

2007 Minnesota Youthbuild Annual Report

(July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007)



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PERFORMANCE OUTCOMES AND PROGRAM CHARACTERISTICS JULY 1, 2006 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2007

PARTICIPANT SUMMARY	
Total Number of Participants	317
Average Cost Per Participant	\$2,269
PERFORMANCE OUTCOMES	
Obtained Diploma or GED After Completing Youthbuild Program	90%
Entered Unsubsidized Employment or Post-Secondary Institution	91%
Statewide Average Wage of Unsubsidized Employment	\$10.65
Average Attendance Rate of Participants	88%
Percentage of Offenders Who Paid Restitution to Crime Victims	28%
AT-RISK INDICATORS	
Chemical Abuse or Drug Use Problems	31%
Disabled or Receiving Special Education Services	37%
Homeless Youth	10%
Youthful Offender	48%
High School Drop Out	93%
Pregnant or Parenting Teen	14%
Foster Youth	10%
HOUSING OUTCOMES	
Total Number of Units Constructed or Renovated	69
Total Number of Low Income Homeowners or Tenants Affected	164
BUDGET SUMMARY	
Total State Appropriations	\$907,000

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FUNDING

In 2007, \$907,000 in state funds supported Youthbuild Programs. In addition, local Youthbuild agencies leveraged over \$2 million in matching funds through their partnerships with local community services, housing and educational agencies, faith-based organizations, law enforcement agencies, unions, technical schools, and court services.

YOUTHBUILD PROGRAM MODEL

Youthbuild provides a unique set of services to participants that focus on three major learning models:

Service Learning Model

Builds citizenship skills, responsibility and respect for self and others

Enhances decision-making, problem-solving, and conflict resolution skills

Provides opportunities to give back to the local community through meaningful community service



Crime Prevention and Restorative Justice Model

Of the 151 Youthbuilders with prior criminal involvement, ninety-five percent (95%) have remained offense-free. A 4.6% recidivism rate of Youthbuild participants with prior criminal involvement compares to a 64% recidivism rate for Minnesota offenders overall¹

Over 40 Youthbuild participants provided restitution to crime victims in 2007



Experiential Learning and Work Based Model

Skills training in carpentry, medical and computer technology fields provide youth with the certification and skills to obtain good paying jobs in high demand fields

Build responsible habits and behavior to successfully transition youth from high school to the adult work world or advanced post-secondary training



¹ " Recidivism of Adult Felons", p. 3, published on January 13, 1997, Program Evaluation Division of the Office of the Legislative Auditor.

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2007 YOUTHBUILD PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

“Youthbuild Leadership Day” April 18, 2007

Fifty (50) youth from across Minnesota gathered at Camp Iduhapi in Loretto, MN to participate in leadership development activities and discussions and plan the following days’ activities for “Community Service Day” in Peavey Park in Minneapolis.

“Community Service Day” April 19, 2007

Youthbuilders spent half a day in Peavey Park in south Minneapolis with the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) staff to repair broken benches and tables, clean and prepare the pool and park facilities, and assist with spring maintenance for the coming season. After park activities were completed, MPRB staff, youth and their carpenter supervisors were provided lunch by the Minneapolis Employment and Training Program staff and participants at Hope Community, Inc.



Several youth received outstanding leadership awards after a keynote speech by the Director of Juvenile Justice Advocacy at Youthbuild USA, Tim O’Daniel.

Business Partnership Established with Wilsonart International

Wilsonart International, Inc., a world-leading producer of decorative surfacing products, began a partnership with Youthbuild in 2007 to provide laminate countertop and flooring products for Youthbuild housing projects in Minnesota. With a major distribution center in the Twin Cities, Wilsonart has generously agreed to provide for the laminate product needs of local Youthbuild sites into 2008 and beyond.

“Youthbuild USA Regional Gathering with Wisconsin’s Operation Fresh Start”-November 2, 2007

Work-site supervisors and carpenters, case managers, counselors, teachers, and program directors attended a special gathering in Eau Claire, WI to advance Youthbuild staff development skills and expand professional connections with neighboring Youthbuild organizations.

Emphasis on “Green Building” in Housing Construction

Through local Youthbuild provider, City Academy, and their construction partner, Flannery Construction, in St. Paul, Youthbuild is expanding “green building” materials and techniques for prospective housing projects. For future updates, see:

<http://www.positivelyminnesota.com/youth/ybuild.htm>.



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NCCER Training and Certification for Youthbuild Staff and Youthbuild Participants

Youthbuild staff have received NCCER ICTP Construction Certification Training through Master Trainer, Dave Burch and Youthbuild USA. As part of its accreditation process, the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) has developed the Instructor Certification Training Program (ICTP), providing Youthbuild work-site instructors and other Craft Technician/Instructors certification that assures training meets the standards of instruction set by the industry. Work-site instructors, thereby train Youthbuild participants in the NCCERA Contren® Construction, Maintenance, and Pipeline Curricula. The National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) is a not-for-profit education foundation which provides industry-driven standardized craft training and certification to address the critical workforce shortage facing the construction industry.

CUSTOMERS

The Youthbuild Program served 317 young people in 2007. Sixty-nine (69) units of affordable housing were constructed or renovated, benefiting over 160 low income families and individuals during the past year.

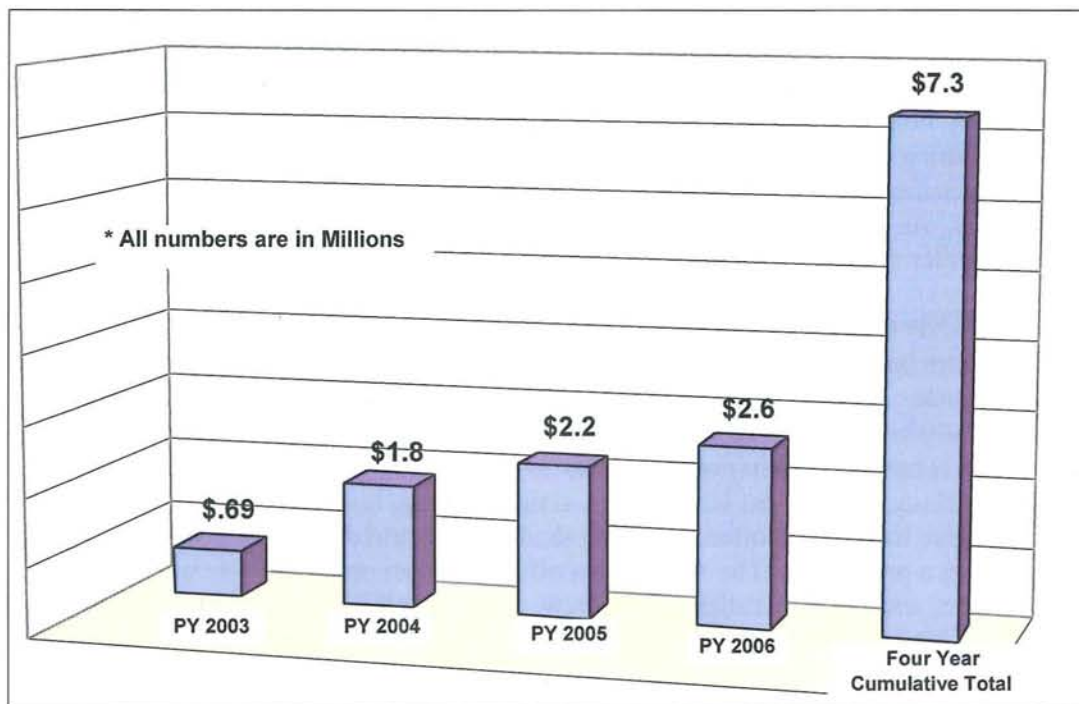
All youth participants were ages 16 to 24, economically disadvantaged or eligible for the High School Graduation Incentives program, and had previously dropped out or were at risk of dropping out of school. Over half of the participants were youth of color.

Of the youth served in 2007, over 90 percent had left or been expelled from traditional school, 48 percent had previous involvement with the juvenile or criminal justice system, 37 percent were disabled, 31 percent had drug or chemical abuse issues, 14 percent were pregnant or parenting teens, 10 percent had been homeless in the past year, and one in ten were in foster care.



PROGRAM COST COMPARISONS

State's Total Net Benefits Attributable to the Youthbuild Program



From 2000-2003, DEED conducted a cost-benefit study of the Youthbuild Program to examine the benefits and cost savings to the state of Minnesota generated by training at-risk youth and offenders in the Youthbuild Program.

