

New Bedford Green Jobs Training



Lessons Learned

Overview of YouthBuild Program

- Addresses gaps in existing training offered in the City
- Works in collaboration with other workforce efforts
- Lowers barriers to entry with financial & bridge support
- Trains contractors who can employ entry level trainees
- Trains appropriate number to ensure job opportunities
- Articulated with other programs to create career pathway
- Provides access to certifications to guarantee quality and improve employability
- Based in the community, open to anyone
- Elements of training cross over to other industries

Goal of Green Jobs Training

- Create a highly skilled workforce to deliver services and products that improve the community and the environment at an affordable rate to customers
- Training must lead to a living wage and opportunities for career advancement
- Training must be accessible to people at all levels of education and skill level

Key Elements

Align Training with Demand

- **Identify Job Opportunities**
 - Design training based on job assessment
- **Create Job Opportunities:**
 - City of New Bedford Community Retrofit Program
 - Commitment to improving energy efficiency of 5000 homes and small businesses over 3-5 years
 - 3 Goals:
 - Create and sustain local jobs
 - Save residents and business owners money on energy bills
 - Reduce the city's green house gas emissions

Coordination Between Programs

- Identify gaps and overlaps in existing training
- Establish system of communication between workforce organizations and agencies
- Articulate curricula to create career pathway beyond entry level
 - Pathway should go from youth with no diploma or job history to PhD level
- Career pathways info should be clear & accessible

Green Careers, Not Just Jobs

- Prepare trainees to earn a living wage
- Provide participants with proper certifications
- Work with Employers
- City can play a role in making sure trainees from these programs have access to local jobs
 - Examples: Portland, OR, LAANE in LA, DC Project in DC, Babylon, NY

Holistic Approach

- Workforce Development
 - Create an articulated career ladder
- Financing Mechanism
 - Lower financial barrier to customers to drive demand
- Education and Outreach
 - Drive and aggregate customer demand
- Solutions to Customer Barriers
 - Pre-weatherization, absentee landlords

Beyond Energy Efficiency

- City as Driver
 - EDC actively recruiting green companies
 - Commitment to 10MW of solar power in 5 years
 - Methane capture system at Landfill
 - Mayor's Sustainability Taskforce
- Weatherization training should lay a foundation that can be built upon
 - Design training to easily expand to Solar, Smart Grid, Wind, Water Management, etc.

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