# TECHNICAL EDUCATON



# FISCAL AND PROCUREMENT

### CTE Overview Proposed Contract Extension

# CTE PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The goal of the Career Technical Education (CTE) program is to provide clients with high quality career/vocational training that leads to credentials, licenses and or educational certificates AND to support clients in obtaining and retaining sustainable employment in high skill, high wage, and/or high demand career fields.



# U J 201



Suggested Extension: 10/21/21 thru 10/21/22

LAO Family **Rising Sun** CEO

**Previous Contract** Term: 9/1/18 - 10/21/22

**Prior Allocation** 

# **RECOMMENDATION:** \$200,000 FOR **1-YEAR EXTENSION**

# **CTE PROGRAM** FUNDING RECOMMENDATION

# Five Current **CTE Providers**

#### **CENTER FOR** EMPLOYMENT CYPRESS **OPPORTUNITIES MANDELA**

LAO FAMILY COMMUNITY







LAO FAMILY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, INC.

**RISING SUN** CENTER FOR OPPORTUNITY



#### **RISING SUN** YOUTH **CENTER FOR EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY PARTNERSHIP**





# **ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION ADMINISTRATION**

- Asbestos Abatement, Maintenance Worker and/or Awareness
- Lead Abatement, Maintenance Worker and/or Awareness
- Mold Remediation and/or Inspection
- Hazardous Waste Material Transportation
- Respiratory Protection
- Hazwoper training

# **CULINARY ARTS**

 ServSafe Food Handler Certification

# WAREHOUSE MANAGEMENT & LOGISTICS

- Multi-Craft Core Curriculum (MC3)
- OSHA 10
- First Aid

**Become a Union** Member, Bart or **PG&E Employee** 

# **CONSTRUCTION**/ **EMERGING GREEN** CONSTRUCTION

- Confined space entry
- Brick Layer & Laborer
- Electrician
- Iron Worker
- Union

Apprenticeships

### TARGET POPULATION

Interest in a specific field, work ready, long-term goals

## LESSONS LEARNED

Attendance, clients prefer employment program, other needs

### PROGRAM FORMAT

Earn while you learn, curriculum-based and hands on training PROGRAM LENGTH

2 to 12 weeks, stay connected with client for 180-days or more

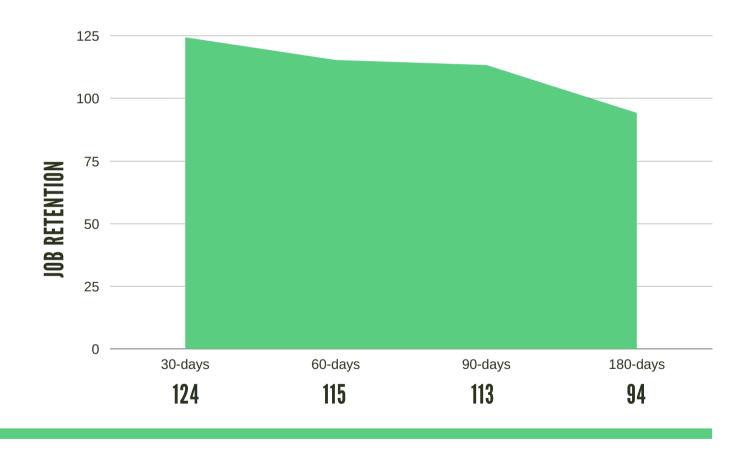
# INCENTIVES & PAY

\$15/hour, gift cards, stipends, earn rewards and bonuses

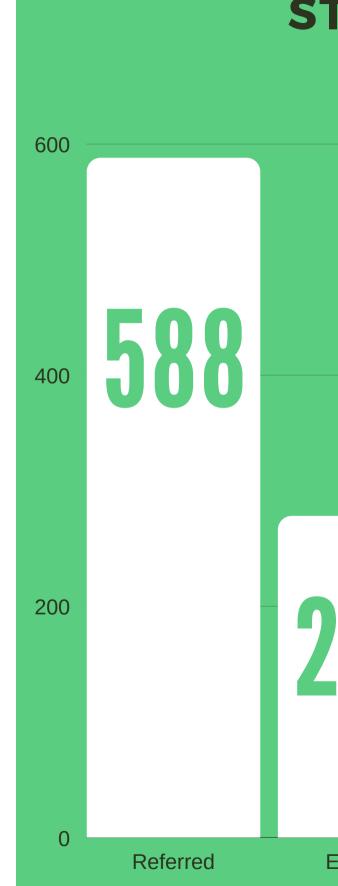
### COVID-19: DEEP IMPACT

Employers closed, jobs lost, no in-person services or training

# **CTE PROGRAM**



Average Unsubsidized Salaries Range From \$14.95 to \$25.84



# **STARTING EARLY HAS THE MOST BENEFITS**





# ANY QUESTIONS?



**CULINARY ARTS** 





CONSTRUCTION



**ENVIRONMENTAI** REMEDIATION

# **RECOMMENDATION: \$200,000 FOR 1-YEAR CONTRACT EXTENSION**

# CONTRACTS MANAGER **Gina Temporal**

**REENTRY & OUTREACH** DIRECTOR Shauna Conner

# Career Technical Education Presentations

#### **Five Providers:**

Rising Sun Center for Opportunity, Center for Employment Opportunity, Youth Employment Partnership, LAO Family Community Development





