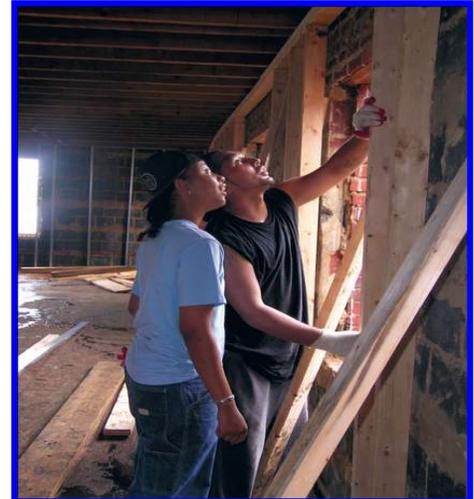


YouthBuild is a program of the Employment and Training Administration of the United States Department of Labor (DOL). There are currently over 200 YouthBuild grants across the country, serving approximately 5,900 young people each year.

The YouthBuild program targets out-of-school youth ages 16 - 24 and provides an alternative education pathway that encourages at-risk youth to obtain a high school diploma or GED credential and advance toward post-secondary education or employment. YouthBuild participants include youth who have been adjudicated, are aging out of foster care, and are low-income.



As part of the YouthBuild program, young people not only receive academic instruction but also receive occupational skills training while building affordable housing for their communities. This community involvement strengthens participants' commitment to their communities and ensures that the program's positive impact endures long after individuals have graduated.

YouthBuild participants have increased the supply of permanent affordable housing for homeless individuals and low-income families in their communities. YouthBuild programs are at the forefront of training low-income youth in green construction techniques, preparing youth for green jobs in the building industries, and helping to create healthier environments for their communities and our planet.

In 2009, Congress increased YouthBuild funding to \$70 million and provided an additional \$50 million through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The Administration has requested \$114 million for YouthBuild for FY 2010.

YouthBuild addresses several core needs of low-income neighborhoods including: housing, education, employment, crime prevention, and leadership development. The ultimate goal of the YouthBuild program is to help young Americans transform their own lives and their roles in society by contributing to better outcomes for their communities.

DOL Resources for YouthBuild

To support continuous program improvement, DOL has created the YouthBuild Technical Assistance Collaborative (TA Collaborative). The TA Collaborative includes the Division of Youth Services (Employment and Training Administration, DOL), Partners for Community Solutions, and YouthBuild USA. Each of these organizations brings a wealth of knowledge in youth development, alternative education, organizational capacity building, and the YouthBuild model.

Funded by DOL, the TA Collaborative provides state-of-the-art information sharing and networking, capacity-building, and technical expertise to grantees across a full spectrum of topics, including organizational development, project design, implementation, management, program evaluation, service delivery, and marketing. Technical assistance is delivered using a variety of tools, including:

Going Green
One-third of DOL YouthBuild grantees are using green building techniques. Through targeted technical assistance, DOL is supporting the remaining grantees in their efforts to implement green building techniques.

- Webinars;
- Onsite technical assistance;
- Regional trainings on specified topics;
- The YouthBuild website; and,
- The Community of Practice, an online learning community.

All technical assistance activities emphasize peer-to-peer learning and sharing. The TA Collaborative is dedicated to delivering high quality, interactive, and timely technical assistance resources that are specific to the needs of each grantee and stakeholder.

DOL YouthBuild grantees have access to a range of valuable resources to strengthen their programs, including:

- Connections to registered apprenticeship programs in a variety of careers in the construction-related trades, including green building;
- Relationships with DOL's national business partners, which offer YouthBuild grantees assistance in curriculum development, job shadowing, internship opportunities, and employment;
- Assistance in accessing resources of the public workforce system, such as the One-Stop Career Centers; and
- Access to interactive electronic resources provided by DOL and other government agencies, such as Career Voyages and Workforce3One, which provide up-to-date resources, labor market information, and promising practice articles for grantees and youth participants.



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For more information on YouthBuild and a complete list of DOL YouthBuild grantees, please visit:
http://www.doleta.gov/youth_services/youthbuildgrantee.cfm