

Department of Employment and Economic Development

MINNESOTA YOUTHBUILD PROGRAM

Preparing At-Risk Youth for a Productive Future



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SFY 2015 Youthbuild Program Data Summary

For more information, see the contact information on each profile or:

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Youthbuild Website: http://mn.gov/deed/job-seekers/find-a-job/ targeted-services/youth-employment/youthbuild.jsp

On the Cover:

Main photo: Rural Minnesota CEP, Inc. Habitat for Humanity wall raising. Circle photo: BICAP construction manager works with Youthbuild students.

Introduction

Funding

In SFY 2015, \$1,000,000 in state funds served 412 at-risk youth in ten Minnesota Youthbuild Programs across the state. Thirty-five (35) units of affordable housing were constructed or renovated last year, including a Tiny House for homeless; and forty-four (44) garages and additional building projects.

A separate federal YouthBuild program, administered by DOL through a competitive awards process, funded two state-funded Youthbuild grantees in 2015: Bi-County CAP, Inc. in Bemidji for \$864,000 and Tree Trust in North Minneapolis at \$1,008,000. Two additional state-funded Youthbuild grantees in St. Paul received approximately \$1.5 million in DOL YouthBuild awards in 2013 and 2014: Guadalupe Alternative Programs and Dayton's Bluff Neighborhood Housing Services (City Academy).

Purpose

The Minnesota Youthbuild was first authorized in statute by the Minnesota Legislature in 1989, (M.S. 116L.361 – 116L.366). Youthbuild targets lowincome high school dropouts and youth experiencing repeated school failure who also face barriers such as a criminal background, disability, substance abuse, basic skills deficiency, homelessness, teen pregnancy and parenting, foster care, limited English ability, and dependency on public assistance. Approximately 65% of SFY 2015 participants were from communities of color.

Construction Career Pathway

Youthbuild offers at-risk youth an opportunity to access a construction career pathway while earning a high school diploma or GED. The program provides comprehensive, wrap-around services, including:

- 500 hours of pre-apprenticeship construction training and work experience;
- Industry-recognized credentials; Career exploration and counseling; Support services;
- Contextual basic skills and academic support; Leadership and community service opportunities;
- Work readiness soft skills; Independent living skills; and entrepreneurial and financial literacy;

Communities benefit from highly visible renovation and construction projects completed by youth that expand affordable housing for lowincome families.

Registered Apprenticeship and Hmong American Farmers Association (HAFA) Partners

Youthbuild partners with the Apprenticeship Coordinators Association of Minnesota (ACAM), staff at Joint Apprenticeship Training Centers (JATCs), and the Human Resources Committee of the Associated General Contractors. The collaboration is a "win-win" for Youthbuild graduates and Minnesota's union building trades. Youthbuild graduates continue their construction career pathway and union contractors meet their recruitment goals, especially for young women and young people of color, by sponsoring graduates in the varied and high-wage registered apprenticeships of Minnesota's building trades.

Successful Outcomes

In 2015, over a dozen Youthbuild graduates were working for union employers and accepted into the following registered apprenticeship programs:

 in Sheet Metal, Electricians, Brick and Tile, Cement Masons, Operating Engineers (49ers), Laborers, Roofers, and Carpenters union apprenticeship and affiliated companies.

2015 Youthbuild graduates found positions in non-union construction and related trades:

 as painters, roofers, welders, construction laborers, heavy equipment operators, small engine and maintenance workers.

Other graduates entered careers in business, the medical field, and other well-paid occupations:

 Small Business owners, Business Managers, and Bank Loan Officers, Phlebotomists, Emergency Medical Technicians, Certified Nursing Assistants, community health workers, personal care attendants, Machinists, Manufacturing Technician, County Highway Workers, Computer and Auto Technicians; and military personnel for U.S. Navy (Airman), Marines, Army and National Guard.

About 95% of youth who exit Youthbuild earn a high school diploma or GED; over 90% are placed in private sector employment, registered apprenticeship, post-secondary, advanced credentialed training, and/or the military.

Youthbuild Return on Investment

Youthbuild's Return-on-Investment (ROI) shows significant costs savings to the state due to a significant reduction in public assistance support and reduced recidivism of youth offenders. The recidivism rate of offenders enrolled in Youthbuild has remained consistently in the single digits and a fraction of the typical rate for youth offenders in Minnesota. Moreover, the state collects additional revenues from well-paid, employed Youthbuild graduates who successfully transition into productive adults. Information on ROI of the Minnesota Youthbuild Program can be found at: http://mn.gov/deed/job-seekers/ find-a-job/targeted-services/youthemployment/youthbuild.jsp

Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency, Inc. (AEOA)

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Serving the Quad-Cities area of St. Louis County

Youth Served At-a-Glance

(July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015)

Youth Served	10
Obtained High School Diploma	71%
Placed in Post-Secondary or Employment	71%
Received Industry-Recognized Credential	70%
Youth from Families Receiving Public Assistance	70%
Youth Offenders	90%
Youth Who Are Basic Skills Deficient	100%

Collaborative Partnerships: Northern St. Louis County Habitat for Humanity, Range Transitional Housing, Virginia Public Schools, Northeast Minnesota Office of Job Training, St. Louis County Probation and Juvenile Justice Departments, AEOA's Adult Education, Head Start, Housing and Senior Services Departments.

Best Practices

Collaborative Housing Partnerships: This year,

Youthbuilders took part in an opportunity to job-shadow AEOA's Weatherization crews several times throughout the year. They learned about energy audits, insulation, and the value of good ventilation. The crew also provided maintenance to AEOA's 13-unit Youth Foyer, a permanent supportive housing facility for formerly homeless youth; and repaired AEOA's main building and outer offices.

Industry-Recognized Credentials: Youth receive construction math, GED preparation and Northstar Digital Literacy certification through AEOA's Adult Education program. In 2015, Matthew Ray joined AEOA's Youthbuild program as the Construction Supervisor providing hands-on instruction and training to the youth in the classroom and on AEOA housing projects in the community.



Success Story: MYLES

high school dropout, Myles earned his GED in Youthbuild and gained work experience, carpentry and life skills, and Heart Saver and first-aid certifications. He also used the support of the Youthbuild program to successfully graduate from the St. Louis County Drug Court system. Myles looks forward to moving into unsubsidized employment over the next few months.

