

Greeting from Sangeeta

- The Green Initiative is valuable to YouthBuild community because:

-According to WebSTAQ data that we collect from affiliates, 9% of all job placements reported are in green jobs. Within the last year, 44% of the units built were reported to be green, over 600 have been weatherized, and 300 were built to ENERGY STAR standards.

-Moreover, by 2015, an estimated 40-48% of new non-residential construction by value will be green, equating to a \$120-145 billion opportunity in the construction industry – that which 30% of our YouthBuild graduates are entering.

-Green Initiative here at YouthBuild USA is leading work to be used as an example for YouthBuild International

-These statics show us that green is a priority for our country along with many of our programs. Therefore, the Green Initiative is here to offer support and resources so that YouthBuild remains a strong player in this growing opportunity for a healthy living environment, jobs, and leadership.

-We hope to find value in everyone sharing ideas and best practices in order to grow a stronger and more interconnected green community within YouthBuild USA.

Green Team Introduction

-Eva (Senior Director): The Green Initiative places an emphasis on building sustainable communities and creating opportunities to bring our young people out of poverty. Our purpose is to connect you with peers and experts in the field because lots of youth build practitioners doing wonderful things. We want you to learn from the best and we think a lot of *you* are the best. We would also like to connect programs with USGBC, ENERGY STAR homes, and with important players from the organizations you want to work with.

-Chris (Project Manager): Would like to ensure that all practices in the field are being shared with the network so we can all learn from each other. It is a goal to publicize the great work everyone does.

-Ted (Director of Green Construction): Main goal is to increase capacity for green building. Ted travels all around the country to “train the trainer” with certifications like NCCER, HBI PACT, etc. He sees that the work is not just domestic, as Sangeeta said. He would like to bring green building back to life and invigorate the YouthBuild USA green community and utilize resources within the vast network.

-Jessica (AmeriCorps VISTA/communications): Shares a monthly e-newsletter and is always looking for stories to share for it and our twitter, which is @YB_Green. She encourages all of

you to send in stories and photos of any work related to green that you'd like to share with the field to jslicer@youthbuild.org.

Overview of Green Practices in the Field and the Work of the Green Initiative

-Since 2005, the Green Initiative has provided technical assistance and resources to YouthBuild programs to increase the number of affordable homes built to green standards, prepare students for green careers, and develop overall environmental leadership. This includes green construction certification and training to over 1,300 YouthBuild construction trainers, directors, and students from programs across the country; and \$3.5 million in grants to YouthBuild USA affiliates for green building, weatherization, green business and career development sponsored by the Bank of America Charitable Foundation, the Saint-Gobain Corporation, REDF, and the Walmart Foundation. As a result, over half of the units built by affiliates are reported to have been built green, many certified to third party standards such as LEED™ and ENERGY STAR. Furthermore, 92 YouthBuild programs have reported placing 588 graduates in green collar jobs.

- \$40,000 in seed grants to graduate entrepreneurs for green business development sponsored by the Walmart Foundation;
- Over 600 YouthBuild construction trainers certified to deliver industry- recognized green construction & weatherization certifications to YouthBuild students, including those from the Home Builders Institute (HBI), National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER), Building Trades Department of the AFL-CIO, and the Building Performance Institute (BPI);
- Over 40 affiliate conference calls with industry experts in renewable energy and green construction topics;
- A 3-day YouthBuild Green Learning Exchange, 9 green hand-on trainings, and 14 construction certification trainings jointly offered with DOL;
- A YouthBuild AmeriCorps Green Homebuilding Service Day on The National Mall attended by Michelle Obama in 2009;
- A 3-year Weatherization Innovation Pilot Program from 2011- 2013 through the Department of Energy which provided skill training and certification to YouthBuild students at 6 YouthBuild programs that hired YouthBuild graduates and other community members to weatherize over 900 units of low-income housing;
- A multi-year partnership started in 2010 with the Saint-Gobain Corporation that provides funding to 4 YouthBuild programs to build or renovate sustainable green homes, with Saint-Gobain building scientists leading green design charrettes for each project resulting so far in 2 LEED™ Platinum and 1 LEED™ Gold certified affordable homes, the first in their communities;
- A multi-year partnership with the Bank of America Charitable Foundation that has provided pass-through funding and technical assistance in green construction and green career pathways to 9 YouthBuild affiliates; and
- A partnership with the U.S. Green Building Council for YouthBuild USA and local YouthBuild programs to participate annually in Greenbuild, the world's largest green building conference, for the fifth consecutive year with a YouthBuild booth at the Trade Show, hundreds of volunteer and scholarship positions for local YouthBuild students and graduates.

Conference Call Series Potential Topics

- **LA CAUSA: How to engage the unions in discussing green jobs
 - Strategy when we want to talk about green jobs in construction industry, apprenticeships, etc.
 - How to approach the trades to talk about program?
- **ReSource: Working with renewables - would be great to have support with NASEF certification
- **Ted explored doing a radon pilot.
- **Call on whole house air quality control installers
- **Ann: BPI testing - train the trainer wanted
- **LA CAUSA: Hope we are able to get together at some point - face time is valuable

Possible Topics and Presenters

- Weatherization (Building Performance Institute, Dept. of Energy, YouthBuild Program Practitioners)
- Earth Day, Arbor Day, Green Apple Day of Service: Environmental Community Service (Earth Day Network, US Green Building Council)
- Green Construction Practices 101, 201... (Casa Verde Builders, US Green Building Council)
- ENERGY STAR HOMES (Department of Energy)
- Environmental Literacy in the Classroom (Dr. Raquel Pinderhughes)
- Renewable Energy (Ontility, Solar Energy International)
- Deconstruction (Building Materials Reuse Association)
- Urban and rooftop gardens (DC Greenworks)
- Eco-Apartheid (Institute for Sustainable Economic, Educational & Environmental Design)
- Finding Green Jobs & Delivering Green Job Occupational Skills Training (DOL, Green for All, Center on Wisconsin Strategy)
- Green Construction and Environmental Literacy Curricula (Home Builders Institute, NCCER, Organic Think, Roots of Success)
- USGBC Chapter Partnerships (USGBC Chapter representatives, Green Building Alliance)
- Corporate Partnerships (Saint-Gobain, Bank of America, YouthBuild Program Practitioners)
- Green Revenue-Generating Projects (YouthBuild Program Practitioners)
- Green Lifestyles, Program Culture and Business Practices (The Center for Green Schools, YouthBuild Program Practitioners)
- Sustainable Communities (Emerald Cities Collaborative)