

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

**Trainees:**

William Harper  
Bridgett Dotson  
Kenneth Preston Hatfield  
Ambrea Ragland  
Heather Butcher  
Tyrika Baruwa  
Brittani Whitfield

Recruitment continues for the next cycle of trainees. To be qualified for consideration in the program an applicant must be: 18-24 years old, withdrawn from school, physically able to work construction, and TABE tested at the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade level. I am creating a waiting list for future reference. I have been interviewing candidates to bring into the YouthBuild program. Five new students should be starting on January 8, 2007. At this time, Sara Corrigan and Seth Hunt have been dismissed from the program due to lack of participation.



The first YouthBuild open house took place on December 14, 2006. All of the YouthBuild staff and students were a part of the event and did a wonderful job. We had many supporters from the Huntington Housing Authority, local businesses, the media, and friends/family who have been with us from the beginning. It was such an exciting event and an emotional moment of presenting the house to the community.



On December 15, 2006 the YouthBuild students volunteered at the Stella Fuller Settlement to put together the Christmas baskets. We put together 350 food baskets for families in the Tri-State area.

Sarah Morales, a YouthBuild Alumni, has recently bought a car; gained employment with Golden Girl's and has started classes with the Huntington Junior College majoring in medical assisting. We are proud of her many accomplishments.

Three of the YouthBuild students took the GED exam on December 13-14: Preston Hatfield, William Harper, and Bridgett Dotson. Bridgett Dotson did pass the entire GED exam with a score of 2270. Preston Hatfield and William Harper did do well on the exam but will need to retake the Writing/Essay section of the exam.

The following YouthBuild students completed the Smoking Cessation classes: Preston Hatfield, Bridgett Dotson, William Harper, Tyrika Baruwa, and Heather Butcher. The classes help prepare each person to quit smoking and create a healthy living environment. Each student earned a \$50 stipend for completing the class.



Teresa Killen owner of *Created With You in Mind*, visited the YouthBuild program to teach the students the art of candle making. Teresa taught the students the eight step process in order to make the perfect candle. Each student participated in the steps such as, scent to wax ratio, adding color, and gauging temperature. All of the students enjoyed making their own candles and learning a trade that may be beneficial in the future.