Quotes:

- "This was a life changing experience for me and I want to thank you for giving me the opportunity." —YOUTH PARTICIPANT
- "I am in Youthbuild to better myself and keep me out of trouble and to learn job skills that will help me out in the future." – YOUTH PARTICIPANT
- "Partnering with AEOA's Youthbuild was crucial for timely completion of Range Transitional Housing's garage to house the furniture donation project. AEOA's staff were very accommodating to our needs and the Youthbuilders were very professional in the work they completed. We look forward to continuing our partnership and utilizing this valuable community service in the future."

-RANGE TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PARTNER

"We recently hired a former Youthbuild participant in our Weatherization program. He has a good work ethic and is very knowledgeable which undoubtedly he picked up from the Youthbuild Program."

-AEOA WEATHERIZATION SUPERVISOR

Success Story: NICK

ick came to the Youthbuild program at age 23. He had a criminal history, was homeless, and struggled with anxiety. He used Youthbuild's empowerment and life skills lessons to gain self-confidence



and has become a leader among the crew. At this year's Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless Day on the Hill he wrote a four page advocacy letter about the need for more funding to serve those struggling to find housing in our area. He took that story and presented to both Senator Bakk and Representative Jason Metsa. This took Nick out of his comfort zone, but awakened in him a desire to someday serve his community by serving in elected office. Nick is still working on his GED to reach that goal.



AEOA youth constructing a garage.

Since 1994, over 100 Arrowhead Youthbuilders have constructed or rehabilitated 61 homes in addition to three Head Start centers and two homeless youth and adult residences in the quadcities area.

Bi-County Community Action Programs, Inc.

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Serving Beltrami and Cass Counties

Youth Served At-a-Glance

(July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015)

Youth Served	48
Obtained High School Diploma	75%
Placed in Employment or Post-Secondary	88%
Received Industry-Recognized Credential	79%
Youth from Families Receiving Public Assistance	79%
Youth Offenders	71%
Youth Who Are Basic Skills Deficient	92%

Collaborative Partnerships: Gates Foundation, USDA, Bemidji State University and Northwest Technical College, Neilson Place, Red Lake Housing, Leech Lake Tribal College, Cass Lake Bena ALC, Rural MN CEP, MN Green Communities, Evergreen Youth Services, local courts and probation.

Best Practices

Multiple Industry and Nationally Recognized

Credentials: Youthbuilders earn certifications in EPA Lead Renovation, OSHA 10, CPR/First Aid and NCCER construction training. Participants also earn credentials as CNAs, Energy Auditors and Forest Service Firefighters.

Operation Minnesota Nice and Salvation Army:

Each year, Youthbuilders give back to the community by volunteering for local area churches and The Salvation Army's Kettle Campaign, and Pack-to-School, Operation Fill-A-Truck and Tubs of Love programs.



Success Story: BEN

Before Youthbuild I was stuck in a cycle where I would tune out or run from my responsibilities. Survival was my only motivation and sometimes that meant doing things that were illegal. I was homeless, car-less, helpless, and hopeless. Thanks to Youthbuild, I now look to the future and ask myself everyday how I can improve myself, become more independent, even make the world a better place. During my time here I've earned certifications in NCCER, CPR/First Aid, and lead safety; got my driver's license, bought a car, and moved into an apartment. Because of my performance, the Youthbuild staff offered me an Internship position and I intend on enrolling in the McNally-Smith College of Music. **Career and Placement Support:** Youthbuilders receive assistance with career and college exploration; interview preparation; clothing; college applications, financial aid and books. Each Youthbuilder completes a career e-folio containing: resumes, letters of intention, awards, certificates, work experiences and vocational assessments. Recent graduates are now employed with local construction contractors, the U.S. Postal Service, the County Highway Department and companies in manufacturing, healthcare, security, fiber optics and shipping management.

Quotes

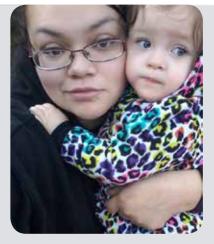
 "Youthbuild graduates are real assets for private contractors. Because of their experience and education, they are job ready."

-LOCAL BUILDING CONTRACTOR

- "To be honest, Youthbuild changed the course of my life. I learned how to open up, apply myself and be a responsible young adult. Youthbuild has helped me see that life isn't a free ride."
 - -YOUTH PARTICIPANT
- "Youthbuild has helped me more times than I can count on my hands and feet. I would not be in the place or the man I am today without this program. Youthbuild is not just my family but my motivation."

Success Story: LaRee

hen I started Youthbuild I was a 21 year old single mom. Before I was accepted, my life was complicated. Joining the program gave me the chance to earn my high



school diploma and NCCER certification. This program is so helpful. I have to thank Youthbuild, my family and my daughter for my motivation to succeed. Before Youthbuild, I felt I was losing hope. Now I've moved on and I'm in the process of going to college and furthering my education.

 "Witnessing Youthbuilders grow into responsible adults, while achieving their diploma, is a win-win for the youth and the community."
 -WORKFORCE CENTER YOUTH COORDINATOR

-YOUTH PARTICIPANT



Since 1990, Bemidji Youthbuild has constructed or rehabilitated over 13 single-family homes, two Head Start facilities and 20 homes for transitional housing.

Central Minnesota Jobs and Training Services (CMJTS)

Eric Day — Program Manager

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Youth Served At-a-Glance

(July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015)

Youth Served	29
Obtained High School Diploma	88%
Received Industry-Recognized Credential	14%
Placed in Post-Secondary or Employment	100%
Youth Who Are Basic Skills Deficient	72%
Youth Offenders	14%
Youth from Families Receiving Public Assistance	24%

Collaborative Partnerships: The Saint Cloud Coalition for Homeless Men, Habitat for Humanity, Painters and Allied Trades Union Training Center, Willmar and Pine City Alternative Learning Centers (ALCs), Ridgewater and Minnesota West Community and Technical Colleges, and the numerous community members and businesses who donated to the CMJTS Tiny House Project.