Marlin Jeffreys Opportunity Build Senior Program Manager 510-665-1501 EXT.342

jeffreys@risingsunopp.org

f) (in) 🎔 ( 🖸

Follow Rising Sun on social media:



@risingsunopp

# Our Goal

### Opportunity Build goal is to place participants in Union Apprenticeship









Women Build the Bay Training 2021 **Class Dates:** • Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> - Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> Monday - Fridays • 8:00 am- 4:00 pm Location • 1116 36<sup>th</sup> Street, Oakland, CA

# Minimum Industry Qualifications

□ 18 years of age or older High School Diploma or GED Proof of Vaccination Valid photo ID/Driver's License Social Security Card Able to pass a drug test upon graduation Physically able to perform work of trade





# **Opportunity Build Core Overview**

# Opportunity Build is an apprenticeship readiness program:

- For adults who are interested in starting a career in Construction
- Serves low-income individuals with barriers to employment, 80 participants annually, 55% women, 40% system impacted
- Is certified by the North American Building Trades Union's to prepare individuals for a career as trades people using MC3 curriculum.
- Two 10-week cohorts & one 12-week summer nights & weekend cohort
- Opportunity Build is a 12-month program that begins with shortterm training at our Oakland facility. After completing the training, graduates' benefit from ongoing case management and job placement assistance, as well as alumni events and resources.
- Opportunity Build teaches the skills employers are looking for through hands-on and classroom training





# **Opportunity Build 2021**

Preparing participants for careers in the building trades

Increasing representation of women in the trades

Creating community among participants before and after they enter the trades

Removing barriers to employment





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# **Client Statistics**

- 5-Graduated
- 39-Referrals
- 4-Placed
- 1-Carpenter





# What's Working

Rising Sun receives an occasional referral through Tyler Supervision. Rising Sun Enrolled 5 CTE Clients in 2019



# What's not Working

Rising Sun needs quality introductions to clients and DPO's

Zero enrollment since 2019



**Currently Rising** Sun has one formerly incarcerated person working on this contract.





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# Questions



# **Career & Technical Education**



### **Program Overview**

- Job Readiness Training (employability soft skills)
- Vocational Training & Work Experience
- Educational Services & Support
- Comprehensive Case Management
- Job Placement & Retention Support
- (New) Transitional Supportive Housing

### **Job Readiness Training**

- Onboarding 1 week
  - <u>\$100 gift card</u>
- JRT– 2 weeks
  - <u>\$400 check</u>
- Perfect Attendance Bonus
  - <u>\$50 (\$25 per week)</u>



#### **JRT Topics**

Financial Literacy	Interviewing
Work Documents	Career Exploration
Resume & Cover Letter	Vocational Try-Out
Professional Communication	Conflict Resolution





## Vocational Training & Work Experience

#### 1. Construction

- 2. Warehouse & Logistics
- 3. Culinary Arts









# Vocational Training & Work Experience

- 1. Construction
- 2. Warehouse & Logistics
- 3. Culinary Arts
  - <u>\$15.00 per hour</u>









## Vocational Training & Work Experience

- 1. Construction
- 2. Warehouse & Logistics
- 3. Culinary Arts
  - <u>\$15.00 per hour</u>

### **Best Practices for Court-involved TAY**

- YEP contextualizes and incentivizes high school credit recovery with paid hands-on work experience in a living classroom environment
- YEP hosts <u>Opportunity Academy</u> onsite, operated by ACOE's Student Programs and Services (SPaS)
- Academic achievement supported by tutors from Next Step Learning Center & YEP staff
- Education hours matched with work hours
  - Morning: classroom-based education (20 hours/week)
  - Afternoon: subsidized internship (20 hours/week)

34 High School Diplomas attained at YEP in academic year 2020-21

250+ diplomas since 2017

ALAMEDA COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION





WHERE EDUCATION TRANSFORMS LIVES



### Supportive Housing Services



12 private transitional tiny homes on YEP's back lot

### YEP IS EXPANDING

THE YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PARTNERSHIP, INC.

