



Hello Compton YouthBuild Supporters!

We want to take this opportunity to thank you for your support during 2015. Last year during the holidays we asked for your help with our \$20.15 in 2015 campaign. We are pleased to report we raised \$15,830.50 from a total of 176 donors. With your support, we were able to fund critical work for our members such as launching both our Construction/Building Trades and Culinary Arts/Hospitality occupational training programs. Additionally, we were able to send students to Sacramento for the annual Government Education Days, where they were able to meet their legislators and participate in leadership workshops to understand the importance of our legislative systems and the impact on their communities.



**Youth Policy Council in
Sacramento for Government
Education Days**



**The construction program's first
project - storage for their new tools
and equipment.**



**Spring Leadership Retreat - Big
Pines, CA - 3 days of leadership
development**

2015 has been an exciting year for Compton YouthBuild. In June, 30 young people (91%) graduated with their high school diplomas bringing the total number of graduates to 63 in our first two years. So many of our young people have returned to education after dropping or being pushed out of traditional schooling. Through our partnership with YouthBuild Charter of CA, our students studied with credentialed teachers learning to develop critical thinking skills through project based learning. They gained a deeper understanding of social justice and how they can affect change in their lives, families and communities. Moreover, through civic engagement and service to the community, the young people of Compton YouthBuild learned they can improve the opportunities in their community.



In July, a small grant from YouthBuild USA and the Gap Foundation provided the opportunity for us to hold our first Mental Toughness II workshop in partnership with Field of Dreams Learning YouthBuild. This two week training was for our alumni and focused on preparation for post-secondary opportunities. Many of our young people are 'first in family' college attendees who struggle to navigate the complex processes involved in institutions of higher learning. Mental Toughness II provided in depth training on types of financial aid and how to apply, multiple intelligence, extrinsic vs. intrinsic motivation, how to read for content and syllabus exploration as well as other critical topics for college and career preparedness. The training took place on the campus of California State University, Dominguez Hills through the support of Dr. Antonia Issa Lahera and included the ropes course at UCLA. College exposure is critical to making post-secondary education a reality for members and our alumni.



In September, the U.S. Department of Labor validated the work of Compton YouthBuild (division of EntreNous Youth Empowerment Services, Inc.) by awarding the agency a \$1.1 million grant to support academic and occupational skills training for at-promise youth. Of the \$76 million awarded across the country, Compton YouthBuild was 1 of only 3 organizations in Los Angeles County to receive funding. This funding will allow us to work with at least 60 young people over the next 36 months to provide paid construction training. In addition to learning the fundamentals of safety/general construction, history of the American worker and construction math, trainees will spend a minimum of eight (8) weeks working full time on a new duplex for foster youth aging out of the system in Compton.

As we say goodbye to 2015, we hope we can count on your continued support in 2016. Private funding continues to be a critical component in meeting the needs of our young people. Please consider making your contribution re-occurring to increase the impact of your generosity.

We look forward to the new opportunities available to our young people because of support from people like you. Again, we appreciate your support for Compton YouthBuild.

We wish you blessings and good health in 2016.

Respectfully,

Kim, Sara, Tony, Stefanie, Cliff, Candy, Darius and Kendall

Co-Executive Directors and EntreNous Youth Empowerment Services Board of Directors