



What's Happening with BCC?



2009 has been an exciting year for BCC. The best news is that our grant through Workforce Florida Inc. was renewed July 1. I apologize for not getting any information out to you prior to July, but that's life in the grant arena. Thanks to the sponsorship of Santa Fe College we have been quite busy, even through the uncertainty, and

a "thank you" to those of you throughout the state that continued your partnership with us.

Our offices have moved from the main campus at Santa Fe College to the Center for Innovation and Economic Development downtown. The entrepreneurial atmosphere at CIED has been a boost to our program and has already been a significant asset in our ultimate goal of financial sustainability.

We have developed a dynamic partnership with the Alachua/Bradford Workforce Board that has assisted us in developing a unique program to assist weatherization activities for low income housing groups. The program will help local job seekers find entry level construction and energy industry jobs. The Level 1 Energy Auditor Certificate program is a new statewide certificate that helps form local training and employment partnerships. There is a brief explanation of the program elsewhere in this newsletter and it is now available statewide.

The Mobile Training Center continues to travel successfully though out the state. We visited almost a dozen high school building trades program this past spring promoting construction careers. We had a great long weekend in June at the Future Builder's of America Summer Leadership Camp (www.fhba.com) in Haines City. In additional support of FBA we had the MTC inside the Orange County Convention Center for the South Eastern Builders Conference this past July. FBA, sponsored

by the Florida Home Builders Association is a great club for high school building trades programs.

This past May I attended the week long class at the University of South Florida OSHA Training Institute and I am now certified as an OSHA 500 Outreach Instructor. This was done primarily to help develop our partnership with OSHA and UCF. We are working with them to develop a portable, statewide Tele-Handler Operator Certification. The successful creation of this program will allow forklift operators to keep their operator certification when they change employers and will help make construction sites safer.

This spring BCC partners were instrumental in putting together the Construction Frameworks Advisory Committee which assisted the Florida Department of Education in totally revamping the educational frameworks for all building trades programs in Florida high schools. The frameworks are now directly aligned with national industry standards and all high schools offer certificate programs that articulate into the construction and energy industry training programs. They are listed on our website www.buildflorida.org.

We have also been a key player in the statewide promotion of a new national certificate program endorsed by Green Advantage, titled "Your Role in the Green Environment". We have already assisted in the certification of over a dozen instructors for schools and trade associations and will be working closely with schools throughout the state to add this certification to both high school and apprenticeship programs.

In closing for this update I would like to thank the various industry leaders who have stepped up over the past 6 months in support of our grant renewal. Several of you have asked not to be mentioned individually but each of you is appreciated. BCC could not continue without your assistance and guidance.

Kurt Morauer

IN THIS ISSUE

What's Happening with BCC?.....	1
Level 1 Energy Auditor Certification.....	2
Learning Today Building Tomorrow...3	
Summer Youth Employ. Program.....	4
Go Green!.....	5
FMAEF ICTP.....	6

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Level 1 Energy Auditor Certification

The Employ Florida Banner Center for Construction is pleased to announce a new statewide certification. The **Level 1 Energy Auditor Training Program (L1EA)** has been created as an effort to assist local communities in creating jobs and improving energy awareness and utilization within that community. It can also become an effect recruitment and evaluation toll for local construction and energy related employers. This initial project was accomplished in a partnership with Florida Works Inc., the Alachua/Branford Workforce Board, Santa Fe College, the Florida Masonry Apprenticeship and Education Foundation, the Community Weatherization Coalition, Gainesville Regional Utilities, the Gainesville Chamber of Commerce, The National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER), and others.

The program is designed specifically credential entry level energy auditors for low-moderate income housing. The auditors receive 3 national construction industry credentials, plus a state credential through the Employ Florida Banner Center for Construction (BCC).

The curriculum consists of four parts:

The first is an existing curriculum from the Community Weatherization Coalition (CWC); a regional program in North Central Florida created through a partnership with weatherization specialists from UF and from Rebuilding Together of North Central Florida (www.rebuildingtogetherncf.org). The CWC curriculum is a unique program that focuses on basic weatherization knowledge and skills, as well as methods to educate the homeowner on how to become more energy efficient.