Based on results of the analysis, the state's investment in Youthbuild participants pays off the first year immediately following participants' graduation from the program. "Net" revenues and cost savings, generated from additional tax revenues and prison/corrections savings to the state of Minnesota, are calculated to be approximately \$700,000 in the first year, \$1.8 million in the second year, \$2.2 million in third year, and \$2.6 million in the fourth year.

Over a four year period, the total cumulative pay off exceeds \$7 million. The results are summarized in the chart above.

In 2008, DEED is planning to conduct a follow-up cost-benefit analysis on the Youthbuild Program based on the earlier study.

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ARROWHEAD ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY AGENCY (AEOA) VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA

Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency (AEOA) operates Arrowhead Youthbuild in the quad city area of Virginia, Eveleth, Gilbert, Mountain Iron and surrounding communities. Collaborative partners in the project include the Adult Basic Education Program, the Area Learning Center, AEOA's Housing Services, Range Mental Health, the local WorkForce Center and the area juvenile justice probation staff. The AEOA Youthbuild program continues to gain recognition from the surrounding communities. During this last year a local businessman learned that the youth were building a new workshop. He was familiar with the Youthbuild program and very impressed with the program's accomplishments. As a thank you for what the program was doing in the local communities, he donated a new boiler system for the new shop's in-floor heating system.

EDUCATION AND CONSTRUCTION WORK EXPERIENCE

Youthbuilders learn basic construction skills through a mix of classroom activities and on-site training and work experience. A journeyman carpenter provides skills training to youth at the work sites. Youth receive a stipend for up to 40 hours per week. One-hundred percent (100%) attendance during a two-week period is rewarded with incentives. Participants are taught techniques in areas such as framing, sheet rocking, demolition, landscaping, siding, roofing, layout procedures, and blue print reading. Youth also have an opportunity to "job shadow" construction trades people to get a first-hand look at the field as a profession. The AEOA also offers youth an opportunity to work on various other in-house programs, such as the weatherization crew. Each year the Youthbuild staff work with the AEOA Housing Department to outline a plan for developing more low-income housing in local communities.

A strong experiential education approach is used to frame all Youthbuild activities. The participants spend a portion of their time in either the Adult Basic Education classroom or the Area Learning Center in order to attain their high school diplomas or GED certificates. Specialized classroom training includes construction math.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT SERVICES

Each youth attends weekly sessions that develop independent living skills and leadership traits. Some of the topics covered include: budgeting, planning and preparing meals, the process of renting or leasing an apartment or house, and how to set-up financial services at a bank. Each youth meets weekly with a case manager and completes a full vocational evaluation while they are a program participant.

Contact Information	Service Area	Statistics		
Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency (AEOA) 702 Third Avenue South Virginia, MN 55792 Gwen Grell, Program Coordinator Phone: 218-749-2912 Ext. 220 Fax: (218) 749-2944 E-mail: ggrell@aeoa.org	Saint Louis County (excluding City of Duluth)	Receiving Public Assistance	Youth Offenders	Drug/Chemical Dependency
		75%	87.5%	37.5%

An array of work readiness topics are covered with the youth. Training sessions are facilitated by the program's case manager and the staff at the local WorkForce Center. The case manager also assists with exploring financial aid options and submitting college or technical school applications for youth interested in post-secondary schooling/training. Youthbuilders complete volunteer activities in the community as a public service and citizenship activity.

One participating young person described Youthbuild as a program that "gives you hands-on experiences and people skills." He added, "It has also helped me with leadership and working with others. I help teach new kids by showing them the ropes."

During the last year, the Arrowhead Youthbuild crew added another important learning aspect to their programming through their participation in a series of classes designed to increase their entrepreneurial skills. As a part of this experience, the crew, along with their supervisor and case manager, created a business plan that included a new venture of building, marketing, and selling picnic tables. Building the tables has been a great way for new participants to learn about various tools and safety policies. This project has also helped fill in some of the down time, when housing projects are at a stand still due to weather or unforeseen circumstances. The small profit from each sale is put back into the Youthbuild program. When asked just how much profit the picnic tables yield, one Youthbuilder said, "It's not too much, but the project is about the learning experience."

PROGRAM/PARTICIPANT OUTCOMES

During Arrowhead Youthbuild's eleven year existence, the program has served approximately seventy-five youth and its crew members have created affordable and safe housing for over 100 low-income family members in the Arrowhead communities.

HOUSING/CONSTRUCTION

During the past year the youth crew completed the renovation of a house in Hibbing that will house approximately six low-income family members. They completed the interior demolition, installed suspended ceilings, and replaced all floor coverings. The crew was also responsible for rebuilding the walls, hanging the sheetrock and assisting with the finishing work. In the kitchen area of the house, the youth removed all the old cabinetry and countertops and replaced it with new materials.

A second housing project focused on the partial renovation of an older house in the Chisholm area. One of the crew's major projects at this house was renovating the downstairs bathroom. Once again, the home will provide housing for approximately six low-income family members.

Crew members also provided construction services for a variety of area non-profits, including the Head Start program. The crew recently had their picture taken for the local paper when they completed the construction of a new playground for the Head Start children.

SUCCESS STORY: JEREMY BUSHEY

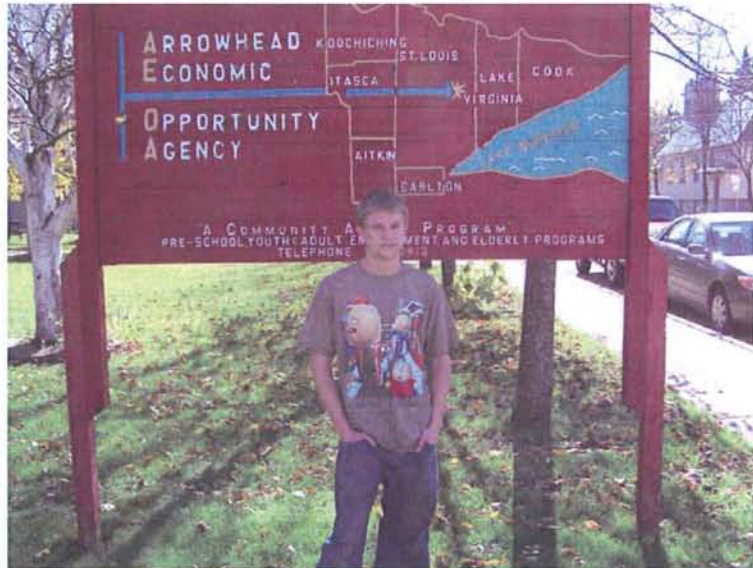
When I was younger and in school I didn't do very well at all. After I was held back a couple of times it just didn't seem like I could do it. I decided to drop out of school in the seventh grade. When I dropped out I was living with my mother and not doing much of anything. I started doing odd jobs here and there for a few years, but then I started getting in trouble with the law too. I was getting a really bad reputation.

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I was really stumped on what to do with my life. I was wondering what I should, or even could do that would better my future. I started thinking about getting my GED, but it didn't seem likely to me with the way things were going.

A friend of mine told me about this great program he was in. He said it was a program for youth like me and that they even helped you get your GED. I went to AEOA and picked up a Youthbuild application. The next week I had an interview, and the following week I was hired and started my orientation.

I've been with the Arrowhead Youthbuild program for awhile now, almost 2 years. Because I dropped out of school in seventh grade, I had a lot of catching up to do. Since I've been with this program I haven't been in trouble with the law at all. Recently, I graduated with my GED, which was a great accomplishment! During my time with this program I have taken training classes that will help me find and keep future jobs, and I've developed a lot of independent living skills. I have also learned many different job skills, which will help me with future jobs.



I really appreciate everything this program has done for me and the opportunities it gave me. After working with Arrowhead Youthbuild, I feel that I am ready for anything the future may bring.

BI-COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAMS BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA

Bi-County Community Action Programs, Inc. (Bi-CAP), a private, nonprofit corporation serving Beltrami and Cass counties, operates the Minnesota Youthbuild Program in collaboration with Rural Minnesota CEP, Northwest Technical College, and Voyageurs Expeditionary High School.

EDUCATION

On June 1, 2007, eight current participants and five alumni received their high school diploma. Bi-CAP Youthbuild has one learner manager/ crew leader at Voyageurs Expeditionary High School in Bemidji, Minnesota. When the youth are not in "crew" or on site, they follow the regular high school schedule and rotate through regular class room and teacher changes through out the day.

The curriculum uses the Expeditionary Learning Outward Bound (ELOB) education model. This model is an off-shoot of the nationally recognized Outward Bound Program that incorporates team building and individual growth into the academic instruction. Students have the alternative option of completing GED testing. An articulation agreement reached with Northwest Technical College also allows Youthbuilders to receive technical college credit for up to two construction courses during their Youthbuild tenure, prior to their college enrollment.