30-BED DORMITORY FOR HOMELESS YOUNG ADULTS

#### **OPENING JANUARY 2022**

- PRIVATE & DOUBLE ROOMS
- CASE MANAGEMENT & EMPLOYMENT
  COACHING
- COMPREHENSIVE EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT
- EXTENSIVE SELF-SUFFICIENCY WORKSHOPS
- VOCATIONAL TRAINING
- SUBSIDIZED INTERNSHIPS
- LEGAL ASSISTANCE
- MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

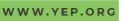
#### YEP'S CAMPUS IS LOCATED IN CENTRAL EAST OAKLAND

- COMPREHENSIVE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT TRAINING, POWERED BY SOLAR
- ACOE'S OPPORTUNITY ACADEMY FOR HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAS
- EMERGENCY TRANSITIONAL HOUSING TINY HOME COMMUNITY
- TRAINING GROUNDS YEP'S COMMERCIAL KITCHEN
- YEP'S WAREHOUSE BUSINESS
- YOUTHBUILD YEP'S CONSTRUCTION
  BUSINESS



#### DORMITORY







# Center for Employment Opportunities

ceoworks.org



# Mission

CEO provides immediate, effective, and comprehensive employment services exclusively to individuals who have recently returned home from incarceration.

Our program helps participants regain the skills and confidence needed for successful transitions to stable, productive lives.



# Career Technical Edu. Program

#### **Program Model**



Job-Readiness Training

Prepare and train individuals to reenter the workforce.



Distance Learning + Certifications

Customized lessons and training, weekly stipends + a computer



Job Coaching & Placement

Connect talented employees with quality employers.



Retention Services for One Year

Provide ongoing support to ensure participants succeed.

This is a special program for CTE. CEO's traditional program model is built around transitional work and daily pay, not distance learning.



# **CTE Training Tracks & Industries**

**Job Training Tracks** 

#### **Construction - OSHA 10 Cert**

Industry recognized construction safety training (2 days total)



#### **Jobs Training Prepares For\***

Demolition Worker Roofer

Carpenter

ert , and terials Sanitation Worker Water/Wastewater Mgmt (EBMUD) Warehouse Worker (moving haz ma

Warehouse Worker (moving haz materials)

Line Cook Chef Server

**Environmental Mgmt - HAZMAT Cert** Certification in the moving, handling, and preparation to ship of hazardous materials

**Culinary Arts - ServSafe Cert** Certification card in the safe handling and storage of food

Center for Employment Opportunities • ceoworks.org

\*Not exhaustive lists



# **Incentive Program**

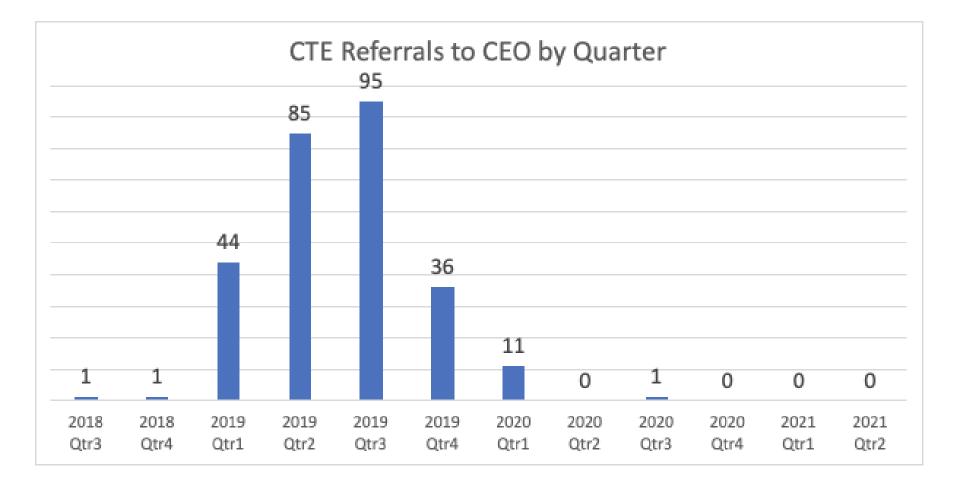
#### Ways to earn points!

