

# City of Newburgh

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## Press Release

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*For immediate release*

*March 24, 2008*

### City of Newburgh VISTA Volunteers to Hold Organizational Meeting of Dubois and South Miller Street Neighborhood Association



**VISTA Volunteers Ramona Torres, Barbara Simon, and Kimberly Berson**

The City of Newburgh Americorps VISTA Volunteers will hold an organizational meeting of the Dubois and South Miller Street Neighborhood Association on Wednesday April 9, from 6-8 p.m. The meeting will be held at St. Luke's Cornwall Hospital, Newburgh Campus in Conference Room C, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor.

The VISTA volunteers are Kimberly Bersin, Barbara Simon, and Ramona Torres, who started in late January, following Americorps training in Philadelphia. They are based at 104 South Lander Street, in the Department of Human Services building. They will be gathering input from residents of targeted neighborhoods to identify their concerns and how they would like their neighborhoods to improve. Their goal is to help form neighborhood associations, and to act as a liaison between City residents and City government.

Barbara Simon and Ramona Torres are both residents of the City of Newburgh; Kimberly Bersin lives in the Town of Newburgh but attended local schools.

“It is important for us to be here because Newburgh is a great City with so much potential, and we are here to help it reach its potential,” said Kim Bersin.

Barbara Simon said, “I live on South Miller St. in the City of Newburgh, and I got tired of looking at how rundown my neighborhood was becoming. I wanted to do something to bring back the pride to my neighborhood and my City.”

Ramona Torres said, “I see that the feeling of community is missing, so I took this opportunity to work within the system to try and bring that feeling of community back to Newburgh.”

As part of their initial outreach, the VISTAS held a community dinner along with St. Luke’s Cornwall Hospital for residents of the Dubois Street and South Miller Street corridor. This meeting will be a follow-up to that event.

All residents of the Dubois Street and South Miller Street corridor are invited to attend the organizational meeting. Discussion will include the formation of a neighborhood association and planning neighborhood activities, including participation in the upcoming St. Luke’s Cornwall Hospital Annual Clean Sweep. To RSVP, call Barbara Simon at (845) 565-1213 ext. 7017 or email [bsimon@cityofnewburgh-ny.gov](mailto:bsimon@cityofnewburgh-ny.gov) by April 7.