



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Lynn Cummings, community organizer, to provide keynote at YorkCounts summit**

York, March 2, 2010 – Lynn Cummings, a community organizer from New Jersey whose work became the subject of a documentary film, will be the keynote speaker at the annual YorkCounts Community Summit March 26.

Cummings confronted a classic case of white flight in her hometown of Pennsauken, N.J. As people of color moved into the community, Cummings noticed that many older white residents began putting their houses up for sale. The changing demographics and rapid turnover was pushing Pennsauken toward decline.

So Cummings decided to do something.

In 1996, she founded Neighbors Empowering Pennsauken, recruiting a board, establishing the group as a nonprofit and leading the effort to develop a long-term plan to create stable integration. Her work was the focus of a documentary called “The New Neighbors,” which has been airing on public television stations around the country since October. Cummings is also president of Lynn Cummings Development Consultants, which works primarily with churches, schools and nonprofits.

She will tell her inspiring story to the audience of the 2010 YorkCounts Summit, with its theme of “One Person Can Make a Difference – Imagine Many.” YorkCounts will present its annual report at the summit, and the community can hear updates on YorkCounts recent projects, including the Stay in School Initiative, the York Academy Regional Charter School and the Metro-York regional public safety study. The meeting will also mark a leadership transition, as Eric Menzer’s tenure as board chairman ends and Loren Kroh’s begins.

The summit will run from 9 a.m. to noon at the Pullo Family Performing Arts Center on the campus of Penn State York.

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## IF YOU GO

**What:** 2010 YorkCounts Community Summit

**When:** 9 a.m.-noon March 26

**Where:** Penn State York's Pullo Family Performing Arts Center, 1031 Edgecomb Ave., York. Summit parking will be available next to the Pullo Center near the Rathton Road entrance.

**Details:** YorkCounts presents its annual report and provides an update to the community on its work from the past year. This year's theme is "One Person Can Make a Difference – Imagine Many."

**Cost:** Free, but pre-registration is requested.

**To register:** Send an e-mail with your name and phone number to [summit@yorkcounts.org](mailto:summit@yorkcounts.org) or call the YorkCounts summit registration line at 650-1450.

**For details:** Visit [www.yorkcounts.org](http://www.yorkcounts.org) and click on the summit link under Upcoming Events, or contact Dan Fink at [dfink@yorkcounts.org](mailto:dfink@yorkcounts.org) or 650-1460.

**Sponsors:** The Stewart Companies, the Graham Group, Barley Snyder, Penn State York, Susquehanna Photographic and Anstadt Printing

## ON THE WEB:

Lynn Cummings bio: <http://www.lcdc.us/team.asp>

"The New Neighbors": [http://www.thenewmetropolis.com/new\\_neighbors.html](http://www.thenewmetropolis.com/new_neighbors.html)

United Way Stay in School Report: <http://www.unitedway-york.org/images/StayinSchoolReport2009.pdf>

York Academy Regional Charter School: <http://yorkcounts.org/learn/releases/10-02-09%20myser-rohrer%20is%20IB%20school%20site.pdf>

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YorkCounts is a community-based nonprofit organization working to assess, sustain and enhance York County's quality of life – building alliances, introducing partners, spotlighting issues and facilitating conversations on education, economic development, health and safety and diversity. Primary funding partners include Better York, the United Way of York County, WellSpan Health, York College of Pennsylvania, the York County Commissioners, the York County Community Foundation and the York County Economic Development Corp.

Learn more at [yorkcounts.org](http://yorkcounts.org).

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