Los Angeles Trade Technical College
Community and Economic Development Department

Community Building/Sustainability Initiative of the Vernon Central Community

Preparing young adults for career opportunities that will strengthen families and community viability

Los Angeles Trade Technical College

- Over 80 years of existence as a Career Technical Education/Academic institution.

- Only Community and Economic Development academic and career programs in the US.

- Certificates and AA degree in Community Planning, Community Organizing, Health and Environmental Policy Advocacy and Mortgage Finance

- Community Development partnership with CDTech

- Community Service Programs

- HUD HSIAC Award Built a community technology satellite

- Recently recognized for developing Green Industry Innovations in Construction, Utilities, Energy, Fuel Systems.

Vernon Central Neighborhood Profile

- 110,000 population in South Central LA – large immigrant pop.

- Among 18-30 year olds there is a 40% unemployment rate

- 50% of area students do not graduate from high school

- High Schools are scoring in the lowest percentiles in Math and English

- 21 Gangs located in the the 2 square mile area

- Culture of violence is prevalent

- Most employment is service and light manufacturing industries

- 40% of households make less than $25,000 a year

- Language issues, lack of work experience and basic skill gaps

- Dilapidated physical structures

- Workforce training and education community partners

Workforce Development Considerations

- State of the current economic recession

- Lack of prepared labor force

- Sustainability and the Role of the College

- Creation of an economic model – workforce development contextualized in community development

- Undocumented population

- Community benefit and revitalization results

- Is green, technology and human services the way to go?

- Where are the permanent jobs?

Vernon Central Workforce Development Strategy

Critical Elements:

- Create a "pipeline" that supports youth development

- Develop place based model to track impact

- Create partnerships and systems among workforce

- Clearly identify target population comprehensive needs

- Basic Needs, CAHSEE, GED and Adult Education

- Invest 2-3 years in youth seamless transition to programs

- Pipeline must lead to education, jobs and entrepreneurship

- Work experience training – job prep and job placement

- Building leadership development skills – community change

- Leverage resources

Workforce Development Pipeline Components

Education/Skills in Emerging Career Pathways

Case Management Coaching Info. Systems

Paid Work Experience and Career Exposure

Leadership Development Community Service

Multiple Entry/Level Pipeline Process

- Recruitment OW/OS
- Entry Level Training
- Life Skills
- Re-entry
- Community Service
- Case Management

Vernon Central Collaborative

911 Green Corps
Tech Corps
Health Corps

- Technical Skill & Knowledge
- Paid Internships
- College Credit
- Train the Trainer
- Private/Public Funding
- Career Exploration

- 10 month internships
- Certificate and AA Degree
- Leadership Development
- Non-profit Sector
- AmeriCorps
- Coaching

Public Allies
CED Certificates
Jobs

Workforce Development Participant Outcomes

Increased Skills, Knowledge, Life Awareness and Leadership Capacity

Education Completion, LATTC Technical (Green, Weatherization, Utilities, Electrical) and Academic Programs, University Planning

Entry Level Jobs, Permanent Jobs, Internships, Social Entrepreneurship, Small Business

Example: 911 Green Homes Initiative

Vision: "Vernon Central is the Greenest Neighborhood in Los Angeles"

Objectives:

1. Create a locally-based and locally-driven green economy by expanding eco-consciousness and behaviors of residents

2. Increase energy efficiency of 911 homes

3. Connect 911 residents to jobs in the emerging green economy

911 Green Homes Initiative Strategy

- COMMUNITY OUTREACH & CONSUMER EDUCATION
  - Churches, Schools, Households

- COMMUNITY ORGANIZING AND RECRUITMENT FOR GREEN HOMES PROGRAM

- RESIDENTIAL ENERGY ASSESSMENTS & TIER ONE WEATHERIZATION

- WORKFORCE TRAINING (YOUNG ADULTS GREEN CORPS)
  - Technical Skills Training, Work Experience, Leadership and College Credits

911 Green Corps Program

- Partners—**CDTech Center, LA Trade Technical College, L.A. Green Business Council, Vernon-Central Workforce Collaborative, Institute for Real Estate Management.**

- Participants—**18-24 Year Old "Out of School…Out of Work" Young Adults.**

- Training Model—**Contextualized learning in class and in the field. Taught by Industry experts.**

- Content—**Four-Six Week Green Jobs and Leadership Skills (e.g., energy efficiency measures, rater math, climate change and conservation education)**

911 Green Corps Cohort Outcomes

- 23 of 25 completed programs (2 were ineligible)

- All participants received 2 units of community college credits

- 90% of participants continued education (mostly community college) with over 50% focused on environmental careers

- 150 Energy Assessments Completed

- 4 Housing Units Weatherized

- 240 Household Contacts and Training on Sustainable Living

- All got paid $2000 stipends and 23 will receive $1000 education grants to advance learning

- 3 Graduates became Public Allies (10 month)

Sustainability, Systems Integration and Scale

- South LA Green Jobs Collaborative of 4 nonprofits

- Train 150 youth

- Place a minimum of 120 into jobs for 18 months

- Targeted 5 South L.A. neighborhoods

- Develop Faith-based Partnerships to expand Social Marketing Efforts

- Increase Residential Energy Efficiency of Homes in Low income neighborhoods

- Create supply of labor force – African American, Latino and Asian

Ongoing Opportunities

- ❑ Connect local jobs with emerging economy with community health, broad band technology
- ❑ Increased property values
- ❑ Lower household expenses (increase disposable income)
- ❑ Transformative experience for youth
- ❑ Rebuilding communities with a vision in mind
- ❑ Promoting healthier/natural lifestyle
- ❑ Partnership with Banks for REO retrofits
- ❑ Public subsidies
- ❑ Economic Imperative
- ❑ Issue of Social and Economic Justice

Thank you!

Questions?