Best Practices

Helping the homeless, one "Tiny House" at a

time: During the past year, the Willmar Youthbuild team designed and constructed a "tiny house" to provide shelter to a homeless person in central Minnesota. The tiny house was made possible using approximately \$7,000 in Youthbuild funds, in addition to substantial materials, time, and expertise from local businesses, citizens, foundations, and community groups. Youthbuilders learned about all phases of its construction, including: framing, siding, insulating, plumbing, electrical, paneling, and roofing. The completed tiny house was donated to the St. Cloud Coalition for Homeless Men, which will manage the unit.

Building Leadership Skills and a Sense of

Pride: Pine City Youthbuilders were recognized as young leaders, gained valuable skills, and improved



Success Story: TAYLOR

aylor gained significant construction skills and a sense of pride building the state's first tiny house known to benefit the homeless. Despite some personal challenges along with the demands of school and work, Taylor saw the Tiny House Project through to completion in June of 2015. Taylor also received his high school diploma thanks, in part, to the academic credit he earned as a Youthbuild participant. Now employed full-time, Taylor has plans to begin his studies at Ridgewater College in January, 2016. In the last year, Taylor has overcome multiple challenges, helping him realize the value of giving back and being part of something bigger than himself. their community through several local service learning projects. Those projects included the construction of a baseball dugout and announcer stand, a school shed, and a footbridge at a local park.

Emphasis on Secondary School Achievement and Post-Secondary Exploration: Through Youthbuild, participants received online English and math tutoring through CMJTS' Academic Improvement Matters Program, visited several college campuses, toured a union training center, and learned about construction trades employment.

Quotes:

- "Youthbuild was the only thing that tied my son to the school. He hated being in a school classroom. He loved Youthbuild. Through Youthbuild he earned enough credits to move into the next class. Steve (the Construction Trainer) was a godsend to my son. He provided a positive male role model for my son. It is because of Youthbuild that he is getting back on track and doing what he needs to do to get his high school diploma." -PARENT
- "I learned too much to put in words."
 -YOUTHBUILD PARTICIPANT

 "Youthbuild is an awesome opportunity for students to earn a wage and school credit, while gaining real world skills that will help them in whatever avenues they decide to pursue."
 -ALC TEACHER

Since 1996, CMJTS Youthbuild has constructed or rehabilitated over ten homes in central Minnesota and has taken the lead in combating homelessness through the construction of tiny homes.

Success Story: DESTINY

estiny expressed great interested in the Willmar Youthbuild program, stating that her mother had been a Youthbuild participant



back when she was in school. Throughout her year in Youthbuild, Destiny was a great worker and student. She became a role model for her classmates, earning nearly seven elective credits for her outstanding performance. Destiny is now working part-time and attending Ridgewater College. She is excited about taking a major step forward in her life and says that, without Youthbuild, she would still be completing her required credits at the ALC.



City Academy

Milo Cutter — Executive Director

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Youth Served At-a-Glance

(July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015)

Youth Served	62
Obtained High School Diploma	100%
Received Industry-Recognized Credential	100%
Placed in Post-secondary or Employment	100%
Youth from Families Receiving Public Assistance	89%
Youth Offenders	47%
Youth Who Are Basic Skills Deficient	81%

Collaborative Partnerships: Apprenticeship Coordinators Association of Minnesota, Hmong American Farmer's Association (HAFA), Dayton's Bluff Neighborhood Housing Services, Century College, Eastside Neighborhood Development Corporation (ESNDC), St. Paul College, East Metro OIC, City of St. Paul, McGough Construction, Carpenters Local 322.

Best Practices

Industry-Recognized Credentials are earned by Youthbuilders, including: EPA Lead Worker, OSHA 10 and OSHA 30, Fork Lift, Green Advantage, Green Build, Energy Auditor, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, NCCER, Certified Nursing Assistant, Medical Terminology, Introduction to Phlebotomy and First Aid/ CPR.

Strong Partnerships: City Academy Youthbuild's close relationship with the Apprenticeship Coordinators Association of Minnesota (ACAM) has led youth on several Apprenticeship Training Centers tours in order to expose youth to union trade opportunities. A partnership with Century College has better prepared college-bound youth through Accuplacer practice testing, college-level coursework in high school, and college credits and certifications at Century College's Continuing Education Program. A recent collaboration with Hmong American Farmer's Association (HAFA) resulted in a fall shed building project to secure needed storage and rest areas for local vegetable farmers at the HAFA farm near Vermillion.

Sustainable Community Service Projects planned and implemented each year by Youthbuilders have benefited hundreds of eastside neighbors. Projects include: Fifth Annual Green Fair; distribution of rain barrels and community garden produce; yard care for elderly; and maintenance of a five-acre DNR School Forest "The Big Urban Woods". Youthbuilders have also raced solarpowered boats in the Minnesota Renewable Energy Society Regatta on Lake Phalen.



Success Story: ROGER

he rewards I gained through City Academy Youthbuild are knowledge, respect, and success. I gained more knowledge because I'm in school to learn new things for myself and also use that knowledge to help others that have the problems. I earn respect because if I didn't go to school, others would look down on me and that makes me feel weak. Lastly I earn

success because going to school, getting things done, and getting knowledge from others makes me closer to my dream. Roger not only participated in all aspects of the Youthbuild program, he completed 15 college credits prior to graduating in June of 2015 and is now a second semester freshman at the University of Minnesota-Duluth (UMD).

Quotes

- "The work at the HAFA Farm was not only fun but a rewarding experience. The enthusiasm and eagerness to learn from all the students was refreshing. We need more programs like this to help to build a strong and reliable workforce for the coming years. I look forward to helping again on future projects to help teach these kids some of the valuable skills and values I've learned in my 28 years in construction." –CHRIS KRASKEY, LOCAL 10 SHEET METAL FOREMAN, EGAN COMPANY
- "I am a retired member of Carpenters local 322. I recently volunteered at the HAFA Farm to build field sheds. I worked with 5 or 6 students from City Academy, cutting and assembling parts for roof trusses. Once the kids understood what we were doing, they took to it enthusiastically. It was fun to see them get excited about using a power tool, much like myself at that age. I think it was good for the kids to interact with me, and other people like me, other tradesmen, teachers, people of all sorts, with real jobs, working in the real world. I thought the experience was a very positive one both for myself and the kids. Maybe there are some future tradesmen in that group." -CLAUDE BOVI, 37 YEAR MEMBER OF CARPENTERS LOCAL 322
- "Working with the City Academy Youthbuild students, it was plain to see the potential in them. They were eager and wanted to be there. The smiles they had at the end of the day looking at what they accomplished summed it up. I am going on to my 18th year as an electrician and don't

