

Community



The mural on the Elwyn Philadelphia building on Market Street by mural artist Eric Okdeh.

Elwyn's mural makes a point

PHILADELPHIA — Passers-by will have a new bright-spot on their journey along West Market Street. Elwyn Philadelphia is installing a mural, complete with a stunning 25-foot-high stained-glass sunflower.

The mural, a joint-effort between the Philadelphia Department of Behavioral Health, Elwyn Philadelphia and the Philadelphia Mural Arts Program, was designed by artist Eric Okdeh. It spans the entire height (53 feet) of the building and covers 3,600 square feet of the Elwyn Philadelphia site at 4040 Market St.

The theme of the mural is overcoming the stigma of mental illness through transformation to recovery.

Okdeh has been involved with the Philadelphia Mural Arts Program for 10 years. During this time, he has been involved with between 70 and 80 projects. This particular project included the involvement of about 200 people — Elwyn clients and staff, as well as inmates at Graterford Prison with whom Okdeh conducts art workshops.