The second and third parts of the curriculum are through the NCCER (www.nccer.org) and provide national completion certificates in CORE Curriculum and in “Your Role in the Green Environment.” The CORE curriculum is used in the majority of Florida’s construction apprenticeship programs and

high school building trades programs. “Your Role in the Green Environment” is a Green Advantage endorsed training that becomes part of the employee training requirement for a construction firm qualifying for LEED certification.

The fourth part is the nationally recognized OSHA 10 Hr Safety course.

The overall training process takes approximately 110 hours and can be offered locally through available training partnerships.

The participants are recruited predominantly through the local One-Stop center or local government agency. Anticipated employment will initially be with local government, local community action groups, local housing authorities, and some employers. Construction and energy employer partners can utilize the program as a recruitment and screening process for potential new hires as the economy rebounds. The program completers possess credentials for training that employers utilize, thus there is a potential employer training expense savings of up to \$1000 per participant.

The program is designed such that any local coalition can utilize it, especially with WIA funds. It can only occur successfully with a strong local coalition of industry, educators, and workforce professionals.

BCC can assist in creating the local coalition. We provide an Operational Handbook to assist in the creation and management of the local effort. Additionally, we can assist in the “train the trainer” aspects of the program. BCC maintains a statewide database for all participants, so that individuals can readily access information on any related training that they have successfully completed. This facilitates the placement/hiring process and provides additional portability of the credentials inherent to the L1EA program.

For additional information please contact BCC staff at 866-489-5335.

Future Builders of America—Summer Leadership Camp Learning Today...Building Tomorrow

From all over the state of Florida, Future Builders of America traveled to Haines City on June 5-7 for the 2009 Summer Leadership Camp. Nearly 60 students and 40 volunteers attended the 6th annual event to take advantage of the opportunity to learn leadership skills while participating in construction related activities over the course of the long weekend.

The students were on the go from the moment they arrived. After Camp Chair Bill Varian, a Naples remodeler, welcomed everyone, the students were broken into eight assigned teams. The first activity instructed the students to build a cardboard boat out of the materials they were given including large sheets of cardboard, a cutting knife, a builder square, and duct tape. The goal was to design, construct, and race the finished product. Working against the clock, the students threw themselves into the project while learning leadership and teamwork in order to complete their cardboard boat, which was to be raced the following afternoon.

Friday afternoon the students attended two classes: Landscaping taught by Ann Yaslonis and Governmental Affairs 101 led by FHBA Treasurer Al Zichella, a Naples builder-developer. The students were fortunate in having two legislators from Polk County speak at the GA 101 course. State legislators John Wood and Kelli Stargel stressed the importance of forming relationships with elected officials. Later in the evening the classes taught were Leadership by Mike Rahn, Sarasota lender, and Business Etiquette by Bonded Builders' Ann Hagen. The kids came out of each class having learned something new that they can apply when in school, when searching and obtaining employment, and life in general. An ice cream social finished out the evening.

The next day was jam-packed for the students. Throughout the day, they rotated through a schedule of eight different activities that included masonry, foundation layout, job scheduling, blueprints, trim, constructing Adirondack swings, a Banner trailer, and a Ropes course that had each participant crossing a wooden telephone pole 30 feet high in the air. The students were exposed to many different facets of the construction industry and many found that they were drawn to one activity more than another possibly giving them an idea of where they may like to focus in order to prepare for their future.

"I watched students come together as a team ..."
Bill Varian

After working diligently all day, the afternoon marked the time everyone had been waiting for- the cardboard boat race. The students had some time to finish decorating their boat and included the logo of a company that had sponsored that particular boat. The teams had a fantastic time in the competitive races, and the students and counselors alike were surprised and impressed with how well the boats held up. Only one of the eight boats did not cross the finish line- it sank halfway back. Two of the eight boats survived three races, with a very close finish to determine a winner.