Success Story: ISAIAH

saiah is a Youthbuild graduate who is now a plumber's apprentice on the new Vikings Stadium. Isaiah has moved from entry level to a supervisory position within his first year on the crew. He is a second generation Youthbuild graduate from City Academy and



has worked diligently to build his academic and workplace skills to gain his current position. Isaiah demonstrated leadership skills at school, community service locations and work internship positions. He will be a leader for future Youthbuild graduates in the construction trades.

regret a day of it. I just wish when I was in high school I could have experienced a hands on course like this and had someone (like Dave, City Academy's Worksite Instructor) who would have explained the rewards of a trade. In my opinion the steps Dave is taking will open the eyes of many students to the opportunities there are for them in Minnesota's skilled trades."

-MATT FISCHER, EGAN COMPANY, JOURNEYMAN ELECTRICIAN AND FOREMAN

"Everyone at HAFA has been impressed by how motivated, creative and enthusiastic the youth at City Academy have been. It's been a pleasure to work with them and the staff who is so good at developing the leadership of the youth." –WINNIE ZWICK, HMONG AMERICAN FARMERS ASSOCIATION, PUBLIC RELATIONS COORDINATOR



Sen Hawj and CA Youthbuilders at HAFA Farm

Since 1993, City Academy Youthbuild has constructed or rehabilitated 158 units of low-income housing, ten new garages, 25 farming sheds, and twelve community rain gardens.

Guadalupe Alternative Programs

Allen Selinski – Executive Director

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Serving the of City of St. Paul

Youth Served At-a-Glance

(July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015)

Youth Served	62
Obtained High School Diploma	98%
Received Industry-Recognized Credential	100%
Placed in Post-secondary or Employment	80%
Youth from Families Receiving Public Assistance	50%
Limited English Proficient Youth	97%
Youth Who Are Basic Skills Deficient	97%

Collaborative Partnerships: Iron Workers Union #512, Roofers and Waterproofers Union Local #96, Floor Covers Union Local #68, Serenity Care Facilities; Metro State, Century College, St. Paul and Inver Hills Community Colleges; YouthBuild USA/AmeriCorps; Red Cross, Argosy University, MN DNR, City of St. Paul Parks and Recreation.

Best Practices

Industry-Recognized Credentials: Youthbuilders receive certification in NCCER (a nationally recognized construction curriculum), OSHA 10, SYSCO Systems, Nursing Assistant, Financial Literacy, First Aid/CPR and Northstar Digital Literacy training.

Career Exploration, Post-Secondary Prep and Follow-Up: Youthbuilders tour Apprenticeship Training Centers and complete an employment readiness course which includes: job fairs, career workshops, college tours, Accuplacer practice testing and completion of an E-folio. Staff works with construction contractors, Apprenticeship programs and local businesses to place graduates. Recent placements include six in union brick and tile and carpentry apprenticeships; seven as Certified Nursing Assistants (CNAs), and five Personal care Attendant (PCA) placements.



Success Story: BA THA

B a is a Karen refugee who lived in a Thai refugee camp prior to 2013. At 20, he enrolled in Youthbuild because he was very interested in working in the building trades and getting a union job. Ba excelled in Youthbuild, had perfect attendance, and raised his English proficiency several levels. He also was a great leader in Youthbuild and helped with recruitment. Ba earned his diploma, was accepted into the Laborers Union Local 563, and is working for construction contractor, Semple Companies. **Computer Refurbishing and Recycling:** Youthbuild partners with Minnesota Computers to Schools and Stillwater Prison to train youth in IC3 computer recycling, refurbishing and basic computer skills. They also receive the Northstar digital literacy training.

Serenity Senior Care Partnership: GAP Youthbuild's collaboration with Serenity Senior Care has allowed Youthbuilders to work directly with needy seniors to obtain on-the-job work experience as they work towards becoming a CNA.

Quotes

"I was a bit apprehensive at first about working with students with low English skills, but once we got them on the jobsite we could see that they truly had the skills to be successful in the building trades"

-LOCAL UNION APPRENTICESHIP COORDINATOR

"If I had not come to GAP Youthbuild, I would have still been working for minimum wages in the grocery store. Now I am a CNA and I love helping the people I work with!"

-YOUTH PARTICIPANT

 "I'm very happy that my son could continue his education at GAP Youthbuild. He really likes working with his hands and is excited about finding a job after graduation"

-PARENT

Success Story: HTWA

twa came to Youthbuild at age 21 with beginning level English skills and very little education, attending only one year of schooling in the U.S. and limited schooling in



Burma and in Thai refugee camps. Htwa worked incredibly hard and progressed very quickly on the jobsite and in the classroom. After working a variety of low paying jobs after graduation, Htwa was placed with Anderson Brothers Roofing and has excelled ever since. He is now a member of the Roofers and Waterproofers Union Local #96.



Since 1995, GAP Youthbuild has constructed or rehabilitated over 20 homes.

Rural Minnesota CEP, Inc.

Theresa Hazemann — Program Coordinator

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Serving Clay County

Youth Served At-a-Glance

(July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015)

Youth Served	14
Obtained High School Diploma	100%
Received Industry-Recognized Credential	64%
Placed in Post-secondary or Employment	100%
Youth from Families Receiving Public Assistance	57%
Youth Offenders	50%
Youth Who Are Basic Skills Deficient	86%

Construction Management Meretion Mereti **Collaborative Partnerships:** Adult Basic Education (ABE), Red River Area Learning Center and Youth Education Services, Moorhead High School, M-State, Lakes and Prairies Community Action, Home Builders Association, TRIO Program, Lake Agassiz Habitat for Humanity, Juvenile Justice Program, Clay County Reentry Services, and the City of Moorhead.