Graduated from P2E	Worked 10 days of TJ	Worked all scheduled days for the first week of TJ	Worked 2 consecutive weeks of TJ with no suspensions or call outs *
Developed a resume with Job Coach	On time and dressed to JC or JD appointments within a given month *	Assessed as Job Start Ready (JSR)	Attended job interview scheduled by JD *
Provided proof of 3 self- directed job searches (2 points)	Earned 3 TJ badges or received a staff shout-out *	Completed a training offered by CEO * (3 points)	Attended a Root & Rebound workshop *
Secured a job – participant must remain employed for at hunt 1 week (3 points)	No offenses within 6 months (10 points)	Reach 60-day milestone (10 points)	Maintained a job for 30 days (2 points)

#### Ready to cash in your points?!

Number of Points	REWAR	D
3	\$10 Amazon gift card	amazon.com *10
6	\$25 Amazon gift card	amazon.com gift card
9	Mophie Powerstation Mini	
12	Amazon Echo Dot	a dat
15	32" TV	

\*Credit can be earned more than once!





Year	Enrolled
2018	0
2019	64
2020	13
2021	0
Total	77

Training	Completions
OSHA 10 Construction	11
Servsafe	28
HAZMAT	16
Total	55



Year	Placements
2018	0
2019	20 <b>(AVG \$17.21/hr)</b>
2020	6 <b>(AVG \$17.83/hr)</b>
2021	0

Retention Milestone	Count
60 Day	73%
90 Day	69%
180 Day	38%



# **CTE Employers**

Employer	Sector	# Placements
Block by Block	Environmental	7
Mandela Partners	Culinary	4
Spectra 360	Warehouse	4
The Reuse People of America	Environmental	2
Reuse People	Environmental	1
Goodwill East Bay	Warehouse	1
Rockin Roofers	Construction	1
Sanact Inc.	Construction	1
BeeGreen Recycling	Environmental	1

Employer	Sector	# Placements
PF Changs	Culinary	1
Marcan Enterprise	Construction	1
Good Eggs	Culinary	1
Motivate LLC	Environmental	1
Road Dog Drivers	Transportation	1



#### **Case Closures**

Reason	Count
Dropped out of program	17
Program violation	13
Lost Contact	2
Client had other needs to address	5
Deceased	1
Job placement	4
Moved	1
Other/Incarceration	1



LAO FAMILY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

# AB109 / REENTRY PROGRAMS

TRANSFORMING ALAMEDA COUNTY REENTRY POPULATION THROUGH

- **1. SPECIALIZED EMPLOYMENT TRAINING AND PLACEMENT FOR ALL**
- 2. CREATING INDIVIDUAL SELF-SUFFICIENCY FOR ALL
- 3. BUILDING HEALTHY, SAFE, AND JUSTICE COMMUNITY FOR ALL



Funded by Alameda County Probation Department, AB109

# Mission

Lao Family Community Development (LFCD) is a trusted partner whose mission is dedicated to advancing the economic mobility and well-being of diverse communities through culturally informed specialized employment, housing, education and support services.

# Goal

We encourage our community members to establish goals, believe in themselves, and become active contributing members of society.



### Programs & Services Designed For Re-entry Populations

#### **EMPLOYMENT SERVICES**

- Career Pathways for Education & Training
- WIOA, On- the- Job Training Program (OJT)
- Refugee Employment Supportive Services (RESS)
- Department of Rehabilitation Serving those with Disabilities (DOR)
- CalWORKs
- Employment Service for Reentry Population
- Career Technical Education (CTE)
- Employment Service Vendor Pool (ES)
- Prison to Employment (P2E)
- Pathway to Education & Employment (P2E2)
- Emergency Covid-19 Relief Fund
- AC and CCC Housing and Employment Programs
- Tattoo Removal (SP EDC partner)
- Leadership Development and Literacy Development

#### **YOUTH SERVICES**

 Youth Employment, Leadership Development and Academic Support (WIOA, OFCY, OHA)

#### FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

- Vocational English as a Second Language (VESL)
- Underserved Youth Victim Advocacy Service
- Crime Victim Assistance
- Homeless DV Housing
- Affordable Housing Rental and Placement
- Health and Well-Being Mental Health PEI
- Foodbank, clothing, basic needs, low cost energy program, legal clinics, credit repairs, RAP sheets, financial education and budgeting, second chance accounts, CADL & ID, and Social Security Card

#### **ASSET & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS**

- Rental Housing
- Refugee Resettlement Services
- Saving Accounts Program
- Free Income Tax Return Preparation (VITA)
- Financial Education and Budgeting
- Credit Repair & Establishment, Second Chance Accounts

## Who Is Eligible for the Programs?

- Adult realigned clients, who are comprised of men and women, 18 years of age and older, supervised under Post-Release
   Community Supervision (PRCS), and individuals charged and/or resolved with an eligible offense on mandatory supervision.
- ✓ Felony Probation General Supervision, Domestic Violence (DV), and Special Offenders Unit (SOU).
- These clients must be referred by the Alameda County Probation Department.

