The Providence Center ESL is based in a row house in North Philadelphia, an area devastated by deterioration, drugs and violence. Providence Center offers an alternative to this environment, recognizing all life situations are “learning environments.” Its programs are directed toward meeting the needs of neighborhood people through comprehensive educational and social services for children, adults and families. Providence Center is a place of hospitality and service. In a spirit of giving and receiving, the Center seeks to empower people to assume responsibility for their lives. Staff members strive to be a presence in the neighborhood, to listen to the needs of area residents, to reflect with them on lived experience and to take action.

**Student Role in Agency:**

- Student volunteers will work one-on-one or in small groups with adult learners in an ELS class.
- Students must be willing to come to this experience with energy and a positive attitude. The positive energy will help to encourage the adult learners as they move through the program.

**Unique Features of agency:**

- Providence Center has been working with the Service-Learning Program from the program’s early years. The staff is caring and very willing to work with SJU volunteers.

**Orientation:** There are no clearances required for this service site. An orientation will be provided by the organization.