

# Cities Award Winners

## Hazard

As the need for childcare providers increased throughout the Hazard/Perry County region so, too, did **the need for a program to assist welfare recipients in finding employment opportunities.**

For this reason the city of Hazard along with education, ministry and healthcare providers teamed together to create a welfare-to-work program. This program, New Beginnings, offers welfare recipients the opportunity to earn a degree in the field of early childhood development. Aside from taking classes, participants are involved in a work-study program that provides hands-on experience with children in a supervised environment.

This is a win-win situation for the city of Hazard. Not only does the program provide childcare for over 200 children, it also decreases the dependence on government assistance, raises the level of education in the region, and provides childcare assistance for residents working both traditional and non-traditional working hours.



## Newport

**Three cities are better than one!** This was the resounding philosophy that the cities of Newport, Covington, and Bellevue took when they joined together to form the Southbank Partners.

Being in such close proximity to one another, the cities decided to take a regional approach to providing services for their residents and visitors. The Southbank Partners focus on transportation, entertainment & attractions, riverfront, office & hotel, residential, and commercial/mixed use development issues as means of improving the Northern Kentucky region.

By combining their efforts, services such as transportation and visitor information were utilized by the entire Southbank area instead of having duplicate services provided by each city.

In the last three years alone, Southbank is the site of over \$200 million in projects. The completion of the Southbank Shuttle, funding for the L&N Bridge conversion to a pedestrian walkway, development of Park Place Square, Ring In 2000, and an informational kiosk program are just some of the many accomplishments that have made the Southbank partnership so impressive.