## **AB109 Employment Service Goals**

- Consistent pre-release connection
- Intensive coaching and comprehensive support services
- Tailored individual education and career pathways, "job ready"
- Support and help with progress towards to career plans & goals
- Subsidized employment placement to robust placement with 180 days retention (we stay with our customers for 12 months)
- Results driven with measurable impact
- Prevent from crime and reduce recidivism rate

## **Program Offering That Makes a Difference**

- Basic Job Preparation and Job Readiness Training
- Pre- employment Workshops (Resume, Interview Preparation, Mock Interview, etc.)
- Career Coaching/Case Management
- Individual Employment and Education Plan
- Individualized Wellness Plan
- Computer Lab Access
- Mail Box Service
- Invitation to All Career Expos- Onsite Employer Recruitment
- Referral Resources
- Peer Support & Barrier Removal
- Food Pantry and Brown Bags Distribution
- Job Search and Placement Assistance
- 520 Hours Paid Training with Robust Job Placement
- Follow Up 30, 90 & 180 Days Retention
- Continued Intensive Case Management Support
- One-on-One Support Services including Budgeting, Credit, Legal, and Housing Access
- Every milestone that they reach, they can receive stipends up to \$1,000
- Transportation Assistant & Barrier Removal Funds for the Employment needs

## **Reentry Program Services**

- □ Career Technical Education (CTE) Program
- **Employment Service Vendor Pool (ES) Program**
- Housing Vendor Pool





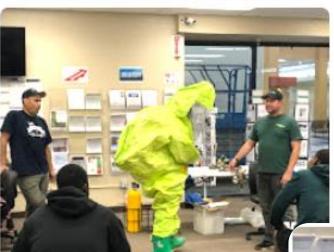




## **CTE Environmental Remediation Training**

### **Training with NATEC:**

- Hazwoper 40hours
- Asbestos Worker 8 hours
- Confined Space Entry 8 hours
- Lead RRP Initial Class (Renovation; Repair & Painting) – 8 hours
- Mold Awareness 8 hours
- Become a Union Member with
  Laborers Local Union 67

