Sylvester & Keating his granddaughter's Renaissance-themed bedroom.

Twenty-two employees and 14 family friends, which include two retired employees who brought the Rebuilding Together program to Keystone Mercy, worked over four weekends in April to improve two homes in the Strawberry Mansion section of Philadelphia.

Rebuilding Together Philadelphia unites community builders to prevent homelessness. Each year in Philadelphia, 1,000 volunteers make essential repairs for low income home-owners.

This year, Keystone Mercy volunteers removed trash from the basements of these two homes in Strawberry Mansion, built new basement steps, resurfaced interior walls and painted several rooms in each home. Additionally, a contractor hired by Rebuilding Together Philadelphia repaired a roof.

Jeanie Heffernan, senior vice president of human resources and executive sponsor of the Rebuilding Together Philadel-

phia project at Keystone Mercy, said, "For me, there is a direct connection to the people we serve. The Rebuilding Together project reinforces what we do at Keystone Mercy through our values and mission of improving the quality of life for our members, whether it's providing quality health care services or, through this program, providing a safe, dry and warm place to live."

Egg hunt

The Buccini/Pollin Group Inc., with offices in suburban Philadelphia, helped the City of Chester host an Easter Egg Hunt for Chester County youth in April at Memorial Park at Seventh and Engle streets.

More than 100 children, parents and grandparents joined the search for nearly 1,400 eggs hidden around the park. At the conclusion of the hunt, guests were treated to hot dogs and sodas provided by Newport Food Services.