



NEWS

South Bay Workforce Investment Board

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

South Bay Workforce Investment Board
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June 12, 2020

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AWARDS \$1.3 MILLION YOUTHBUILD GRANT TO SOUTH BAY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD LED - COALITION TO SUPPORT ACADEMIC, OCCUPATIONAL SKILLS AND LEADERSHIP TRAINING FOR OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTH

HAWTHORNE – The U.S. Department of Labor announced the award of \$1.3 million in YouthBuild grant funds to the South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) and its partners, YouthBuild Charter School of California and Habitat For Humanity of Greater Los Angeles. The funds will support academic, occupational skills and leadership training for at-risk out-of-school youth in South Bay communities. All youth will engage in low-income housing construction or rehabilitation projects in Los Angeles County regions that are in dire need of livable, affordable housing. YouthBuild Charter School of California will also conduct the academic skills curriculum that will enable participants to successfully earn a high school diploma.

“We are grateful to once again be recognized by the U.S. Department of Labor with this much needed grant award,” said Jan Vogel, SBWIB Executive Director. “After they complete occupational skills training and earn industry-recognized certifications, these YouthBuild participants will be able to secure good paying jobs and get on a path to self-sufficiency,” he concluded.

The SBWIB YouthBuild career pathway program provides a seamless progression from education to work-based training that includes classroom instruction and occupational skills training in construction building trades for youth ages 16 to 24 at approved work sites managed by Habitat for Humanity. The YouthBuild participants are low income, have either been in the juvenile justice system, or have aged out of foster care and have dropped out of high school or are otherwise at-risk of failing to reach key educational and career milestones.

Following the construction training students may continue their pathway in construction or if interested, pursue other jobs and will be provided options to explore careers in aerospace manufacturing or bioscience through a newly designed pre apprenticeship program offered at the SBWIB called, Aero-Flex and Bio-Flex. Students choosing to enter the program will earn certificates from the SBWIB and the Society of Manufacturing Engineer’s ToolingU program.

SBWIB serves South Bay communities through its four South Bay One-Stop Business and Career Centers in Inglewood, Gardena, Carson and Torrance. Visit www.sbwib.org for a complete listing of no cost services available to businesses and job seekers. Contact the YouthBuild team at (310) 225-3060 for application information.

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