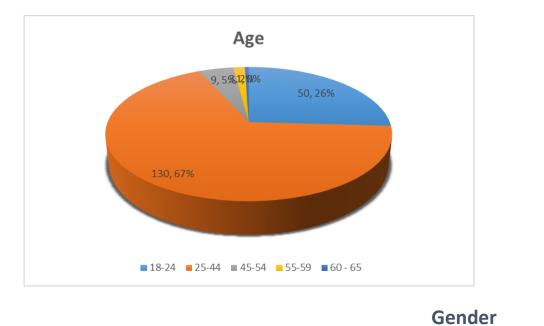


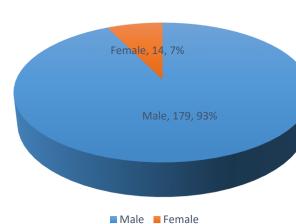


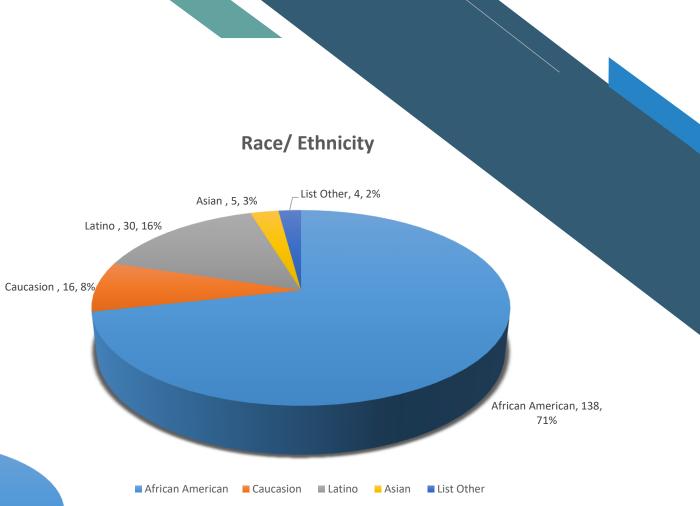


LFCD – Reentry Programs

# **Program Chart**

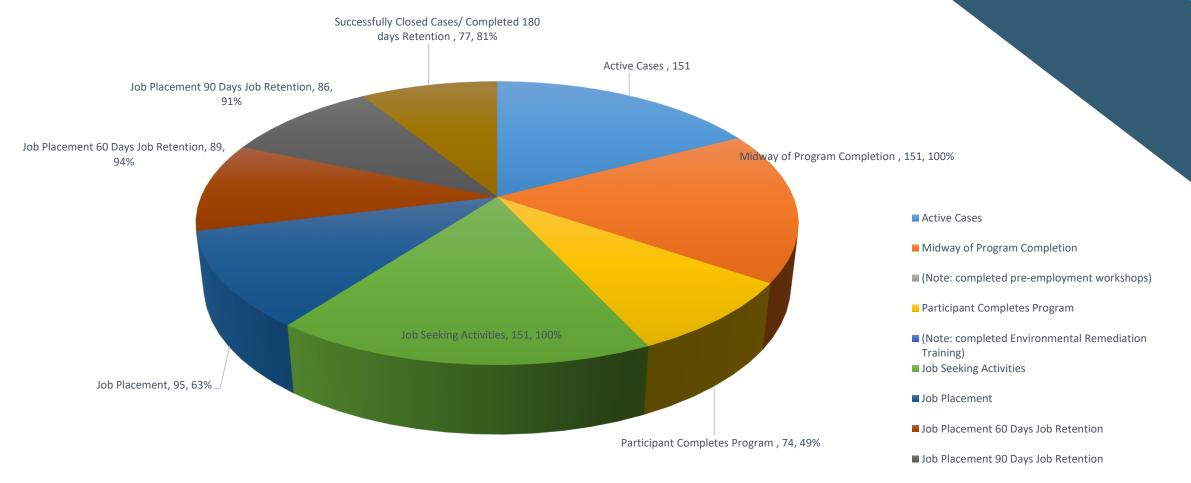






LFCD – Reentry Programs

# Year to Date Program Outcomes



Successfully Closed Cases/ Completed 180 days Retention

## **Celebration on the Graduation's Day**















LAO FAMILY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## THANK YOU FOR WATCHING AND YOUR TIME!



Lao Family Community Development, Inc. 2325 East 12<sup>th</sup> St., #226 Oakland, CA 94601

www.LFCD.org

## **Cypress Mandela Training Center**

### Loma Prieta earthquake – Cypress Freeway



### History

- Founded in the wake of the Loma Prieta earthquake of 1989, our program has helped transform the lives of thousands of low-income adults in Oakland and its adjacent cities. Cypress is named after the Cypress Freeway, and it was renamed the Mandela Parkway.
- Oakland emerged with a violent reputation that has impeded growth and progress on many fronts, such as public safety, education, and the economy.

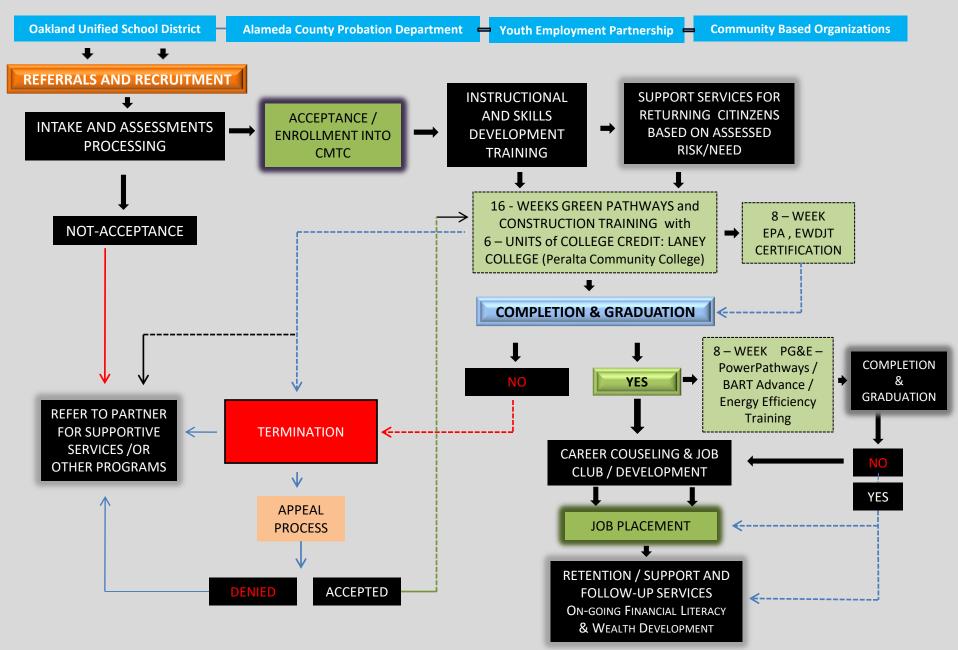
### Focus

- Cypress Mandela seeks to train adult urban residents who are either dislocated workers, underemployed and unemployed, at-risk youth and re-entry, men and women.
- A main goal is to help develop a well-trained and qualified workforce for multiple employment opportunities in the utility and transportation, emerging green technology and related construction sectors.

# Philosophy

Our approach to recruiting and training disadvantaged community members is to meet them wherever they are in life and provide opportunities for meaningful change.