CONSTRUCTION WORK EXPERIENCE

The work experience is two-tiered. Tier One involves construction training and job readiness instruction. Tier Two provides high school credits for work experience in the building trades industry. A certified instructor supervises crews of youth. In addition, an Industrial Technology teacher spends one day a week on the construction site with the youth. Participants are paid \$6.15 an hour for 32 hours a week.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT SERVICES

All participants have or will complete a Red Cross First Aid and CPR training and all are enrolled in a certification course developed by the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) that focuses on all aspects of entry level carpentry. In addition, the youth participate in budgeting classes and other life skills classes such as: resume writing, career exploration, employment skills, cooking, and renting housing. All Youthbuilders actively participate in community service projects.

Contact Information	Service Area	Statistics		
		Youth Offenders	Receiving Public Assistance	Disabled/Special Education
Bi-County Community Action Programs, Inc. Post Office Box 579 Bemidji, MN 56601 Anne McGill Assistant Director of Operations Phone: (218) 751-4631 Ext. 104 Fax: (218) 751-8452 E-mail: amcgill@paulbunyan.net	Beltrami and Cass Counties	71.4%	42.9%	22.9%

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HOUSING/CONSTRUCTION

Currently, the Bi-CAP Youthbuild Program is working on building a single family home in Bemidji to sell to a low income family.

Youthbuilders were also responsible for maintaining and repairing 17 transitional homes owned by the agency in a two county service area. The youth also completed a total rehabilitation remodel on two of the transitional houses in Walker. In the past, Bi CAP Youthbuild has constructed nine single family houses that were sold to low income families, constructed a Head Start building in Backus, MN and rehabilitated the existing Head Start in Walker, MN. The program has also constructed a duplex to house two transitional families, renovated the Bi-County CAP building, and constructed the building in which the Youthbuild Program resides.

SUCCESS STORY: SAMANTHA MASON

Samantha Mason was 16 when she came to Youthbuild in Bemidji, but she already had a history with the Beltrami County Probation Office. Sam had been in the detention facility more than once and was looking for a way to change her life.

When Sam came into the program she had made up her mind to get her diploma, go to college, and have a good home for her own children. Samantha kept her word to herself. She won many leadership awards in Youthbuild and also won many on-site awards. Her attendance was seldom less than perfect. She often completed her school work ahead of the due date, and often encouraged the other Youthbuilders to do the same. Though she was the youngest she raised the bar for the other youth and they could seldom keep up with her.

Samantha graduated from High School last spring a full year early and with honors. She motivated many of the other 13 Youthbuilders that graduated with her to obtain their diploma's including an alumnus youth.

Samantha obtained her Certified Nursing Assistant while at Youthbuild and was preparing to go further in the nursing profession. This was not to be for Sam; during the summer Sam was a passenger in a car that lost control on a dirt road. Samantha was thrown from the vehicle through the window and sustained damage to her spinal cord. She was hospitalized for weeks.



Fortunately this was not the end of Sam's story. Samantha came back to Youthbuild where she is currently working on November's orientation and will attend North West Technical College in Business Management. Samantha works hard in therapy, which is no surprise to us. It should be no surprise to the world when everyone has heard of Samantha Mason.

CARVER-SCOTT EDUCATIONAL COOPERATIVE CHASKA, MINNESOTA

School District #930, the Carver-Scott Educational Cooperative (CSEC), operates the Youthbuild Program on the Main Campus in Chaska, and at the CSEC Spring Lake Alternative Learning Center (ALC) located in Lydia. CSEC collaborates with the Scott County Housing and Redevelopment Authority, Carver County Community Development Agency, Scott-Carver-Dakota Community Action Agency, Youth Employment and Training programs in both counties and the Carver-Scott Housing Coalition.

EDUCATION

During the school year, students participate in morning academic classes and Youthbuild activities in the afternoon, where they earn required or elective credit. Academic skills in math, English communication and social studies are also taught or applied in the Youthbuild component. In the summer, Youthbuilders earn up to four semester credits in Math, English, Social Studies, or work experience/construction. Youthbuild emphasizes community involvement and citizenship throughout all activities. Career development includes field trips to local technical and community colleges, industry exploration and goal setting.

CONSTRUCTION WORK EXPERIENCE AND JOB READINESS

Students must apply and complete an interview to be accepted into the Youthbuild Program. A licensed career and technical education instructor provides construction skills training to Youthbuilders on the work site and in the shop/classroom. Youth are involved from start to finish on construction projects, enabling them to develop a wide range of skills which will prepare them for entry level jobs or advanced standing in local technical colleges where articulation agreements are in place. Work maturity skills such as attendance, promptness, task completion, positive attitude, accepting responsibility and working as part of a team are addressed on an on-going basis on the construction site.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

CSEC has been designated a National and State Leader School for Service-Learning, and was recently inducted into the Service-Learning Hall of Fame, a designation awarded to only eight schools located in Minnesota. The CSEC Youthbuild program combines meaningful service and classroom studies in a way that strengthens communities and improves student learning. Youthbuilders are also often called to present at professional conferences highlighting "Youth Development of Youth Voice." Students leave Youthbuild with more self-confidence and the ability to be more self-sufficient.

Contact Information	Service Area	Statistics		
Carver-Scott Educational Cooperative Crosby Park Manufacturing/ Technology Center 309 Lake Hazeltine Drive Chaska, MN 55318 Joyce Eissinger, Program Coord Phone: (952) 368-8126 Fax: (952) 368-8888 E-mail: jeissinger@cseced.org	Carver and Scott Counties	Disabled or Special Education	Youth Offenders	Drug/Chemical Dependency
		40.7%	33.9%	16.9%

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HOUSING/CONSTRUCTION

In the 2006-07 program year, the Youthbuild students completed a house for the Scott County HRA which was sold to a first-time homeowner. They also completed the remodeling of the kitchen in their own school, repaired a trailer home in their neighborhood and converted a classroom into a training room for a Transition Program.

SUCCESS STORY: ERIC STADSKLEV

Eric had been enrolled in the Spring Lake Area Learning Center for a year prior to joining the Youthbuild program. As a student in the program he did a minimum amount of work in his classes, even though he was a very bright and capable student. Behaviorally, Eric would challenge the staff in the program and often left school because he didn't want to deal with it. Eric lived in a home where the affects of alcoholism were daily obstacles and getting to school was at times difficult.

When an opening came available in Youthbuild, Eric completed an application with his mother's prompting. Eric joined the Youthbuild program and immediately stood out, often for the wrong reasons. He spent a great deal of time avoiding work and occasionally walked off the job site. The Youthbuild staff worked with Eric and his mom until one day when Eric violated a contract that had been previously set up for his success. He was suspended from the program until he could show that he was committed to making a change in his attitude at school.



The following months were very difficult ones for Eric. He made several poor choices, including driving without a license, being in fights and receiving several other tickets. When Eric hit an all time low he checked himself into treatment with the ultimate goal of returning to school and the Youthbuild program. Youthbuild became his focus while in treatment, helping him to remain accountable and determined to make a difference in his own life.

Sixty days later Eric returned to the Youthbuild program and once again stood out among his peers, this time for all of the right reasons. Eric became an active participant in the Youthbuild program and was a leader. He went from a student who avoided any work presented to him to a student who would lead and guide other students in the Youthbuild program.

Eric graduated from high school at the end of the year. His plans following graduation were to work in the construction field and ultimately go to a two-year program for heating or electrical training. Youthbuild made a difference for Eric.

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CENTRAL MINNESOTA JOBS AND TRAINING SERVICES MONTICELLO, MINNESOTA

In program year 2006, Central Minnesota Jobs and Training Services (CMJTS) operated the Minnesota Youthbuild program in the New London-Spicer area and the Pine City area in collaboration with the Alternative Learning Center in New London-Spicer and the Area Learning Center in Pine City. These programs worked with the West Central and East Central Minnesota Habitat for Humanity organizations to build homes and other structures and items for low-income families in the participants' communities.

EDUCATION AND CONSTRUCTION WORK EXPERIENCE

At the Pine City location, students were engaged in career exploration beyond the construction of homes and sheds. They were required to take a "for credit" class called Career Horizons. This class included career assessments, field trips to WorkForce Centers, career-related speakers and technical college visits.

New London-Spicer's program focused the students on applied math coursework that was related to the building project in process.



At both sites, students learned about framing and building trusses through work on a shed. At the New London site, participants had the chance to work on aspects of "deconstruction", salvage, and landscaping work.

Youthbuild participants received a total of \$7,190 in work experience for a total of 1,169 hours.