Best Practices

Fargo Home Builders Association and Herdina Academy Partnership: RMCEP Youthbuild collaborates with the Fargo Home Builders Association, which has trained Youthbuild participants in several skilled trades through its construction-based Herdina Academy. Youthbuilders receive three college credits by completing the 80-hour two-week Academy, receiving college credit, opportunities for scholarships, and interaction with local contractors while learning wide variety of construction tasks, from basement foundation to roofing and everything in between.

Lake Agassiz Habitat for Humanity Partnership:

Youthbuilders assisted in the new construction of a Habitat home in Moorhead. Youthbuilders framed the foundation and walls, laid trusses, and installed drywall, base flooring, siding, doors and windows. Youth were also able to interact with the home's future owner who was involved in its construction.

Success Story: COLIN

olin Macdonald joined the Youthbuild program, in part, to make up credits in order to graduate with his classmates the following spring. Colin put in many extra hours building furniture and refinishing projects; and volunteering on the Habitat for Humanity site. One of his favorite activities was attending the college and career fairs. After graduation, he received several interviews from HVAC and construction companies while making plans for college to become a Youth Counselor.

Leadership Development on Energy Efficiency, Environmental Health, and Community Gardens:

Youthbuilders learned about energy efficiency ratings and how to install insulation during A Place for Hope building project. Youth also toured a Fargo Home Builders Association Homes Expo; met with local Solar, Geothermal, and Wind Energy vendors; and discussed a newly proposed Solar Energy Community Project with local Public Service Board members and a potential Washington Park Community Garden Project with Mayor Del Rae Williams.

Community Service with a Construction Focus:

The Youthbuild crew volunteered at A Place for Hope, designed and constructing storage cabinets, shelving, and rolling storage benches. Crew Members presented three design samples of each project which staff selected from. Youthbuilders also refinished damaged tables and chairs and patched and painted walls at the Moorhead Public Library.

Quotes from Community Members.

 "The Rural MN CEP Youthbuild program is a tremendous asset to us as a small non-profit. Not only did our shelves and benches turn out AMAZING, truly they are a work of art, the students were involved in each and every part of their construction from the conception to execution. We had one student that even put in volunteer hours to interact with our members. This is a great relationship for all involved. We would enjoy the opportunity to continue to work with these students in the future and give them an A+ for their efforts and execution."

-EXECUTIVE, A PLACE FOR HOPE

Success Story: DUANE

uane joined the Youthbuild program to support his education, family, and career goals. Through the program, Duane was able to attend M-State courses for credit and shadow automotive technology and carpentry classes and worksites in Moorhead. This past spring, Duane graduated from high



school and is now considering a career in carpentry or automotive technology.

- "Youthbuild does a great job with the students. They work hard and stay on task."
 - -EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, LAKE AGASSIZ HABITAT FOR HUMANITY
- "Youthbuild has made a lasting impression on the Moorhead Public Library. The projects they have completed have improved the space and helped create a better library for our community."

-DIRECTOR, LAKE AGASSIZ REGIONAL LIBRARY



Since 1995, RMCEP Youthbuild has built 11 Habitat houses, two duplexes and 23 homes in the cities of Moorhead and Perham, MN.

SouthWest Metro Educational Cooperative

Joyce Eissinger — Youthbuild Coordinator

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Serving Scott and Carver Counties

Youth Served At-a-Glance

(July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015)

Youth Served	72
Obtained High School Diploma	72%
Received Industry-Recognized Credential	81%
Placed in Post-secondary or Employment	74%
Youth With a Disability	54%
Youth Offenders	29%
Youth Who Are Basic Skills Deficient	49%

Best Practices

Articulated Construction Curriculum and

Credentials — SouthWest Metro's construction standards curriculum is articulated with local postsecondary institutions. Students who complete a year of Youthbuild construction training with a B average or higher receive advanced standing at Hennepin Technical College. Gary Dohse, a licensed vocational instructor, provides construction and OSHA 10 training and certification to Youthbuild participants.

Contextual Academic Curriculum — Academic standards are integrated into Youthbuild's construction curriculum, making learning purposeful, meaningful and interesting for students. Youthbuild's Blueprint for Geometry course integrates math skills on the construction site. Government and Citizenship standards, along with English Language Arts standards, are also integrated into Youthbuild, providing additional academic credits to participants in the program.

Job Placement — Recent Youthbuild graduates have gone on to become an Electrician's apprentice, Construction Laborer, Landscaper, North Dakota oil field worker, Personal Care Attendant, Driver and Chef. Several graduates have enrolled in a branch of the military or Hennepin Technical, Normandale, MCTC, St. Paul or Ridgewater College.



Success Story: MISRRAM

Youthbuild helped me to achieve hands-on experience in carpentry skills and success in school by earning extra credits. I love this program and everything that it's done for me. Without Youthbuild, I would not be caught up in school and have experience in the construction field. Gary and Paul (the worksite instructors) are great people to work with and taught me so many things, including getting my OSHA 10 card and knowing safety precautions. They taught me skills which made me a better student and employee. Now I have an opportunity to work for Lund Construction. I have support from everyone, including Gary.

Quotes

- "It was not just a good experience I learned many life lessons." <u>-YOUTH PARTICIPANT</u>
- "I loved the program. It was a good opportunity to learn many new things and I would recommend it to anyone." – YOUTH PARTICIPANT



Success Story: TRISTON

When I got out of treatment I wasn't sure what I was going to do with my life. My alternative school told me about Youthbuild so I checked into it. I like the handson learning and it's



fun. I believe Youthbuild will give me a fresh start in life and make up for the time I was not able to perform at my highest ability." Triston graduated from high school last year and is now working for Reliakor Public Services in Shakopee, providing snowplowing, pavement, and property maintenance services.

Since 1992, Youthbuilders have constructed or renovated seven houses; three duplexes, four 4-plexes, one 6-plex and 26 apartments; constructed four units of a Juvenile Alternative Facility for adjudicated youth and a child care center; constructed or renovated buildings or additions for: Scott and Carver County parks, CDA and CAP Agencies; Auburn Manor; MN DNR; East Creek Family Center; Cedar Lake Farm; local public and alternative schools and hospitals.

