

WANTO Project Abstract

Applicant's Name: Community Services Agency of the Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO (CSA)

Project Title: CSA Building Futures/WANTO Project

Area to Be Served: District of Columbia and Prince George's County, Maryland

Total Cost Per Participant: For pre-apprenticeship training activities, cost per participant is approximately \$3000 for the new Maryland training (2 weeks) and approximately \$4000 for the existing DC training (6-weeks)

Total Funding Level Requested: \$297,432

Program Activities to Include:

1. Providing technical assistance (TA) to construction contractors, registered apprenticeship programs (RAP's) and community-based organizations (CBO's) to boost the numbers of women in pre-apprenticeship training, RAP's and jobs.
2. Increasing the number of women in the existing Building Futures Construction Pre-Apprenticeship Program for DC residents with resulting entry into apprenticeship and jobs.
3. Expanding existing pre-apprenticeship training through the Building Futures Program to women in Prince George's County, Maryland with an increase in women trained and entered into RAP's and jobs.
4. Enhancing all program activities through best practice models available to CSA.

Number of Participants to be Served:

1. CSA proposes to provide TA to three RAP's, at least 3 employers/contractors one of which provide access to numerous subcontractors on The Wharf Project at DC's waterfront, and 3 CBO's in DC and 3 in Prince George's County, MD.

Outputs include increasing effective referrals of women to pre-apprenticeship programs by 10%, increasing the entry of women into the RAP's by 15% above existing numbers, and increasing the hiring of Building Futures/WANTO program graduates by 10%.

2. For the District of Columbia pre-apprenticeship training, 20 additional women will be enrolled, graduate and be assisted with entry into RAP's and jobs.
3. For the new Prince George's County, MD training, 45 women will be enrolled, graduate and be assisted with entry into RAP's and jobs.

CSA has successfully operated a construction pre-apprenticeship program, the Building Futures program, for low-income individuals for 11 years, becoming a workforce intermediary and developing a pipeline from low-income, minority communities moving individuals into RAP's and into entry level jobs in construction, utilities and related blue-collar occupations. CSA has worked with over 40 CBO's, 16 RAP's and scores of contractors and employers resulting in hundreds of successfully completed trainings, entries into RAP's and employment in the metro Washington, DC area.

CSA will convene a Project Advisory Committee made up of female program graduates, representatives of RAP's, contractors, and CBO partners to provide advice on curriculum enhancement, support for offered TA, expanding contractor connections, program evaluation, and planning for sustainability of effort after grant completion.