Contact Information	Service Area	Statistics		
		Receiving Public Assistance	Youth Offenders	Disabled or Special Education
Central Minnesota Jobs and Training Services (CMJTS) 106 Pine Street Monticello, MN 55362 Rita Borchert Program Coordinator Phone: (763) 271-3700 Fax: (763) 271-3701 E-mail: rborchert@cmjts.org	Kandiyohi County	26.3%	21.1%	21.1%

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LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT, SUPPORT SERVICES AND FOLLOW UP

Participants at the New London-Spicer location were selected as project leaders on each project. They also spent time at the Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center working on cooperation (teamwork) and leadership skills.

Youthbuild participants for Program Year 2006 are currently in follow-up. During this time, a CMJTS staff member contacts the youth monthly to provide continuity and encourage long-term success.

At both the Pine City and New London-Spicer locations, all participants had Individual Education Plans. This allowed the Youthbuild programs to focus on young people with documented disabilities. This aligns with CMJTS' focus on serving "at-risk" youth, as defined by the Workforce Investment Act (WIA).

PROGRAM PARTICIPANT OUTCOMES

The long-term, positive outcomes of the Minnesota Youthbuild program for the "at-risk" youth in the rural areas of New-London Spicer and Pine City are dramatically important. In communities where school systems are shrinking and funding for special employment and training opportunities is limited or non-existent, Youthbuild allows students who struggle in the confines of the mainstream school setting to experience success. In these rural areas, the impact of keeping one student from leaving school is crucially important for the long-term economic and social well-being of the community.

SUCCESS STORY: KIM SCHULTZ

Kim Schultz is a shining example of how the Minnesota Youthbuild program works within the "continuum" of services to help at-risk youth succeed in the Pine City area.

Kim's home life was not going well and her school attendance was suffering. In addition, she was pregnant with her first child. One of her teachers at the Pine City Area Learning Center recommended she join the Youthbuild program to re-engage her in schooling and help prepare her for future success.

"I wanted to make money for college, while working toward my high school diploma and the Youthbuild program was a great way to do it," Kim said. "I did have to take some days off while I was pregnant, though!"



With the staff at Pine City Area Learning Center and Central Minnesota Jobs and Training Services encouragement and support, Kim used Youthbuild to help finish her high school coursework while learning valuable work skills and helping her community.

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"I loved seeing the faces of the family when we gave them the shed for their house," Kim said. After seeing her succeed in the Youthbuild program, Kim's Employment Specialist at Central Minnesota Jobs and Training Services, Diana Ristamaki, assisted in helping her enroll in and pay for Certified Nursing Assistant training at Pine Technical College. "The biggest difference in Kim is in her motivation and self-confidence. She is really focused on her future goals," noted Diana. Today, Kim has her own apartment, a beautiful baby, and soon, a position as a Certified Nursing Assistant at Lakeside Medical Center.

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CITY ACADEMY ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

In August of 2004, City Academy Youthbuild began a new partnership with Two Rivers Land Trust located in Oakdale, Minnesota. The successful completion of the 2006 and 2007 Oakdale projects has ensured another year of partnership with the Land Trust.

EDUCATION

City Academy staff continues to work with the College of St. Catherine to develop holistic assessments to effectively inform students of their learning progress. A major focus for City Academy Youthbuild is preparing all graduates for Post-Secondary participation, a goal that has been 95% achieved.

CONSTRUCTION WORK EXPERIENCE AND JOB READINESS

Students gained experience starting with demolition, through final finishing and landscaping. Applied skills included: safety, basic tool skills, site preparation and maintenance, teamwork, framing, concrete, sheetrock, finishing, cabinet, door, window and stair installation, painting, tiling and carpet installation, and landscaping.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

In January and August 2007, students participated in Outward Bound Leadership activities in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area. Students also participated in the Jewish Community Relations Council Annual Holocaust Museum Trip. Students earned stipends in \$100 increments based on attendance, safety and leadership. The majority of participants increased leadership skills and improved attendance. Students and staff worked together to organize the first ever statewide Youthbuild Conference in April at Camp Iduhapi. At the dedication and Open House of the Oakdale duplex, Youthbuild students served as guides on behalf of the Oakdale City Council and the Mayor.

HOUSING/CONSTRUCTION

This past year, City Academy Youthbuild was given full responsibility for the renovation of a four bedroom duplex. The property is being offered, at a considerable discount, to families who have been displaced by the closing of an area mobile home park. The project was completed in July.

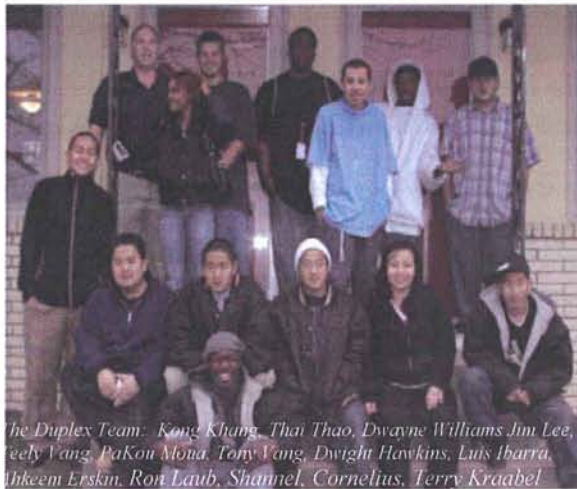


Community Mural: Che Xiong, George Martinez, Jeff Prowell, Chris Marquez, George Lee

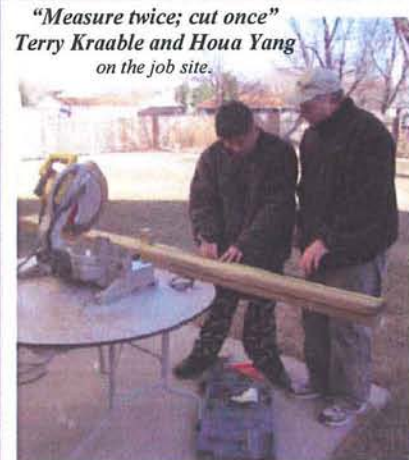


Chris Marquez at Outward Bound

Contact Information	Service Area	Statistics		
City Academy 958 Jesse Street Saint Paul, MN 55101 Milo Cutter, Director Phone: (651) 298-4624 Fax: (651) 292-6511 E-mail: miloc@cityacademy.net	Cities of Saint Paul and Oakdale	Receiving Public Assistance	Youth Offenders	Disabled or Special Education
		87.3%	63.5%	58.7%



The Duplex Team: Kong Khang, Thai Thao, Dwayne Williams, Jim Lee, Teely Yang, PaKou Moua, Tony Yang, Dwight Hawkins, Luis Ibarra, Ikeem Erskin, Ron Laub, Shannel, Cornelius, Terry Kraabel



*"Measure twice; cut once"
Terry Kraabel and Houa Yang
on the job site.*

SUCCESS STORIES: CHRISTOPHER MARQUEZ AND CHE XIONG

Christopher Marquez and Che Xiong exemplify the best of Youthbuild. They have worked diligently to focus on the future and create a successful high school record of achievement. In every instance they provide leadership through action. Their attendance on the job site and in their classes has been 100%. Whenever there is a community service project Che and Chris are there and quietly showing others how to enjoy making our community better. Both are scheduled to graduate in June of 2008 and will be participating in PSEO for their final semester of high school.



Che Xiong and Christopher Marquez

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GUADALUPE ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA

Guadalupe Alternative Programs (GAP) operates the Youthbuild Program on the Westside of St. Paul in collaboration with Neighborhood Development Alliance (NeDA), Community Neighborhood Housing Services, and Argosy University.

EDUCATION AND JOB READINESS SKILLS

Students spend between ten and twenty hours a week in academic classes. The curriculum focuses on the acquisition of basic skills and also provides enrichment opportunities such as studio arts, physical education, and cultural activities. Youthbuild participants receive job readiness training in areas such as life skills, career awareness, interviewing, developing a resume, organizing a job search, and post-secondary planning. Prospective Youthbuild participants are required to fulfill a four week "Mental Toughness" orientation and training program before consideration for the work experience program. This program provides the tools necessary to be successful. Recent field trips have included local technical colleges, construction training center sites, and visits to professional job sites.

CONSTRUCTION WORK EXPERIENCE

Construction site manager, Jim Grosso, and a new case manager/mentor, Patrick Stitt, provide specific construction and work experience skills training to participants on the work site during the year. Participants spend between ten and fifteen hours a week in work experience training, which includes work maturity skills, safety training, teamwork development, and carpentry skills. Specific skills gained this year include framing, sheet rocking, roofing, painting, installation of doors and windows, and landscaping. Participants earn a stipend of approximately \$6 per hour if attendance and safety participation are excellent.