#### CYPRESS MANDELA TRAINING CENTER CLIENT SERVICE FLOW CHART



### **Cypress Mandela**

and

## Alameda County Probation Department CTE Program

## CTE – Construction Program Description and Services Offered to Clients

Cypress Mandela's CTE Construction program provides our AB109 clients' skill development through Lecture and Hands-on trainings as detailed in the <u>Core Training Programs Slide</u>.

They gain a competitive edge after completing our 16-week Green Construction (MC3) Pre-Apprenticeship training for high paying careers in the construction / energy efficiency / environmental / utility / transportation sectors.

#### Incentives (\$6,896):

- Incentive Amount: \$ 3,200 (used for any reasons that helps client during the 16-weeks training)
- Stipend Amount: \$ 3,696 (only available upon completion of 16-week training)

### **Cypress Mandela**

### and

## Alameda County Probation Department CTE Program

## **CTE – Construction Program Description and Services Offered to Clients**

#### Union Building Trades, we train for and have direct entry into include:

- Carpenters
- Plumbers / Pipefitters
- Ironworkers
- IBEW Electrical 595 / 1245
- Operating Engineers
- DC-16
- Cement Masons / Plasters
- Brick Layers / Stone Masons
- Laborers

The building trades' apprenticeship programs offers (*Earn-and-Learn*) workbased learning opportunities like on-the-job (OJT) training as paths to careers with stepped advancements that varies from craft-to-craft

Please Note: Clients with felonies are eligible to work in crafts list above

### **Cypress Mandela**

and

## Alameda County Probation Department CTE Program

### **How Many Clients Served**

- 83 total served to date
- **52** Closed
- 3 Participants Quit
- 3 Active Participants
- 7 Successfully Completed
- 9 Accepted for Next Training (Start date: September 13, 2021)
- 3 New Referrals (not yet processed)

#### Outcome Data (i.e., job Placement, Retention, etc.)

All 7 clients who successfully completed are employed in careers in

- 1 PG&E Electric Department (over 1-year)
- 1 Caltrans (new hire 2-weeks on the job)
- 1 Energy Efficiency (new hire)
- 1 Cement Mason (over 2-years)
- 3 Carpenters Unions (2 new indentured and 1 over 2-years)

## Programs Overview

#### **Core Training Programs**

- 16-week Program Pre-Apprenticeship Green Construction
- 8-week (Environmental Protection Agency EPA Funded) Environmental Health and Safety Program

### **Specialized Training Programs**

- 8/12-week Energy & Water Efficiency Training Program
- 12-week 'I Can Fix It Myself' Program
- 5-week OUSD Construction Summer Internship Training Program
- 6-week Oakland PAL Construction Exploration Training Program

#### **Advanced Training Programs**

- 8-week Cypress PG&E PowerPathways Program
- 1-week Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) Pathway Training Program

# Core Training Programs

640 Hours of Lecture / Hands-on Training

#### 16-Week Pre-Apprenticeship

- Introduction to Unionism
- Carpentry
- Electrical
- Plumbing
- Cement Mason
- Ironworker
- Laborers
- Blueprint Reading
- Applied Math
- Energy Efficiency and Solar
- Financial Literacy
- Life and Soft Skills
- Physical Fitness
- Material Handling

### 8-week EPA Environmental

- OSHA 10
- Waste Site Worker Health and Safety 40 Hour
- Confine Space
- Asbestos 4 Hour
- Injury and illness Prevention 5 Hour
- Hazardous Communication Right to Know –
  2 Hour
- Ergonomics
- Mold Awareness and Inspection -16 Hour
- Hazardous Materials 2 Hour
- CPR/First Aid/AED
- Infectious Disease
- Lead Abatement









