

ABSTRACT

Applicant: Career Training Institute
Project Title: Youth Build Helena
Area to Be Served: Helena, Montana
Funding Request: \$995,000
Matching Funds: \$368,500
Project Period: July 1, 2011, through June 30, 2014
Youth Served: 56
Urban or Rural Rural
Key Partners: Career Training Institute
Helena School District Access to Success Program
University of Montana Helena College of Technology
Mountain West Bank
Foster Care Transitional Living Services
Helena Housing Authority
Youth Probation and Parole
Capital Area Workforce System One Stop System
State Workforce Investment Board

Project Description

Career Training Institute in collaboration with the Helena School District and University of Montana College of Technology is submitting a Youth Build application to the US Department of Labor.

Youth Build Helena will offer intensive, comprehensive education and employment services for 56 disadvantaged youth, primarily high school dropouts and at-risk youth between 16 and 24 years old. Seventy-five percent of youth will be high school dropouts and have at least one of the following characteristics: a member of low income family, a youth offender, have a disability, or have an incarcerated parent. Twenty-five percent of youth will have a high school diploma or GED and be basic skill deficient or a referred by the school district for participation.

The primary focus of the program is to help youth attain their high school diploma and gain construction and work readiness skills as they participate in the building of an affordable house for a low-income family. Youth Build Helena will emphasize educational and skill attainment as well as offering leadership, civic engagement, personal responsibility, work readiness, job readiness, and life skill building activities. Trainees will be prepared to enter construction careers, but may also explore career clusters in other high growth industries.

Mountain West Bank has set aside two building lots in the Glacier View Subdivision. Each year, Youth Build Helena will construct a house that is an affordable home for a low-income family. Academic and vocational instruction will integrate the Big Sky Pathways Architecture and Construction program of study which identifies a sequence of rigorous academic and career courses and pre-apprenticeship standards for carpenters. Each day trainees will spend one-half their time in school and the other half time at the worksite learning construction skills as they build a house.

CTI's case manager will schedule additional community service, leadership, and job readiness activities during evenings and weekends for the purpose of keeping youth engaged and interested in their personal development as well as the development of the Helena community.