Stearns-Benton Employment and Training Council

David Green — Program Manager

dgreen@sbetc.org

1542 Northway Drive St. Cloud, MN 56303 (Phone) 320.308.5712

Website: www.workforceu.com

Serving Stearns and Benton Counties

Youth Served At-a-Glance

(July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015)

Youth Served	55
Obtained High School Diploma	68%
Received Industry-Recognized Credential	96%
Placed in Post-secondary or Employment	88%
Youth from Families Receiving Public Assistance	75%
Youth With a Disability	31%
Youth Who Are Basic Skills Deficient	95%

Collaborative Partnerships:

Central Minnesota Habitat for Humanity, Grainger Company, St. Cloud State University and St. Cloud Technical & Community College, Technical High School

Best Practices:

Construction Tours: Each year Youthbuilders tour construction programs at the St. Cloud Technical & Community College. This year they also toured numerous construction sites and local cabinet shops.

Summer Youthbuild Stipend Policy and

Leadership Development: Youthbuilders earn a stipend of \$50 per day during the eight-week summer program based on attendance, punctuality, cooperation, teamwork, work quality and quantity. Youthbuilders participate in teambuilding activities to develop teamwork, motivation and confidence and learn the value of community, responsibility, cooperation, and respect. During the summer, a motivational speaker works with youth to encourage conflict management, group communication skills and the importance of building meaningful relationships with others.



Success Story: MOHAMED

fter working construction this summer in Youthbuild, Mohamed learned many useful skills and enjoyed helping build a Habitat for Humanity house in addition to working on smaller projects such as construction of saw horses, picnic tables, a storage shed, and a deck After completing his high school education, Mohamed has dreams of going to college for accounting.

Quotes:

- "I learned more than construction skills in Youthbuild, I learned life skills!"
 YOUTH PARTICIPANT
- "Youthbuilders logged 975 hours this past summer helping in the construction of Habitat for Humanity projects. We greatly appreciate their efforts."
 -VOLUNTEER MANAGER, HABITAT FOR HUMANITY
- "I learned how to work hard and be productive on the construction site." – YOUTH PARTICIPANT
- "Youthbuild was a great program for me. We worked as a team and accomplished a lot."
 —YOUTH PARTICIPANT

Success Story: CARYN

aryn enrolled in the Youthbuild program after taking the "Intro to Woodworking" and the "Intro to Construction" courses in high school. Because of her experience, she quickly became a group leader and used her skills and experience to be a role model to other while building the Habitat for



Humanity home. Caryn wants to work in the construction field and possibly work with her uncle who owns a construction company.



Youthbuilder adding trusses to a Habitat for Humanity home.

Since 2005, St. Cloud Youthbuild has constructed sheds, play houses and more than 40 homes with Central Minnesota Habitat for Humanity for low-income families.

Tree Trust

Norm Champ — Executive Director

normc@treetrust.org

2231 Edgewood Avenue South St. Louis Park, MN (Phone) 651-767-3880

Website: www.treetrust.org

Serving City of Minneapolis

Youth Served At-a-Glance

(July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015)

Youth Served	50
Obtained High School Diploma	94%
Received Industry-Recognized Credential	98%
Placed in Post-secondary or Employment	100%
Youth from Families Receiving Public Assistance	60%
Youth Offenders	16%
Youth Who Are Basic Skills Deficient	86%

Collaborative Partnerships: Urban Homeworks, District 287 West Education Center, Minnesota Internship Center, Metropolitan Education for Future Employment High School, Minnesota Transitions and Transition Plus Charter Schools, UnderConstruction.

Best Practices:

Innovative and Credentialed Training: Youthbuild participants receive training and certification in OSHA 10, HBI PACT, Fork Lift and Bobcat skid-steer licensure. This year, Youthbuilders learned new green sustainable building techniques through Minneapolis' Green Homes North Project.

Partnership with Urban Homeworks: Urban Homeworks offers construction training sites to the Tree Trust Youthbuild crew in the form of foreclosed North Minneapolis homes in need of substantial rehabilitation. Once rehabbed, the homes are then sold or rented to low-income north side families. Upon graduation, several Youthbuilders have been employed with Urban Homeworks.

Leadership and Life Skills Training: include specialized curriculum geared toward career exploration, job search skills, money management, health, and conflict resolution. The Youthbuilder Leadership Committee helps develop program feedback and community service projects. This year's projects included the Minnesota Literacy Council, Alliance Housing, and Three Rivers Park District.



Success Story: MAKEES

akees completed his work year at Tree Trust Youthbuild and received his high school diploma. Makees showed strong leadership skills through his involvement in the Youthbuild Leadership Committee where he helped plan special projects and give program feedback. Reflecting back on his time at Youthbuild Makees remarked, "I liked the atmosphere because Youthbuild was a learning environment. Yet, at the same time we had fun and that helped us learn even more because we enjoyed doing it. I'm proud of what I've accomplished and my work." In the fall 2015, Makees started school at Saint Mary's University of Minnesota.

Quotes:

- "I liked knowing I'm helping out in my community. I might have found a potential career path too."
 YOUTH PARTICIPANT
- "Youthbuild taught me how to be a leader and how to lead in a project."
 -YOUTH PARTICIPANT
- "I liked everything about Youthbuild. I got to work outdoors with my hands with fun people. It gave me resources for a future in career. Youthbuild was a nice introduction to construction."
 YOUTH PARTICIPANT
- "The Tree Trust Youthbuild program is outstanding and we greatly appreciate the partnership that has developed between MTS and Tree Trust. The opportunity for our students to gain paid work experience and real-life job training has been a critical factor in student success at MTS."

-MINNESOTA TRANSITIONS CHARTER SCHOOL STAFF

Success Story: VICTOR

ictor showed a strong aptitude for construction work and earned his Home Builders Institute Certificate while in Youthbuild. He returned



back to high school in the fall 2015 to complete his few remaining high school credits to earn his diploma. Victor commented about his time at Tree Trust Youthbuild, "I learned a lot at Tree Trust Youthbuild, especially how to build from scratch and fix things. Plus, I was paid to go to school." Victor landed a well-paying summer job installing sprinklers. His time at Youthbuild enabled him to explore a career in trades and he anticipates turning his skills learned in Youthbuild into a successful career post high school.



Green home being built by the Tree Trust Youthbuild crew in north side of Minneapolis.

Since 2006, Tree Trust Youthbuild has rehabilitated 43 single-family homes, 25 garages, and four multi-unit apartments on the north side of Minneapolis.