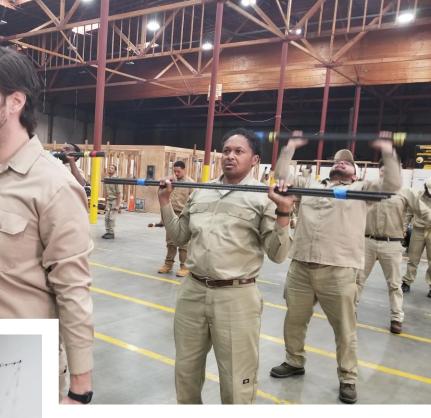






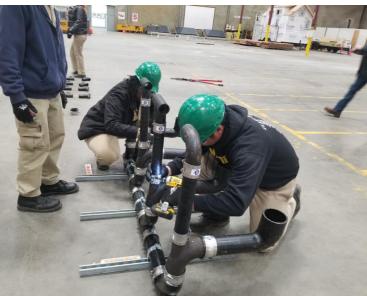


























# Specialized Training Programs

- 8/12-week Energy & Water Efficiency Training Program: This program is related to our 12.5-week Oakland Green Job Training launched back in 2008. This program allows students to become certified for Prospector and Project Manager positions in the energy efficiencyrenewable energy sector.
- **12-week 'I Can Fix It Myself' Program':** The Step-Up Program under the Alameda County Family Justice Center, has partnered with Cypress Mandela Training Center and the College of Marin to pilot a specialized training to empower women (survivors of domestic violence / sexual assault or sexually trafficked). This program will train women on how to fix their own cars and homes, promoting a more independent lifestyle while eliminating the need to rely on their abuser(s).
- 5-week (Full Day) OUSD Construction Summer Internship Training Program: designed to expose high school students to the building trades via our pre-apprenticeship model. Student learn side-by-sides with our adult learners to reinforce modeled behaviors.
- 6-week Oakland PAL Construction Exploration Training Program: this program is designed for high school students to engage in projectbased learning after school Monday, Wednesday and Fridays, 3 – 6 pm.

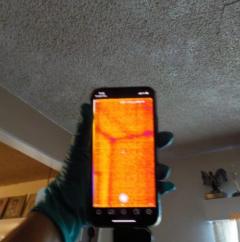












## Advance Training PG&E

### 8 - week Cypress PG&E PowerPathway Gas / Electric Training Program

Cypress partnership with PG&E *PowerPathway* Bridge-to-Utility Worker Programs started in 2012 to provide qualified individuals for career opportunities in both the gas and electric departments. In 2012 CMTC was the first program to pilot our PG&E GAS-0802 training which is the same curriculum that all new gas utility workers receive upon being hired at PG&E.

Many of the graduates go on to become gas utility workers, gas compliance specialist, utility gas service representatives and gas control center operators at PG&E. Along with various electric projects, CMTC PG&E PowerPathway graduates are currently working on gas transmission hydro-tests, replacing gas transmission distribution piping and installing new residential gas services.

All graduates also serve as emergency first responders and some have worked heroically during the 2012 Hurricane Sandy Relief Effort, 2014 Napa Earthquake, 2015 Butte Lake County wildfires and the 2016 weather storms.





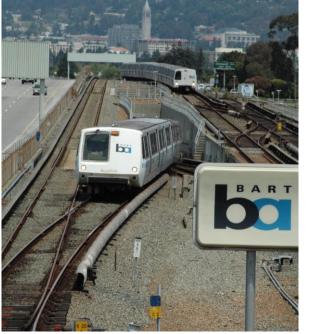
## Advance Training BART

## 1 – week Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) Track and Structured Worker Training

Tom Delaney, BART's Superintendent of Way and Facilities, has seen the results, based on one earlier cohort of Cypress Mandela-trained track workers who have been at BART for a couple of years now.

"They all have a great attitude, they're hardworking, and Cypress does a really good job preparing them for work. Out of that first group, all of them who wanted to go for promotions have been promoted to higherresponsibility jobs."













## Job Development and Placement

PGEE

Staff will work closely to coordinate and partner with contractors, businesses and organizations to find employment opportunities for graduates.

Additionally, other construction related opportunities are explored. Examples for successful placement include graduates working careers at BART, PG&E and Local contractor:

Graduates working on Linesmen Crew in West Oakland

PERE



### Graduate working for Mike Brown Electric in Downtown Oakland

## Outcomes

### Why Candace GoodSpeed Inspires Us

Before joining Cypress, Ms. Goodspeed already earned a B.A. degree but unable to find work in her field. She worked a security job to help support herself while continuing to look for other career opportunities.

"It's been very exciting and interesting," said Goodspeed, who joined BART in February 2020. "I started at BART through Cypress Mandela's preapprenticeship program for construction workers. They introduced us to BART, and that's how I got interested in becoming a track worker."



**CANDACE GOODSPEED** 

### **Job Development and Placement**

### Why Thu Nguyen Inspires US

"My name is Thu Nguyen. I started with BART in February 2020. I came through the training at Cypress Mandela and I'm a track worker now. I'm so happy, because I know I can do the job. I feel like whatever the men can do, I can."

"I believe in balance, and women are part of the puzzle, contributing to the team. We are yin and yang. Women can do hard jobs. If you are willing to learn and willing to do the job, you can be part of what makes the teamwork."

"We've been putting pads down for track, changing out pads, checking the track, taking all the old material out. Whatever the next step is, I work hard to be prepared. I'm very happy to be working here at BART."



THU NGUYEN



Aaron Hardy, graduate shares his story about how Cypress helped him from homeless to thriving!

