

April 10, 2009

DIRECTIVE:	JOB CORPS INFORMATION NOTICE NO. 08-37
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TO: ALL JOB CORPS NATIONAL OFFICE STAFF
ALL JOB CORPS REGIONAL OFFICE STAFF
ALL JOB CORPS CENTER DIRECTORS
ALL JOB CORPS CENTER OPERATORS
ALL NATIONAL TRAINING AND SUPPORT CONTRACTORS
ALL OUTREACH, ADMISSIONS, AND CTS CONTRACTORS

FROM: ESTHER R. JOHNSON, Ed.D.
National Director
Office of Job Corps

SUBJECT: Information on Opportunities and Resources for Collaboration Between
Job Corps and YouthBuild to Increase OBS and Placement Options

1. Purpose. To provide information on opportunities for collaboration with the Department of Labor's YouthBuild program to enhance Job Corps' On-Board Strength (OBS), and to provide alternative training options for non-eligible Job Corps applicants and former enrollees.
2. Background. As summer months approach, there is often a decline in OBS at Job Corps centers across the country. Conversely, many YouthBuild programs are oversubscribed and have extensive waiting lists. Collaboration between YouthBuild sites and Job Corps Outreach and Admissions (OA) offices can increase YouthBuild's referral of applicants to Job Corps and improve Job Corps' enrollment numbers. Also, Job Corps' OA offices can offer information on YouthBuild as an alternative training option for young people who apply to Job Corps but do not find that it meets their needs. In addition, centers and career transition services (CTS) providers may establish linkages with YouthBuild in order to refer some of Job Corps' former enrollees to YouthBuild to continue their technical training in construction or complete their General Educational Development (GED) or high school diploma. In many cases, YouthBuild meets Job Corps' criteria for an educational placement. The CTS provider will confirm with the YouthBuild provider that the former enrollee is getting no less than 20 hours of classroom time per week. The time frame for enrollment in YouthBuild is at least 6 months and up to 2 years of training.

What is YouthBuild? YouthBuild is a nonresidential youth training and community development program, funded and administered by the Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration Office of Youth Services. It enables out-of-school youth to obtain a high school diploma or GED, develop skills in the construction trades (and, in some cases, other

high-demand industry areas), and advance toward postsecondary education. The primary target populations for the YouthBuild program are adjudicated youth, youth leaving foster care, and other at-risk young people.

YouthBuild participants ages 16-24 receive opportunities for meaningful work and service to their communities. In addition, YouthBuild construction training projects increase the supply of permanent affordable housing for homeless individuals and low-income families. Over the past 13 years, YouthBuild programs have successfully worked with the most at-risk youth to transition them to postsecondary educational and employment opportunities.

At present, there are over 200 YouthBuild programs operating in the United States, many of which are close to Job Corps centers.

3. Effective Collaboration

Job Corps and YouthBuild sites in the Washington, DC metropolitan area provide an example of how the two programs have been able to successfully collaborate. OA staff members routinely give presentations and distribute Job Corps marketing materials at YouthBuild sites. Both Job Corps and YouthBuild staff keep each others' names and telephone numbers readily available to make applicant referrals. Job Corps CTS staff members often place former Job Corps enrollees in YouthBuild to enable them to complete their education and training requirements in YouthBuild when it is most conducive to their needs.

4. Resources. Attached to this Information Notice are resources that Job Corps staff can use to connect with YouthBuild staff and explore opportunities for collaboration (see list of attachments at the end of this Notice). For more about YouthBuild, including initiatives and newly awarded YouthBuild sites, go to the Web site <http://www.youthbuild.org>.

5. Action. Job Corps staff members are encouraged to read and utilize the attached resources in establishing relationships with local YouthBuild sites.

Addressees are to ensure that this Information Notice is distributed to all appropriate staff.

6. Expiration Date. Until superseded.

7. Inquiries. Inquiries should be directed to Rachel Floyd-Nelson at floyd-nelson.rachel@dol.gov.

Attachments

A – Map of YouthBuild Sites and Job Corps Centers

B – Directory of YouthBuild Sites and Contacts by State