Southeast Minnesota Workforce Development, Inc.

Jinny Reitmann — Program Manager JinnyRietmann@workforcedevelopmentinc.org

2070 College View Road East Rochester, MN 55904 (Phone) **507-292-5165**

Website: www.workforcedevelopmentinc.org

County served: Wabasha and Olmsted

Youth Served At-a-Glance

(July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015)

Youth Served	10
Obtained High School Diploma	75%
Received Industry-Recognized Credential	90%
Placed in Post-secondary or Employment	70%
Youth with Substance Abuse Issues	70%
Youth Offenders	80%
Youth Who Are Basic Skills Deficient	90%

Collaborative Partnerships: River Valley Academy, Wabasha County HRA, Olmsted County Habitat for Humanity, Minnesota State College – Southeast Technical, Rochester Community and Technical College, Rochester Alternative Learning Center, Rochester Area Construction Partnership.

Best Practices:

Fork Lift Training: Forklift Operations training and certification is provided to Youthbuilders by trainer George Borzyskowski of Southeast Technical College and Peerless Chain.

Multi-tiered Work Experience: WDI Youthbuild has recently taken on a multi-tiered work experience approach, where youth and young adults are able to move through various work experiences depending on their level of skill and work readiness. The program has a variety of job training opportunities available, from volunteer work at the base level through skilled apprenticeship.



Success Story: ALEXIS

lexis was referred to the Wabasha Workforce Development, Inc. Youthbuild Program at River Valley Academy in the winter of 2015, seeking assistance with work readiness and occupational skills training. Alexis was a huge asset to the Youthbuild team, learning quickly. During a few short months, Alexis earned her driver's license, forklift certification, and is currently working as a P.C.A. This fall Alexis will be attending MSC Southeast Technical in Winona to earn her C.N.A. Once Alexis graduates from high school in the spring, she hopes to attend college to further her education in the medical field. Partnerships with registered apprenticeship, employers, and local government: In 2015, WDI

Youthbuild began collaborating with the Rochester Area Construction Partnership, a consortium of general contractors, registered apprenticeship programs, and contractors in the skilled construction crafts. Over the past several years, WDI Youthbuild has partnered with Wabasha County, the City of Wabasha, and local employers to provide Youthbuilders with summer employment and building projects throughout the year.

Quotes

- "I would not have any hesitation in hiring any of these students as employees once they turn 18." -PEERLESS CHAIN CEO
- "After boot camp, my friends left me. I was hanging out with the wrong crowd. Youthbuild staff believed in me and helped me see that I actually had potential. Ron Benson, construction supervisor, went out of his way to help me and truly cared about me so I didn't want to let him down." – YOUTH PARTICIPANT



Success Story: WILL

ill was referred to the Wabasha Workforce Development, Inc. office in the fall of 2013, to participate in the youth build program at River Valley Academy. Will was seeking assistance with work readiness and occupational skills training. Since being in the Youthbuild program Will has excelled and taken on several leadership tasks with the various build projects in the classroom. Will has also gained his OSHA 10 and forklift certification. Will is graduating this spring and is planning on an apprenticeship program within the building trades.



Since 1997, Wabasha Youthbuild has constructed or rehabilitated a dozen single-family homes in southeastern Minnesota.

SFY 2015 Minnesota Youthbuild Program Data Summary

(July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015)

		COMBINED TOTALS	TOTALS	РСТ	AEOA	Bi-CAP	CMJTS	City Academy	GAP
	1.	Total Participants Served and/or Receiving Follow-Up Services during July 1, 2014-June 30, 2015	412		10	48	29	62	62
Gender	2a.	Male	296	72%	10	29	20	48	25
	2b	Female	116	28%	0	19	9	14	37
	3a	16 - 17 Years of Age	116	28%	0	10	18	13	0
e	3b.	18 - 19 Years of Age	184	45%	2	14	11	48	10
Age	3c.	20 - 21 Years of Age	76	18%	3	20	0	2	30
n Ethnicity/Race	3d.	22-24 Years of Age	38	9%	5	4	0	1	22
	4a.	Hispanic/Latino	36	9%	0	2	12	5	0
	4b.	American Indian/Alaska Native	47	11%	5	32	1	0	0
	4c.	Asian Black as African Astronom	112	27%	0	0	0	49	59
	4d.	Black or African American White (not Hispanic)	74 141	18% 34%	2	0	0 16	5	3
	4e. 4f.	Other or Not Available	2	0%	0	0	0	0	0
	5a.		412	100%	10	48	29	62	62
Education Level	5b.		0	0%	0	0	0	02	02
		-							
	5c.	Post-Secondary Education	0	0%	0	0	0	0	0
	6.	Not Employed at Enrollment	364	88%	10	38	25	62	50
	7.	Youth with a Disability or Special Education IEP Foster Youth	124 16	30%	1	15	3	6	1
	8. 9.	Youth Offender	134	4% 33%	9	2 34	2	3	0
	10.	Youth from Families Receiving Public Assistance	245	59%	7	38	7	55	31
ogra	11.		345	84%	10	44	, 21	59	60
em	12.		98	24%	6	13	2	29	6
Other Demographics	13.		66	16%	5	15	3	18	11
	14.		33	8%	3	3	0	15	0
	15.	Limited English Proficient Youth	66	16%	0	0	1	3	60
	16.	/ 5	266	65%	10	46	12	2	62
	17.	High School Dropout or Repeated School Failure	412	100%	10	48	29	62	62
ies	1.	Received Education or Job Training Activities	408	99%	10	48	29	62	62
tivit	2.	Received Work Experience Activities	408	99%	10	48	29	62	62
Ac	3.	Received Community/Leadership Development Activities	405	98%	7	48	29	62	62
Program Activities	4.	Received Post-Secondary Exploration/Career Activities	397	96%	8	38	29	62	62
	5. 6.	Received Mentoring Activities Received Support Services	412 378	100% 92%	10 7	48 48	29 3	62 62	62 62
Performance Outcomes at Exit	1.	Total Participants Exiting Program	378	75%	7	32	16	62	54
	2.	Participants Continuing Program/Secondary Education	103	25%	3	16	13	02	8
		Earned High School Diploma or GED	266	94%	5	24	14	62	53
		Dropped Out of High School and Program	19	6%	2	4	1	0	0
	3.c.	Relocated, Entered Treatment, or Other (continued secondary education at exit)	25	8%	1	5	1	0	0
es a	4.a	Obtained Placement	282	91%	5	28	16	62	43
info Com	4.b	Employed	254	82%	4	25	16	46	43
Out P	4.c.		116	38%	4	11	5	50	21
	4.0	Placed in Registered Building Trades Apprenticeship and/or Construction or Heavy Equipment Employment	28	9%	1	4	2	8	3
	4.e.	Placed in Credentialed Career Pathway or High Wage/Skilled Employment (i.e. Medical, Manufacturing, Automotive, Construction)	77	25%	1	7	2	29	12
	5.	Hourly Wage @ FT Placement	\$12.22		\$11.67	\$10.75	\$12.00	13.75	\$11.76
Participant Outcomes	6.	Work Readiness or Educational Goals Obtained	397	96%	9	48	29	62	62
	7.	Academic or Service Learning Credit Earned	318	77%	0	41	29	62	0
	8.	Average Worksite Attendance Rate	86%		85%	73%	85%	95%	95%
	9.	Recidivism Rate of Youth Offenders	9	7%	1	4	0	0	1
	10.	Industry-Recognized Credential or Certificate Earned (OSHA 10, Lead Safety, Fork Lift, Bobcat, Welding, NCCER, PACT, CNA, EMS)	351	85%	7	38	4	62	62
	11.		12,745		0	2112	3,625	2480	70
		CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY	,				-,	2.00	
1. Participants Rating Youthbuild Excellent 193 75% 3 32 1 39 55									
	2. Participants Rating Youthbuild Very Good			19%	1	11	1	5	5
	3. Participants Rating Youthbuild Average			5%	0	5	1	0	2
	4. Participants Rating Youthbuild Below Average			0% 0%	0	0	0	0	0
	5. Participants Rating Youthbuild Poor				0	0	0	0	0
6. Total	Num	ber of Surveys Completed	256		4	38	3	44	62
HOUSING AND CONSTRUCTION OUTCOMES									
		l Housing Units Constructed	35		15	1	2	3	1
2. Individuals Housed 3. Garages and Other Structures Constructed			112 44		20 9	14 0	76	7	5
		es Constructed and/or Community Gardens Created	44		9	0	0	1	<u> </u>