"I watched students come together as a team as they designed, built, and located the cardboard boats," said Varian. "These students learned to work together as a team and within each team I was able to see a leader emerge. It was absolutely a great weekend for all who attended."

FBA Camp—continued on page 6

Floridaworks Summer Youth Employment Program

Last spring, FloridaWorks, the state's workforce board for Alachua and Bradford counties, received \$1.5 million in stimulus funds for job services; \$590,000 of which went to summer internships and job training programs for 500 youths ages 16-24.

Santa Fe College, the Employ Florida Banner Center for Construction, the Santa Fe College Center for Innovation and Economic Development, the School Board of Alachua County, the Department of Juvenile Justice, the Community Weatherization Coalition, and the International Carbon Bank Exchange worked closely with FloridaWorks and other community partners to develop the Summer Youth Employment Program. The SYEP is a short term training program for area youths introducing them to green construction technology.

Three targeted construction training programs were created. They were an Introductory Energy Auditor Training, Introductory Solar PVC Installation Training (both of which included National Center for Construction Education and Research and OSHA credentials), and Carbon Footprint Analysis Training. A fourth training in Digital Media was created to document the progress of the other three programs.

All courses were created in concert with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act guidelines that required getting people to work quickly and promoting clean energy alternatives. The program's goal is to entice companies in green industries to come to Alachua County with a trained and ready-to-work workforce, along with providing opportunities in Green Technology for those youths getting ready to enter the workforce. Additionally, the students were put into paid internships for 100 hours at \$7.50 per hour, which served as an economic stimulus to high-risk youth in low income families.

The Solar Youth Technology training program specifically targeted youth from low-income families that also had a barrier to education or employment, such as those in the juvenile justice system. The first 60 students, who began training in July, were encouraged to take responsibility for their own futures and to take this opportunity for education in an in-demand field seriously.

In August, 52 participants graduated from the Solar Youth Technology Program. The graduating stu-

dents completed 80 hours of curriculum, understood the concept of generating electricity through solar energy, developed skills in assembling solar panels into modules and arrays, installed one photovoltaic system, were awarded three certificates, were entered in the NCCER National Registry and earned 80 hours of wages.

Because of the success of these programs, FloridaWorks has been awarded an additional grant of \$450,000...

Another program in energy auditing was made possible by the Community Weatherization Coalition (CWC) and Santa Fe Col-



Supervised by program supporter Dr. Dave Edwards, students had the opportunity to experience solar panel installation.

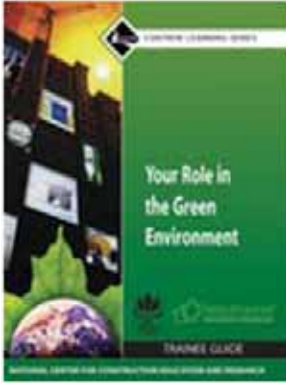
lege. Students learned how to make low-cost energy efficiency improvements to residential homes and to educate low-income homeowners on behavioral changes to help save up to 20 percent on monthly utility bills. The training was based on curriculum developed by the CWC and was taught by Santa Fe Instructors.

More than 80 students completed the training. Several of those students then performed energy audits on public housing through the Alachua County Housing Authority.

Eight students were taught how to measure green house gases and do research on carbon footprints with the International Carbon Bank and Exchange.

Summer Youth—continued on page 7

Go Green!



In construction, as in most industry sectors, going “green” is the new mantra. Florida construction faces its own unique climate and supply challenges in going green. However, one of the biggest challenges we face is educating the public and our own workforce on what green construction is.

A collaborative effort by construction education leaders from the Myers-Lawson School of Construction at Virginia Tech and the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) has resulted in a new national training program called “Your Role in the Green Environment.” Commonly called the Green Mod program, it was designed to educate the existing construction workforce as well as apprentices and building trades students, in the intricacies of why we are changing some of our established construction practices. Although initially geared to entry-level craft workers, anyone wishing to learn more about the green environment, green building rating systems, environmentally friendly landscaping and water usage, and solar energy would benefit from taking this 15 hour course.

