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CAWD AWARDED \$1M YOUTHBUILD GRANT FOR JOB TRAINING THAT ALSO AIDS AFFORDABLE HOUSING CONSTRUCTION

Raleigh, NC, August 25, 2017 – [Capital Area Workforce Development Board](#) (CAWD) has been awarded a \$1 million, 3-year grant from the U.S. Department of Labor’s Employment and Training Administration. Funds will be used for construction-related education, occupational skills training, and job placement opportunities for 16-24 year olds from neighborhoods in Raleigh with high poverty rates and youth unemployment. Participants will build affordable homes for low-income families during the training.

“In Wake County alone, the construction industry is projected to grow over 2,000 jobs in the next five years, but employers have jobs they can’t fill now. This grant is one way to help fill that talent pipeline and connect young people with limited education, training and work experience to a field with long-term career potential. The fact that the hands-on portion of their learning will occur as they work on [affordable housing](#) is really the icing on the cake,” said Pat Sturdivant, Executive Director at CAWD.

Partners for the project include City of Raleigh, Habitat for Humanity of Wake County, North Carolina Home Builders Association, Associated Builders and Contractors - Carolina Chapter, and NCWorks.

"Habitat for Humanity of Wake County is so excited to partner with Capital Area Workforce Development on YouthBuild," said John Scales, Grants Manager at Habitat for Humanity of Wake County. "The participants will gain on-site construction experience and develop work and leadership skills. This is a great opportunity for us to empower young people and fulfill our mission to build homes, communities and hope."

"The City of Raleigh is dedicated to the creation and preservation of affordable housing. Affordable housing is at the forefront of the challenges that our City is currently facing and a primary goal is to increase the production of affordable housing. This increase in production has the capability to be a job creation mechanism. The jobs that typically are generated from any housing development are construction jobs. The City of Raleigh’s Housing and Neighborhoods Department has several programs that target construction related jobs, and these programs will serve as a pipeline for people to enter the Youth Build program. The City is both excited and proud to be a partner in such a great program. The Youth Build grant empowers high schoolers and young people to play a role in rebuilding their communities through education, job training, and leadership development," said Niki Jones at City of Raleigh’s Housing and Neighborhoods Department.

Interested applicants or their parents can access more information at capitalareancworks.com.

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About Capital Area Workforce Development Board

CAWD is a public-private partnership and 501(c)3 largely funded by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) of 2014. Through collaborations with business, government, education and others in Wake and Johnston Counties, the organization has developed state and nationally-recognized workforce programs, connected businesses to the education system and workforce resources, and helped thousands to gain employment.

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