

# **YOUTHBUILD UPDATE**

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## **Student Update**

Certificates of Recognition were presented for the months of February and March.

Hardest Worker at the construction site was given to Benito Rodriguez and Scott Woods.

Best Team Player at the construction site was earned by Megan Davis.

Most Improved Attitude went to Joey Ferrell and

Most Improved Overall went to Jason Scarberry.

Two of the YouthBuild students, Benito Rodriguez and Scott Woods, received achievements for Hardest Worker in the GED classroom.

All of the YouthBuild students continue to work hard in the classroom to be prepared to take and pass the GED.

## **Construction Update**

With spring just around the corner, the YouthBuild House is getting closer to being completed. The roof has been replaced and the siding is now complete.

At this time, the YouthBuild students are working on hanging the drywall on the first and second floors. It is amazing to see the accomplishments of all the hard work.

The transition of the house has made an impact not only on the community, but also on the YouthBuild students as well.

Because of the renovations to the YouthBuild house, neighboring homes are beginning to make positive changes such as painting, picking up trash, and landscaping.



As the YouthBuild house grows and takes shape, so do the YouthBuild trainees in their motivation, values, and life choices.

## **Leadership/Personal Development**

Every Friday, the YouthBuild students participate in team meetings. During the months of January and February, the students have been participating in money management sessions. Most of us have been managing our money for several years and it is easy to take certain things for granted such as understanding our paychecks, checking accounts, and how to develop a budget. However, most of the YouthBuild students never had to take on that responsibility until now.

## Field Trips



The YouthBuild Program was invited to participate in WIA Day at the capitol on March 7, 2006. The students were able to meet Governor Manchin and Huntington Delegates Greg Howard and Kelly Sobonya. The students were also able to observe other YouthBuild programs in West Virginia. It was the first time for all of the students to see the capitol, so it was especially meaningful for all of us. I hope the experience stays with the students for a lifetime.

## Media Coverage

WSAZ TV 3 came to the YouthBuild house to do a story on the program and students. News anchor Carrie Cline interviewed Sarah Morales, Benito Rodriguez, Scott Woods, and me. The students did an excellent job of telling their own personal story and how YouthBuild has made a difference in their own individual lives. Cline also showcased the house, showing video footage from several months ago to the present day.

Dave Lavender, with The Herald-Dispatch, reported a story on YouthBuild which was published in the March 19<sup>th</sup> issue. All the students were very excited about being interviewed. He also discussed partnering with YouthBuild, focusing on landscaping.



Keep up the good work, Youthbuild students.