



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## URBAN GARDEN BUILDS INDEPENDENT SKILLS FOR RESIDENTS OF YOUTH HOUSING

*Local company's employees take their own time and cash to build a community garden for a homeless youth housing program in North Minneapolis.*

**MINNEAPOLIS, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008** — *Spring showers bring May flowers* couldn't be closer to the truth for 24 residents of The Link's Lindquist Apartments in North Minneapolis. With community support, these homeless and disabled youth will gain independent living skills while beautifying their neighborhood with a courtyard community garden.

Residents at Lindquist Apartments have a pact with case managers from The Link to ensure positive growth and build increased confidence while learning the skills necessary to live an independent life. In cooperation with Quality Bike Products, these residents will contribute to the Lindquist community and gain unique skills that they will carry with them for years to come.

Located near a used car lot, abandoned houses and a highly traveled thoroughfare, the garden will be one of the few green patches in the area. Tim Reneau-Major, community outreach developer for The Link, sees the project as much more than a source of additional food for transitioning youth and homeless people residing at Lindquist.

"The garden will create a peaceful cove tucked away from the busy city," he said. "The greater rewards behind this project lie in connecting youth with nature and creating a sense of independence and community ownership. We hope not only to produce food for them to enjoy but also foster worthwhile personal development in the process."

### Editor's Note:

On May 16, 2008, Quality Bike Products staff members will be joining Lindquist Apartments residents to build garden boxes and discuss gardening skills from 10:00am to 4:00pm at 1931 West Broadway Avenue, Minneapolis, 55411.

For information on Lindquist Apartments or to arrange any interview with any of the people mentioned previously, please contact Lauren Rimestad at (612) 767-4479 or [lrimestad@thelinkmn.org](mailto:lrimestad@thelinkmn.org).

### About The Link

The Link is a non-profit organization started in 1991 by Jim Marshall and Oscar Reed, former Minnesota Vikings. The organization is dedicated to linking youth, their families and communities to their inner strength by providing life skills, school support, community education, advocacy, family support and mediation, permanent supportive housing and a dynamic network of social services to transform lives. For more information, go to [www.thelinkmn.org](http://www.thelinkmn.org).

### About QBP

Based in Bloomington, MN, QBP is a leading distributor to the cycling industry. QBP offers domestic and international retailers a wide array of products and services including a 1,500-page catalog, a robust online ordering system, a renowned custom wheel service, a specialty bike-building program and more. QBP continues to be a vigorous advocate for the cycling industry. For more information, please contact Jo Wright, director of marketing at 952 -941-9391, or visit: [www.QBP.com](http://www.QBP.com).

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