Contact Information	Service Area	Statistics		
		Receiving Public Assistance	Youth Offenders	Disabled or Special Education
Guadalupe Alternative Programs 381 Robie Street Saint Paul, MN 55107 Allen Selinski, Director Phone: (651) 222-0758 Ext. 305 Fax: (651) 290-2703 E-mail: aselinski@gapschool.com	City of Saint Paul	65.5%	24.1%	17.2%

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Youthbuild participants serve on the Youth Leadership Board. The Youth Leadership Board is involved in all levels of school governance, including mediating student disciplinary matters and hiring of teachers and support staff. Youthbuild participants also serve as crew leaders on the work site. GAP Youthbuild students participated in National Youth Service Day at Peavey Park and also assisted in the Dia de los Muertos and Cinco de Mayo celebrations in the local community.

HOUSING/CONSTRUCTION

During 2007, Youthbuild students renovated one single-family home, and rehabilitated one home on St. Paul's West side.

SUCCESS STORY: DESTINY STORM HELFRICH - 17

Destiny came to GAP with a host of issues. She faced serious family issues, among them, foster care. Destiny began Youthbuild in the winter of 2006, with the goal of completing her education at GAP and learning a trade in order to support herself in her goals. She quickly learned that just because you're a girl doesn't mean you are not capable of doing the job. Destiny has become the spokesperson for Youthbuild and Youth Crew Leader and was given the responsibility of assisting in the training of new 2007 fall recruits in advanced carpentry skills. Destiny will have completed all of her academic credits in January and is planning on working with Tree Trust to develop landscaping skills to enhance her construction skills. Destiny has long term plans to become a nurse and is looking forward to a trip to Italy.



2007 Youthbuild Annual Report

RURAL MINNESOTA CONCENTRATED EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS, INC. PERHAM, MINNESOTA

EDUCATION AND JOB READINESS SKILLS

Students meet with Perham Alternative Learning Center instructors each morning and work on the construction site in the afternoon. Technical math and reading skills are incorporated into construction activities through use of tape measures, transits, string lines and calculation of angles, distances and levels. Reading skills are enhanced by blueprint reading and installation instructions of doors, windows, and rafter plans. An instructor commented, "...Youthbuild helps students develop a good work ethic and marketable work skills. Students learn to work together, as well as independently. It is a good fit for students who learn by doing..."

CONSTRUCTION WORK EXPERIENCE

Students spend 2 ½ hours each day at the job site learning carpentry. They are paid \$6.15 per hour with a weekly bonus of \$.75 per hour based on attendance at the worksite and progress in their schoolwork. Students have the opportunity to meet with professional sub-contractors who are licensed to work on certain parts of the construction. Site contractors explain what they do as they complete their job assignment. Students are able to see first hand how professionals work and can ask questions about the task and the industry in general. They also receive information from the building inspector on future opportunities for employment.

LEADERSHIP AND LIFE SKILLS

Students have the opportunity to aspire to the Lead Worker position with the crew that includes an hourly pay increase. The Lead Worker serves as an assistant to the instructor, working closely with some of the new workers, serving as a role model to the working crew, and actively participating on the Advisory Committee, attending meetings and providing input into decision making.

Selected students have an opportunity to attend a Conference at Camp Ihduhapi to participate in leadership development activities.

Weekly, students participate in a three hour Life Skills Workshop. Topics include, but are not limited to, using credit wisely, building good financial credit, self esteem, motivation, getting along with others, substance abuse, post-secondary school trips, health relationships, character education, resiliency, insurance and rental issues. Student comments included: "I like every thing about Life Skills because it teaches responsibility;" "I think life skills is a great class and everyone should have a chance to go;" and "In Life Skills, I've learned a lot on so many topics." Related field trips included "Planning nutritious meals on a budget" shopping at a local supermarket, visiting a car dealership, "cash or check" at a local bank and touring a production plant.

Contact Information	Service Area	Statistics		
Rural MN CEP, Inc. 803 Roosevelt Avenue Detroit Lakes, MN 56501 Huldy Sannes Program Coordinator Phone: (218) 846-7377 Fax: (218) 846-0773 E-mail: huldys@rmcep.com	Becker, Otter Tail, and Wadena Counties	Disabled or Special Education	Youth Offenders	Receiving Public Assistance
		39.0%	30.4%	30.4%

Students organized and hosted an open house including a luncheon for school staff, parents, and partners involved in Youthbuild. Students designed a power point presentation and a trolley car to transport visitors to the project site. Students are also planning a block picnic for the homeowners surrounding their housing project to become acquainted with them and provide information on Youthbuild.

CONSTRUCTION/ HOUSING

Youthbuild participants built a two bedroom, two-bathroom rambler with a main floor laundry and two stall attached garage during the past school year. They built the main wood structure of the home at the school. The structure was then moved to a prepared foundation on a city lot. External additions were added at the site.

During the year, each student participates in community service projects for 16 hours during the year. Summer projects included a Youthbuild project at Pioneer Village including painting the old Grand View Heights Ballroom in preparation for the Pioneer Days celebration in August. Concrete handicap ramps were constructed at Prairie Wind Middle School.

Since its beginning, Youthbuild has been involved in the construction/remodel of nearly 30 homes. They have also produced many small buildings, park shelters and bench/table projects. Instructor's comment: "All students come away from the program with a better understanding of themselves and a better handle on the real world."

SUCCESS STORY 1: JOSEPH COVEY

Before I came to the Perham ALC, I was in Frazee High School. I was getting in trouble almost every day and I was skipping school all the time. Then my mom decided to bring me to the Perham ALC. I didn't want to go at first because I knew that it would be the same as Frazee but when I went to see the Principal, Fred Sailer, he told me about this Youthbuild program that they have here and how it's a good program to be in. If it wasn't for Youthbuild I probably wouldn't have come here and I would either be in a foster home or a Juvenile center until I was 18. Since I've started the Youthbuild program I have been going to school everyday, I am not getting into any trouble, my grades are A's and B's and I have kids that look up to me. My parents think that the Perham ALC and Youthbuild program stopped me from quitting school and I agree with them. Since I started Youthbuild, I want to go to college. Before, I didn't want to go to college because Frazee didn't have anything there that interested me. I've learned so many trades from Youthbuild like sheet rocking, framing, sheeting and shingling. The instructor of the program, Jon Skow, is a very nice person. He is always willing to help teach others and me about construction. The kids that are in the Youthbuild program are cool, hard working and we all get along on the job and off. Some are still learning the basics of construction but that's where Skow comes in and helps them. This year I became a Site foreman (lead worker) in Youthbuild. I was so glad when I found out. The first day of being a Site foreman was a little weird because I had kids coming up to me asking me questions and I had some important responsibilities that I had to do but I like helping others. If you would've asked me 2 years ago what I am going to do with my life, I would have said I don't know because I didn't know what I wanted to do. Since I've been in Youthbuild I have found something that I want



2007 Youthbuild Annual Report

to do with my life. I want to go on to college for carpentry. My future goal is to own my own construction business.

SUCCESS STORY 2: ADAM MOSTAD



My name is Adam Mostad and here is my story about the benefits of Youthbuild. I started Youthbuild my tenth grade year because it was a reason to go to school. I really didn't want to attend Frazee School anymore so I decided on the Perham Alternative Learning Center and that is how I first heard of the Youthbuild program. I thought of it as an opportunity to get a little money and I might learn something as well. After awhile it gave me a reason to go to school everyday and I wanted to apply myself a little more as time went on.

I still needed more motivation to get better grades but I thought school was boring. Then one day I had to pick another science class and I chose anatomy and I was hooked. I loved anatomy as it wasn't dull like a lot of the other classes I had to take. I loved learning anatomy so I found my niche at last. That intrigued me and I applied myself to school a lot more. I also gained confidence in my abilities and what I could do. I was using tools I never would have used on my own. I was learning a lot, not just in the classroom but on the job and it was exciting and new so it always kept me learning new things which was a plus.

After my first year of Youthbuild, I still had another year of school to graduate so I worked through the summer and into the next school year. I was not only working on the job but on my grades. During that summer I had decided I wanted to be a science teacher. My grades were starting to look more favorable. I might be able to go to college and eventually I did. I graduated from high school with a 3.5 GPA and I am currently enrolled in the Associate of Arts program at the Minnesota State Community and Technical College in Detroit Lakes. I plan to transfer to a four year school and get my license to teach. I am thankful Youthbuild helped me along the way.

