Space Coast Youthbuild is a free, federally-funded adult education/ leadership development program that gives at-risk young people the opportunity to further their education, obtain marketable job skills and transition into desired careers. Brevard residents ages 16 to 24 years who do not have a high school diploma or GED and are not enrolled in high school are eligible to apply. Enrolled students divide their time between classroom studies at BCC’s Cocoa campus toward GED attainment and paid on the job training at a Habitat for Humanity worksite, building affordable housing in our county while preparing for a successful career.

Enrollment in Youthbuild is a process. Interested applicants attend an Information Session for an overview of the program, complete an application and attend a scheduled personal interview. Applicants are invited to participate in an unpaid three-week Orientation. These participants are academically evaluated through TABE testing, complete mandatory OSHA safety training, challenge the obstacles at the Palm Bay campus’ Ropes Course, and work at the Habitat construction site. During this orientation period, participants are evaluated for program readiness. Those accepted into the program alternate days between classroom and worksite, developing academically, vocationally and personally.

Students are prepared to successfully challenge the GED and transition into their chosen career. They can earn an industry-recognized certificate from the Home Builder’s Institute Pre-apprenticeship training in carpentry (PACT) to facilitate employment in the construction field. However, career exploration and development is an integral part of this program: students have the opportunity to explore different careers through BCC’s Career Center, guest speakers, and career shadowing. Emphasis is on pursuing post-secondary education or vocational/technical training. Youthbuild funds pay for the GED test fee, plus application fees to Brevard Community College, apprenticeships, and vocational/technical programs. Incentives earned during program participation can be used toward tuition, tools, uniforms, etc. Youthbuild graduates have the leadership skills to be good employees, the motivation to succeed in their chosen field, and the desire to help others in their community.
Students who succeed in this program….

….Need a second chance
….Desire a better life for themselves
….Can work outside
….Have some interest in construction-related work

Career Options:
Construction and related careers, such as surveying, air conditioning, welding, contracting, drafting, or post-secondary education in non-construction careers of choice.

Estimated Salary Range:
Students earn at least minimum wage/hour for a maximum of 15 hours/week for work performed at the construction site while enrolled in Youthbuild. Students’ career selection will determine salary range after graduation.

Getting Started…
Applications are accepted during Information Sessions for enrollment for this year-round program. Class size is limited and student groups selected during Orientation remain together for the duration of the program. The program is offered at the Cocoa campus. Transportation from the campus to work sites is provided.

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