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## PATRICK-MURRAY ADMINISTRATION ANNOUNCES \$160,000 IN ARRA FUNDING FOR YOUTHBUILD BOSTON

### Stimulus Funds Help Prepare Unemployed for Construction Trade Jobs

ROXBURY - Friday April 30, 2010 - As part of the Patrick-Murray Administration's Massachusetts Recovery Plan, Governor Deval Patrick today announced that YouthBuild Boston will receive \$160,000 in stimulus funding to help connect youth to green job training.

This award is part of \$1 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding the Governor has directed to help prepare youth, unemployed individuals and low-income adults for jobs or apprenticeships in construction trades and related occupations.

"No resident will be left behind when it comes to preparing people for jobs," said Governor Patrick. "This stimulus funding will help workers to prepare for state-of-the-art construction trade jobs in weatherization, renewable energy and more. Our future electricians, carpenters, painters and other apprentices now have a chance to become prepared for and step into jobs that require the latest skills."

Today's announcement, made at YouthBuild's site in Roxbury, is part of the Patrick-Murray Administration's initiative to assist unemployed or underemployed individuals -- with special emphasis on women, people of color, youth aged 17 to 24 (who are out of school) and ex-offenders.

"Creating jobs has been and will continue to be a critical component of our economic recovery plan," said Lieutenant Governor Timothy Murray. "By investing in education and training programs in partnership with YouthBuild Boston and other community organizations, we will support our workforce today and also contribute to future long-term growth in Massachusetts."

YouthBuild Boston collaborates with workforce development organizations, employers, and policy makers to build capacity so disconnected young adults can access building trades opportunities. All training and project work is in the green building sciences and program graduates will access jobs in Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Construction Projects, Green Facilities Maintenance, Weatherization & Retrofit.

"We are committed to helping people begin a career in a trade or move forward in their career path to meet the demands of the Commonwealth's changing industries," said Secretary of Labor and Workforce Development Joanne Goldstein. "Today's workers have to adapt their skills to new technologies in residential home-building, commercial/residential rehabilitation, lead abatement, weatherization or sustainable and renewable energy system installation. These programs offer workers an innovative and comprehensive curriculum."

YouthBuild Boston serves communities throughout the Greater Boston region, focusing specifically on Roxbury, Dorchester and Mattapan. The program is designed to improve opportunities for young people of Boston by teaching skills that will equip them to support themselves and help develop personal and neighborhood responsibility.

"Maintaining jobs programs for our youth have been a top budgetary priority of mine during my first term as the Senator for the Second Suffolk District" said Senator Sonia Chang-Diaz. "I commend Governor Patrick for his continuing leadership on this issue by allocating federal stimulus dollars to help create new job training and apprenticeship opportunities for our youth. YouthBuild is an excellent partner in our communities and do a fantastic job planting the seeds for future success in our children."

"I have historically supported Youthbuild Boston and the entire Youthbuild movement. I believe this program saves the lives of so many young adults and offers a positive direction for those unsure of their career goals. My grandson, for example, is a proud graduate of Youthbuild Quincy, and the program has put him on the fast track to success. I am so glad we are taking the futures of our young people seriously by funding this program" said Representative Gloria L. Fox.

"I want to thank the Governor for his commitment to connecting youth with job training in cutting edge fields like green energy and clean technology," said Mayor Thomas M. Menino. "This money not only puts individuals to work today but improves their opportunities by providing them with crucial skills for the future."

Governor Patrick recently announced that the following organizations have also been awarded funds under this program:

- Boston Carpenters Apprenticeship & Training Fund, \$167,500
- University of Massachusetts Labor/Management, \$180,000
- Community Teamwork Inc., \$167,500
- Just-A-Start Corporation, \$160,000
- The Martin Luther King, Jr. Business Empowerment Center \$165,000

The recovery dollars slated for these organizations around the state will assist residents with obtaining pre-employment training and basic knowledge of trades and construction skills required for employment in construction and/or to gain entry into an Apprenticeship Program.

"This investment will help people who are currently unemployed train for jobs that are being created through stimulus programs in public works and clean energy," said Commonwealth Corporation President and CEO Nancy Snyder, who will administer the grant on behalf of the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development.

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