On Friday October 6, 2006, Robins’ Nest held the Grand Opening of the first phase of Life Link Homes. This is the first permanent housing project in New Jersey for both homeless youth and those aging out of the foster care system. The first building will provide permanent, affordable and supportive housing for ten young adults. The next phase will add an additional twenty units of housing by the middle of 2007.
The Construction

Construction of the project began in September of 2005, with the clearing of the lot, and the installation of the footings and foundation wall.
Construction of the project proceeded quickly to make sure the property was enclosed before the winter months.

After framing and sheathing was completed, the roofing and windows were installed, and the stucco was applied to the surface of the building.
Post winter, interior work is well under way; Exterior work begins again. Walkways, ramps, parking, are all begun.
The Final Product:  
Central Unit – Manager’s Unit

The home has three similar, yet very distinct sections. The center unit contains a managers unit, and the two wings contain the housing for the residents.

The center unit features a one bedroom apartment with a kitchen, living room, laundry room, and patio. The unit also has access to both wings of the building.
The Final Product:
Left Wing

The left wing, constructed exactly as the right wing, has been furnished with the female residents in mind. The building was designed to be a home and has been appointed as such. Five (5) residents will occupy this section of the home.
The Final Product:
Right Wing

The right wing has been furnished with the male residents in mind. This section of the home will serve five (5) residents.
The Final Product: 
**Design features**

The building was designed with green features and energy star requirements in mind. These include:

1. Fiberglass windows
2. Stucco siding
3. Well water drip irrigation system
4. Solid wood cabinets with Corian counter tops
5. Hardwood floors
6. Ceramic tile
7. Carpeting with green label
8. Energy star rated fixtures and appliances
9. Ceiling fans throughout the house
10. Dual flush toilets
11. Low VOC paint
12. High efficiency heating and cooling system