

**YouthBuild Program
April 2006 Monthly Report
Michelle Perdue
Program Coordinator**

Trainees:

Megan Davis, Franklin Scott Woods, Jason Scarberry, Benito Rodriguez, Sarah Morales, Larry Joe Ferrell, and Robbie Allison Motley.

Student Update



Scott Woods successfully passed the GED test and now is working on taking the ACT test in order to apply for college in the future.

Benito Rodriguez was awarded a Certificate of Recognition for Perfect Attendance for the month of April.



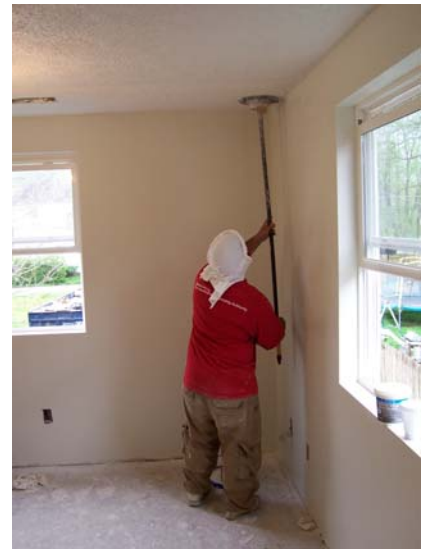
Congratulations to Scott and Benito for your awards, accomplishments and hard work.



Update on Construction

The Youthbuild house has seen a huge improvement over the last 30 days. The walls and ceilings have been painted and textured. The ceiling fans and light fixtures have been installed.

All the windows have been replaced and the bathroom and kitchen floors have been prepped for linoleum.



Field Trip to Carter Caves



On April 28th, the YouthBuild students and staff were able to take a field trip to Carter Caves in Olive Hill, KY. We all had a great time exploring the caves and hiking on the trails. Upon arrival, we toured the X Cave which took about 30 minutes.

After touring the X Cave, we spent two hours hiking around the many trails in the park. There were many caves to explore and we took full advantage of being outdoors.

While taking a drive through the park, we stumbled up a horse stable. Several of the students mentioned that they had not been up close to a horse we exited the van and toured the stables.

Petting the horses soon led to a few of the students and staff riding the horses. For some of the students, it was their very first time being close to a horse much less riding one.



We all enjoyed a picnic lunch and being able to have just regular conversations about life away from YouthBuild. It is an experience to which the students and staff will not forget.

The hiking, cook-out, horseback riding, and exploring the caves all contributed to a day of challenges, memories and fun and laughter.



Recruitment continues for the next cycle of trainees. I am making contact with the media to promote YouthBuild in the community.

Contacts with Partners:

Heather Warren: Heather is with the Marshall Community and Technical College as an advisor. She will be speaking with the students on May 19 in regards to the application process and programs offered in the college.

YMCA: I have contacted Dan Ritchey the Branch Director to plan another Ropes Challenge at the Kennedy Center.

The YouthBuild students and I have been working hard on putting the YouthBuild portfolios together. The portfolios will showcase each student's experience in the YouthBuild program during the past year. Each student will present a portfolio and do an interview with a YouthBuild panel made up of people who work and live in the community. The panel will provide feedback to the students on the interview.

We celebrated two very important birthdays this month. Megan Davis turned 21 on April 5th and Benito Rodriguez turned 23 on April 19th. I made my family recipe of "Almost Better Than Anything Cake".....there wasn't even a crumb left to nibble on.

We continue our YouthBuild Team Meeting on Fridays. We are now working on Beyond Diversity.