I would suggest Youthbuild for anybody struggling with the normal school setting. Youthbuild helped me and it has taught me a lot especially with great instructors like Jon Skow and Fred Sailer leading the Youthbuild crew.

My future plans are hopefully in the field of teaching. I am going strong in achieving that goal. I would say the lessons I have learned from Youthbuild are great. I have better human relation skills and a better knowledge of tools and the way life can throw a curve and how to deal with it.

I can't forget to mention Life Skills and how much it has helped me in knowing common things. The instructor, Tina Eischens, is the best instructor we could have on the subject because she has been there and done most of the things she is teaching us about. Without her class I wouldn't be where I'm at today.

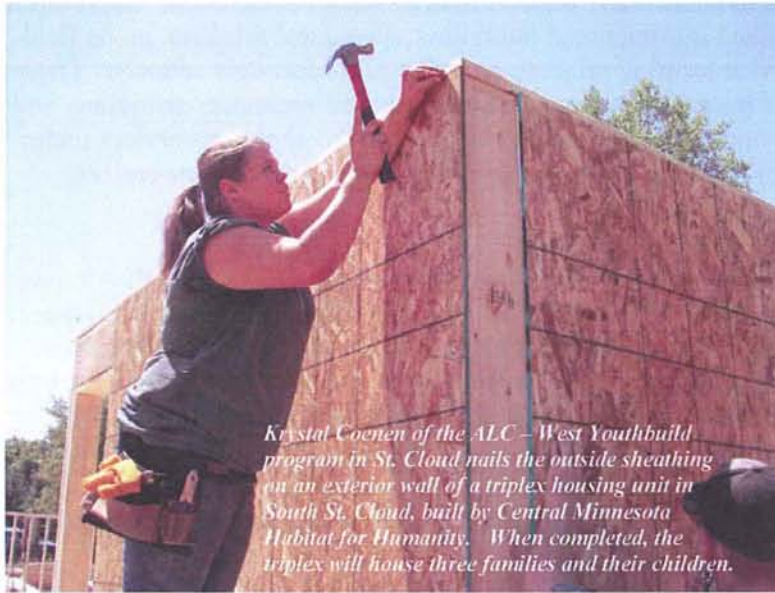
- Adam Mostad, Perham Youthbuild participant

2007 Youthbuild Annual Report

STEARNS-BENTON EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING COUNCIL ST. CLOUD, MINNESOTA

Stearns-Benton Employment & Training Council (SBETC) operates the Youthbuild program, serving eligible youth in Stearns and Benton counties. The Youthbuild program is operated in collaboration with St. Cloud Area School District 742 Area Learning Center – West (ALC) and Central Minnesota Habitat for Humanity.

EDUCATION AND CONSTRUCTION WORK EXPERIENCE



Krystal Coenen of the ALC – West Youthbuild program in St. Cloud nails the outside sheathing on an exterior wall of a triplex housing unit in South St. Cloud, built by Central Minnesota Habitat for Humanity. When completed, the triplex will house three families and their children.

This past year, a full time ALC instructor provided Youthbuilders individualized instruction and planning to work toward high school graduation. ALC created a computer lab which provides instruction in engineering and drafting utilizing AutoCad software. An Employability Skills Seminar class focused on career planning, job search, personal finance, as well as job readiness skills such as dependability, team work, problem solving and flexibility. In addition, construction trade instruction was included in their

school curriculum. Each Youthbuilder's educational objective was to receive their high school diploma and continue in post-secondary education or building trades apprenticeship.

Work site instructors provided training in the areas of safety, and use of tools and equipment. Construction trade training included site preparation, excavation and footings, block work, framing, roofing, mechanical, insulation, drywall, siding, windows, finish trim, flooring and landscaping. During the school year, Youthbuilders had the opportunity to work with ALC instructors at Habitat for Humanity sites on Saturdays. In the summer months, Youthbuilders could participate in two three week camps. These camps included building at Habitat for Humanity housing projects, participating in leadership training at the Husky Challenge Course located on the campus of St. Cloud State University, and visiting labor union training facilities. Youthbuilders earned a stipend

Contact Information	Service Area	Statistics		
		Drug/Chemical Dependency	Youth Offenders	Receiving Public Assistance
Stearns-Benton Employment and Training Council (SBETC) MWFC – St. Cloud 1542 Northway Drive St. Cloud, MN 56303 Sally Brenden Program Coordinator Phone: (320) 308-5702 Fax: (320) 308-1717 E-mail: sbrenden@sbetc.org	Benton and Stearns Counties	50%	28.6%	21.4%

2007 Youthbuild Annual Report

of up to \$50.00 per day based on attendance, punctuality, work quality/quantity and teamwork. Youthbuilders visited several trade apprentice programs including plumbing, electrical, carpentry, masonry, laborers, and heavy machine operators.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT, SUPPORT SERVICES, AND FOLLOW UP

ALC instructors provided training in team building, self confidence and motivational activities, making good choices, responsibility, cooperation, self respect and learning the value of community. The Youthbuilders participated in the Husky Challenge Course which developed group communication skills, improved conflict management skills and built trust. On-site counselors at the ALC provided supportive services to address any barriers to high school completion. Opportunities were available to job shadow, conduct informational interviews, hear guest speakers, go on field trips, attend job fairs, perform service learning projects, and visit post-secondary schools. Those youth who successfully completed the program were assisted with post-secondary schooling, and follow-up services. Also, successful candidates have the opportunity to apply for services under WIA youth programs to assist further with post-secondary schooling and follow-up services.

PROGRAM PARTICIPANT OUTCOME

Youthbuilders have had many positive outcomes with their participation in Youthbuild. Youthbuilders have increased their value of being part of the community by giving back to the community so families can have affordable housing. Students have found they can utilize their hands-on-skill and get motivated to complete their education. Others have been able to have hands-on experience to determine what construction field they'd like to pursue as a career. One student stated, "I have a better sense for working in the real world such as being on time and learning what to do during an interview and I know so much more about construction than before." Currently, one of the 2007 Youthbuild graduates is attending St. Cloud Technical College and is pursuing a career in computers.

HOUSING/CONSTRUCTION

Youthbuilders partnered with Central Minnesota Habitat for Humanity and assisted in the completion of nine new single family homes in a single community in South St. Cloud. Six of these affordable housing units have been completed and turned over to six low income families. Youthbuilders assisted in forming up the foundation, installing heating and ventilation ductwork in the poured concrete floor, finish painting, hanging cabinets, installing doors and locks, hanging insulation and sheetrock, laying flooring and landscaping. Youthbuilders have participated in the completion of 11 homes in central Minnesota.



SUCCESS STORY: BRANDON HAZELRIGG

The Youthbuild program has had a very positive impact on Brandon's life and education and has given him opportunities to learn about all the career opportunities in the construction trades. Brandon states, "I always have a great time. I've met all sorts of awesome people in these trades." Brandon is always eager and willing to do tasks at the job sites, which he identifies as his favorite part of Youthbuild. Brandon has shown a great interest in drafting and using the AutoCad software. Youthbuild instructor, Dave Masters comments, "Brandon has been involved with Youthbuild for two years and I have seen a tremendous amount of growth in his leadership and abilities on the worksite. He's even tutored other students on drafting. Brandon also worked well with his peers." This was very evident when Brandon participated with his team members at the St. Cloud State Husky Challenge Course. After completing high school Brandon plans to attend St. Cloud Technical College in the Architectural Construction Technology program.



Brandon Hazelrigg displays his award he received from Minnesota Governor, Tim Pawlenty. Brandon received the award for his leadership and improving the community of St. Cloud while participating in the Youthbuild ALC West program in St. Cloud

2007 Youthbuild Annual Report

THE CITY, INC. "PRIDE IN THE CITY" MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

The City, Inc., a nonprofit organization serving at-risk inner-city youth, operates the Youthbuild Program in collaboration with Habitat for Humanity. The "Pride in the City" (PIC) Youthbuild crew currently works on Habitat new construction projects in North Minneapolis.

EDUCATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES

Pride in the City Youthbuilders attend regular academic classes in a small class size setting four days per week at The City School, while working in housing renovation and construction for one six-hour shift one day a week. All Youthbuilders have open and complete access to family, advocacy, educational and post secondary services as well

In order to remain in the Youthbuild program, it is a requirement for students to keep up with their school work and attend school regularly. For many of the students involved in the program this is an important incentive that makes a huge difference in their attitude towards the school work they have to accomplish.

