

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

**Trainees:**

William Harper  
Bridgett Dotson  
Kenneth Preston Hatfield  
Ambrea Ragland  
Heather Butcher  
Sara Corrigan  
Seth Hunt  
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 To be qualified for consideration in the program an applicant must be: 18-24 years old, withdrawn from school, physically able to work construction, and TABE tested at the 7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. Four new students should be starting on January 8, 2007.

**Summation of the Month:**



The first YouthBuild house located at 1739 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue is now completed. The unit is a duplex and is ADA approved. The trainees and staff put in a great deal of extremely demanding work on this house during the past year. The staff and trainees cannot wait to present this house to the Huntington Housing Authority and to the families who will be renting the home. Both units have a neutral color carpet, washer/dryer hookups, and brand new appliances. The rooms are spacious, bright, and have more of a home feel than apartments. The units have access to the front porch and private parking located in the back of the house. There is a nice yard just large enough for the families to enjoy. We will have our open house to the public on December 14, 2006 at 11:00am. The students will be hosts for the event.



Construction is underway at the second YouthBuild house located at 1202-1204 17<sup>th</sup> Street. This unit will be two, separate 1 bedroom apartments. It is a smaller unit but the work will be just as demanding. We fully expect for the community to be impressed with the transformation on this house as well.

Benito Rodriguez, who completed YouthBuild in November, has earned employment with Julian's Market. Benito says he owes everything to the YouthBuild program helping to build his confidence in preparing for employment. We are proud of his accomplishment.

Three of the YouthBuild students will take the GED exam on December 13-14: Preston Hatfield, William Harper, and Bridgett Dotson. We feel confident that each student will do well on the GED exam.

On December 15<sup>th</sup>, the YouthBuild students will be volunteering at the Stella Fuller Settlement to put together the Christmas Baskets. Last year, YouthBuild put together over 200 baskets.



The following YouthBuild students are enrolled in the Smoking Cessation classes: Preston Hatfield, Bridgett Dotson, Sara Corrigan, William Harper, Tyrika Baruwa, Brittani Whitfield, and Heather Butcher. The classes help prepare each person to quit smoking and create a healthy living environment. We calculated that each student spends roughly \$1400 a year on cigarettes. The students should be completed with the classes shortly before Christmas.

We are having the YouthBuild Christmas party on December 22, 2006. The students decided on having "Secret Santa's" and bring in appetizers to share with everyone.