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SFY 2015 Minnesota Youthbuild Program Data Summary

Southwest SBETC RMCEP **COMBINED TOTALS** TOTALS РСТ WDI **Tree Trust** Metro Total Participants Served and/or Receiving Follow-Up Services during July 1, 2014-June 30, 2015 1. Gender 2a. Male 72% 2b Female 28% 16 - 17 Years of Age 28% 3a 3b. 18 - 19 Years of Age 45% Age 20 - 21 Years of Age 18% 3c. 22-24 Years of Age 9% 3d. Hispanic/Latino 9% 4a. Ethnicity / Race American Indian/Alaska Native 11% 4b. 4c. Asian 27% Black or African American 18% 4d. 4e. White (not Hispanic) 34% 4f. Other or Not Available 0% Education Level 9th Grade - 12th Grade (no diploma or GED at entry) 5a. 100% 5b. **High School Graduate** 0% **Post-Secondary Education** 5c. 0% 6. Not Employed at Enrollment 88% 7. Youth with a Disability or Special Education IEP 30% 8. **Foster Youth** 4% Demographics Youth Offender 33% 10. Youth from Families Receiving Public Assistance 59% 11. Basic Skills Deficient Youth 84% 12. Youth with Substance Abuse Issues 24% 13. Pregnant or Parenting Youth 16% **Other** 14. Homeless or Runaway Youth 8% 15. Limited English Proficient Youth 16% 16. Economically Disadvantaged Youth 65% 17. High School Dropout or Repeated School Failure 100% **Received Education or Job Training Activities** 1. 99% Program Activities **Received Work Experience Activities** 2. 99% 3. Received Community/Leadership Development Activities 98% 4. **Received Post-Secondary Exploration/Career Activities** 96% 5. **Received Mentoring Activities** 100% 6. **Received Support Services** 92% 1. **Total Participants Exiting Program** 75% Participants Continuing Program/Secondary Education 2. 25% 3.a. Earned High School Diploma or GED 94% 3.b. Dropped Out of High School and Program 6% Performance Outcomes at Exi 3.c. Relocated, Entered Treatment, or Other (continued secondary education at exit) 8% **Obtained Placement** 91% 4.a. 4.b. Employed 82% 4.c. Enrolled in Post-Secondary or Received Post-Secondary Credential 38% 4.d. Placed in Registered Building Trades Apprenticeship and/or Construction or Heavy Equipment Employment 9% Placed in Credentialed Career Pathway or High Wage/Skilled Employment (i.e. Medical, Manufacturing, 4.e. 25% Automotive, Construction) Hourly Wage @ FT Placement \$12.22 \$11.08 \$13.04 \$11.78 \$11.88 \$13.10 5. 6. Work Readiness or Educational Goals Obtained 96% Participant Outcomes 7. Academic or Service Learning Credit Earned 77% 8. Average Worksite Attendance Rate 86% 79% 87% 94% 70% 96% 9. **Recidivism Rate of Youth Offenders** 7% Industry-Recognized Credential or Certificate Earned (OSHA 10, Lead Safety, Fork Lift, Bobcat, Welding, NCCER, 10. 85% PACT, CNA, EMS) 12,745 Total Community Service Hours Logged 1.980 1,480 11. CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY 1. Participants Rating Youthbuild Excellent 75% 2. Participants Rating Youthbuild Very Good 19% 3. Participants Rating Youthbuild Average 5% 4. Participants Rating Youthbuild Below Average 0% 5. Participants Rating Youthbuild Poor 0% 6. Total Number of Surveys Completed HOUSING AND CONSTRUCTION OUTCOMES 1. Residential Housing Units Constructed 2. Individuals Housed

3. Garages and Other Structures Constructed

. . . .

4. Greenhouses Constructed and/or Community Gardens Created

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Minnesota

Department of Employment and Economic Development

OFFICE OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

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