CONSTRUCTION WORK EXPERIENCE

PIC Youthbuild offers three distinct, yet sequenced, service aspects. These are on-the-job training, work experience and vocational instruction. On-the-job training and work experience consist of carpentry and construction work at a Habitat housing site under the supervision of a certified journey-level carpenter. Construction skills learned by Youthbuild students include: prefab, siding, drywall, roofing, layout and blueprint reading. In addition to learning carpentry skills, students learn about teamwork, leadership, good work ethic and safety on the job.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

PIC Youthbuilders develop their leadership skills through activities that include student government, organizing group presentations, participating in outside leadership training, and volunteering with program events at The City, Inc.

HOUSING/CONSTRUCTION

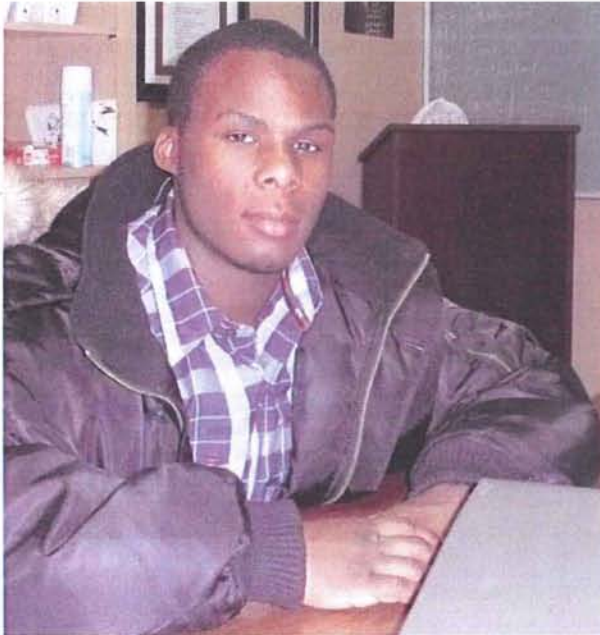
During the past year, Pride in the City Youthbuilders partnered with Habitat for Humanity to construct the Ripley Gardens Town Homes on Queen and Glenwood Avenues in North Minneapolis. Construction activities included framing, drywall, painting and proper/safe use of power tools.

Contact Information	Service Area	Statistics		
The City, Inc. 1315 – 12 th Avenue North Minneapolis, MN 55411 Michael Loud, Program Coordinator Phone: North: (612) 377-7559 South: (612) 877-6720 Fax: Northside: (612) 377-1036 Southside: (612) 877-6755 E-mail: Michael_Loud@thecityinc.org	City of Minneapolis	Youth Offenders	Receiving Public Assistance	Disabled or Special Education
		75.0%	75.0%	62.5%

SUCCESS STORY: DEMETRIOUS B.

Demetrious B. came to The City, Inc. in the fall of 2006 looking for a way to catch up on the credits he had fallen behind with. His family was living in a temporary shelter and struggling with legal trouble as well as some severe financial difficulties.

What Demetrious discovered at The City, Inc. was a supportive environment and staff who are familiar with stories just like his. He is one of the many students at The City, Inc. that are given a chance to catch up and offered the extra support that a traditional public school isn't able to give. With that help he was able to get right to work taking on the challenges he was facing. He immediately started off doing well with his studies and his grades were soon on the rise. He signed



up to work with the Pride in the City crew and gain some exposure and experience in the construction trade. The skills he learned and continues to learn will help him in whatever field he chooses to pursue after graduation.

In order to remain in the Pride in the City program it is a requirement for students to keep up with their school work and attend school regularly. For many of the students involved in the program this is an important incentive that makes a huge difference in their attitude towards the school work they have to accomplish. With Pride in the City, Demetrious learned about framing, dry wall, painting and use of trade tools. He was always on time and ready to work with new people. He even volunteered to go to the capitol and speak with elected representatives about funding youth programs.

Demetrious directly credits the Pride in the City program with his success saying, "This program helped me to focus on school and got me thinking of future careers."

For many students who are forced to live day to day in the "survival" mode of poverty, the future is something that is rarely thought of. By offering the Pride in the City and other programs, The City, Inc. is planting seeds of the future and success in the minds of its students. Demetrious has come a long way in just one year and he is creating a solid foundation for a once questionable future.

2007 Youthbuild Annual Report

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT, INC. (WDI) WABASHA/GOODHUE COUNTIES, MINNESOTA

The WDI Youthbuild Program is implemented by staff from Workforce Development, Inc. in partnership with the local Housing and Redevelopment Authority, Local Carpenters Union #1382, the Wabasha County Alternative Learning Center and the Deerview Alternative School of Red Wing as well as the Goodhue and Olmsted Counties Habitat for Humanity housing programs.

EDUCATION AND JOB READINESS

Out of school youth begin the Youthbuild process by connecting with one of the local education programs to establish goals for completing a High School Diploma or GED. Youth are required to keep acceptable attendance and performance in their education program to enter or remain in the Youthbuild Program. Participants work with staff to address educational issues and to develop transition plans that include career assessment and exploration and classes to identify and build marketable work skills. Students prepare themselves not only to search for employment in their field of interest but to understand employer expectations and to be successful at keeping that employment as well.

CONSTRUCTION WORK EXPERIENCE

Youthbuild participants learn the basics of wood working skills, tool handling, and safety in a classroom setting with practical projects before going on to larger housing projects. The vocational instructor coordinates construction skill development and supervises youth on the construction site. The competency based nature of the program is motivating for youth and applying their construction skills builds confidence and develops a personal feeling of accomplishment. Youth receive a training stipend and may also earn bonuses and scholarships based on performance and attendance.



Contact Information	Service Area	Statistics		
		Disabled or Special Education	Youth Offenders	Drug/Chemical Dependency
Workforce Development, Inc. 1302 – 7 th Street, N.W. Rochester, MN 55901 Marge Kuethe Program Coordinator Phone: (507) 292-5180 Fax: (507) 292-5173 E-mail: mkuethe@wdi.ws	Cities of Red Wing and Wabasha	87.0%	73.9%	26.1%

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

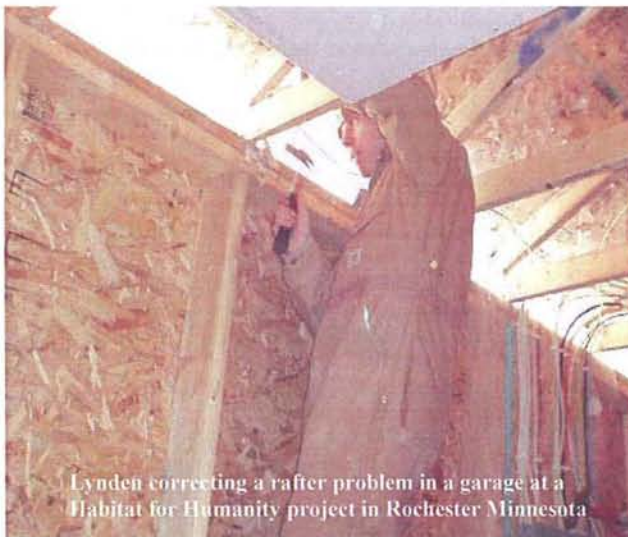
Youthbuild provides many opportunities to develop leadership skills through teamwork, training, field experience and service learning activities. As youth participate in the planning and implementation process of a construction project, they gain leadership and problem solving skills and become familiar with the resources available in the community.

HOUSING CONSTRUCTION

This year youth helped to build houses in Red Wing and Rochester in partnership with Habitat for Humanity. The youth also participated in numerous other projects in those communities. Youth find it rewarding to participate in building new homes and are eager to show them off to family and friends. Youthbuild helps youth to develop community awareness and pride as well as carpentry skills.

SUCCESS STORY: LYNDEN JOHNSON

As the 2007 Youthbuild year comes to an end I am hard pressed to single out one individual as a success story. All of our participants have displayed good growth in spite of challenges that would throw the average middle class adult into a tail spin. Standard assessment tools could not measure the growth of our Youthbuild participants. However, this instructor was pleasantly surprised by subtle changes in attitude and performance by Lynden Johnson.



Lynden correcting a rafter problem in a garage at a Habitat for Humanity project in Rochester Minnesota

Lynden showed leadership ability by planning and implementing a team-building activity for our entire group early in the year. Lynden, a talented skate boarder, had his own interest in mind as he arranged for a Youthbuild trip to a local skate park. After this trip Lynden took on the mantle of leading by example. Lynden, with an even temperament, was the lead on many complex and potentially frustrating projects. Through calm demeanor Lynden helped the rest of the crew work as a team to correct a common construction error. Youthbuild functions best when all participants feel accepted as part of the group.

Lynden realized that he had to take responsibility for his own development, yet knew he could not do it all by himself. He readily accepts the supportive environment and caring peer group of Youthbuild to sustain him toward graduation in the Spring of 2008.