Initially offered through industry apprenticeship programs, the program is making its way into high school and college building trades programs. Available as a national credential through the NCCER, it can be easily integrated into existing class schedules. Endorsed by Green Advantage, it is recognized nationally as beneficial to individuals planning to sit for the Green

Advantage Commercial/Residential certification exam. Santa Fe College in Gainesville Florida is the first college in Florida offering it to the general community as part of their fall class schedule through the continuing education department. Local workforce boards are also beginning to recognize the national credential associated with the program as beneficial to their clients seeking new career opportunities. This program was successfully offered as part of the WIA Summer Youth Employment Program through the Alachua/Bradford Workforce Board and is included in the Level 1 Energy Auditor Certification available through the Banner Center for Construction.

For more information in implementing the Green Mod in your area, contact the BCC staff at 866-489-5335 or to order the curriculum contact Liz Myhre, Pearson Communication, 1-800-720-3870 ext. 2.



For information about implementing an NCCER “Your Role in the Green Environment” course in your area, contact Banner Center for Construction staff at 866-489-5335.

Florida Masonry Apprentice and Educational Foundation Holds 20th ICTP



The Florida Masonry Apprentice and Educational Foundation held its 20th ICTP Training on August 18-20 at the CIED Building in Gainesville, Florida for 12 instructors that will be certify to teach the NCCER Construction and Green Curriculums. The ICTP was sponsored by the Banner Center for Construction in partnership with Florida Works, Inc. The class included instructors from Pasco County Public Schools, the Gainesville Police Department’s Reichert House, and Santa Fe College. Several of the instructors will be teaching in the BCC Level 1 Energy Auditor Program at SFC.

This class was taught by Master Trainers, AL Herndon, FMAEF, Dennis Neal, Advanced Masonry Systems & FMAEF and Kurt Morauer, Banner Center for Construction.

This brings a total of 277 trade instructors that have been certify in Florida by the FMAEF.

Al Herndon

FBA Camp—Continued from page 3

Saturday evening the students each alternated between a Green Building course taught by Drew and Debbie Smith of Two Trails, Inc. and a Robert’s Rules course taught by Orlando insurance agent Michelle Delaney. An activity room with games, movies, music, cards, and ice cream was enjoyed that evening.

The students last day included the last two activities on the rotation schedule before they were released to pack and clean up their cabins and to enjoy some free time fishing, playing flag football, swimming in the pool, or helping complete the Adirondack swings before gathering in the dining hall. Foundation Trustee Emmett Reed captured the student’s attention with a motivational speech that touched on finances, enthusiasm, attitude, and thankfulness.

Every student in attendance was presented with a certificate of completion for participating in the Summer Leadership Camp. There were also several students who were recognized for demonstrating leadership within their team, as well as an award given to a student who conquered her fear of the Ropes course. As the students left the camp on Sunday, they walked away having learned skills and real life lessons that they did not have upon arriving.

FHBA President Jay Carlson said, “Words can’t describe the full scope of what our camp participants learn about skill sets they can use for entry level jobs; the creativity and leadership skills they bring to competitive activities like the cardboard boat races; and the self confidence they exhibit walking 30 feet across a power pole mounted horizontally - 30 FEET IN THE AIR! I suggest that if you have never attended an FBA camp that you make plans to attend next year, if only for a day, but be careful because it’s instantly addicting.”

Jennifer Wittstock

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Summer Youth— continued from page 4

They completed the first ever carbon footprint analysis of the water usage for programs of the Alachua County government.

The digital media program participants learned audio/video editing skills and how to publish their work to a DVD. The students interviewed program educators and other students from all four programs, edited the clips and produced a DVD highlighting the value and knowledge gained from the programs.

Because of the success of these programs, FloridaWorks has been awarded an additional grant of \$450,000 to expand the program throughout the following year. The Banner Center for Construction is proliferating the curriculum into other regions of the state and Santa Fe College has been at the national forefront for providing this kind of green technology training in short-term targeted classes.

Angela Pate



Students participating in the program at the Professional Academies Magnet at Loften High School learn about solar pumps.