2007 Youthbuild Annual Report

YOUTHBUILD LOCAL CONTACTS

Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency, Inc.

702 Third Avenue South
Virginia, MN 55792

Gwen Grell, Youthbuild Program Coordinator

Ph: (218) 749-2912 ext. 220 Fax: (218) 749-2944

E-mail: ggrell@aeoa.org

Ph: (218) 327-6749 (Grand Rapids - Tue., Wed., Fri.)

Tawnya Maras, Youthbuild Case Manager

Ph: (218) 327-1138

E-mail: tmaras@aeoa.org

Service area: St Louis County (excluding City of Duluth)

Bi-County Community Action Programs, Inc.

Post Office Box 579

Bemidji, MN 56601

Anne McGill, Assistant Director of Operations and
Youthbuild Director

Ph: (218) 751-4631 ext. 104 Fax: (218) 751-8452

E-mail: amcgill@paulbunyan.net

Tina Sweatt, Youthbuild Program Coordinator

Ph: (218) 751-4631 ext. 145 Fax: (218) 751-8452

E-mail: tina@youthbuildbemidji.org

Service area: Beltrami and Cass Counties

Carver-Scott Educational Cooperative

401 4th Street

Chaska, MN 55314

Ph: (952) 368-8000 Fax: (952) 368-8888

Joyce Eissinger, Youthbuild Program Coordinator

Crosby Park Manufacturing/Technology Center

309 Lake Hazeltine Drive

Chaska, MN 55318

Ph: (952) 368-8126 Fax: (952) 368-8888

E-mail: jeissinger@cseced.org

Service area: Carver and Scott counties

Central Minnesota Jobs and Training Services

106 Pine Street

Monticello, MN 55362

Rita Borchert, Youth Program Manager

Phone: (763) 271-3706 Cell Ph: (320) 444-1059

Fax: (763) 271-3701

E-mail: rborchert@cmjts.org

Service area: Kandiyohi County

City Academy

958 Jesse Street

Saint Paul, MN 55101

Ph: (651) 298-4624 Fax: (651) 292-6511

Milo Cutter, Director

E-mail: miloc@cityacademy.net

Terry Kraabel, Youthbuild Program Coordinator

E-mail: terryk@cityacademy.net

Service area: Cities of Saint Paul and Oakdale

Guadalupe Alternative Programs

381 East Robie Street

Saint Paul, MN 55107

Allen Selinski, Director

Ph: (651) 222-0758 ext. 305 Fax: (651) 290-2703

E-mail: aselinski@gapschool.org

Guadalupe Alternative Programs - continued

Lynnette Landry, Youthbuild Program Coordinator

Ph: (651) 222-0758 ext. 318 Fax: (651) 290-2703

E-mail: llandry@gapschool.org

Service area: City of Saint Paul

Rural Minnesota Concentrated Employment Programs

803 Roosevelt Avenue

Detroit Lakes, MN 56501

Huldy Sannes, Youthbuild Program Coordinator

Ph: (218) 846-7377 Fax: (218) 846-0773

E-mail: huldys@rmcep.com

Service area: Becker, Otter Tail, and Wadena Counties

Stearns-Benton Employment & Training Council (SBETC)

1542 Northway Drive

Saint Cloud, MN 56303

Ph: (320) 308-5702 Fax: (320) 654-5173

Kathy Zavala

E-mail: kzavala@sbetc.org

Sally Brenden

E-mail: sbrenden@sbetc.org

Eric Grindland, Youthbuild Program Coordinator

E-mail: egrindland@sbetc.org

Service area: Benton and Stearns Counties

The City, Inc.

1315 - 12th Avenue North

Minneapolis, MN 55411

Northside: (612) 377-7559 Fax: (612) 377-1036

Southside: (612) 877-6720 Fax: (612) 877-6755

Mike Loud, Youthbuild Program Coordinator

E-mail: michael_loud@thecityinc.org

Shannalee Horvik, Development Coordinator

E-mail: shannalee_horvik@thecityinc.org

Service area: City of Minneapolis

Tree Trust

2350 Wycliff Street – Suite 200

St. Paul, MN 55114

Ph: (651) 644-5800 Fax: (651) 644-1469

Norm Champ, Director

E-mail: normc@treetrust.org

Tammy Dickinson, Youthbuilding Coordinator

E-mail: tammyd@treetrust.org

Service area: City of Minneapolis

Workforce Development, Inc.

1302 - 7th Street, N.W.

Rochester, MN 55901

Ph: (507) 292-5180 Fax: (507) 292-5173 or

Marge Kuethe, Youthbuild Program Coordinator

Albert Lea Office: (507) 379-3409 Cell: (507) 259-3906

E-mail: mkuethe@wfdi.ws

Jinny Rietmann, Wabasha Youthbuild Case Manager

Wabasha Office: (651) 565-2635

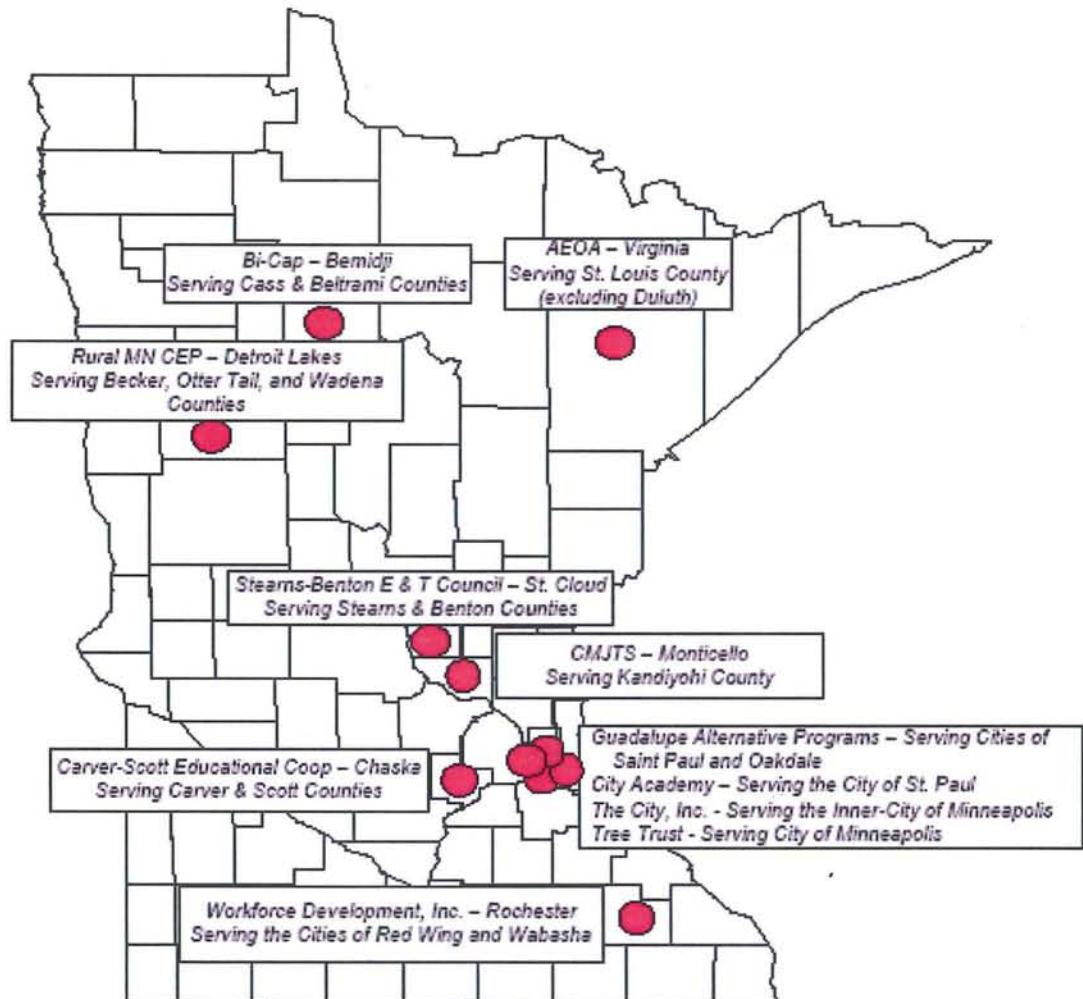
E-mail: jrietmann@wfdi.ws

Ron Benson, Carpenter

E-mail: rbenson@wfdi.ws

Service area: Cities of Red Wing and Wabasha

MAP OF MINNESOTA SERVICE PROVIDERS



NOTE: Tree Trust began providing Youthbuild services on October 1, 2007.



positively
Minnesota
Department of Employment
and Economic Development