



ENGLEWOOD SHARED RENEWABLES

SOLAR INSTALLATION TRAINING

→ COHORT Q4 2024



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ABOUT



The vision of Englewood Shared Renewables was created with a simple but powerful goal: to give people in Englewood real chances to build successful careers. We know that not every student wants to go to college, and only 1 in every 4 jobs require a four-year degree. This reflects the diverse career paths available today, including well-paying trades and technical roles that often require specialized training through trade schools or apprenticeships rather than traditional higher education.

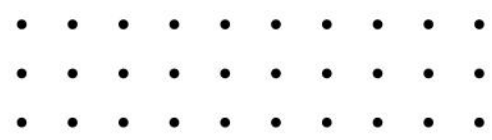
What matters is finding a path that allows people to support themselves, grow their skills, and feel proud of their work.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



Our students expanded beyond traditional classroom learning through Virtual Reality and hands-on training that mirrored real-world construction scenarios. They developed practical skills by crafting chairs and work benches, mastering tool usage and fundamental construction techniques. The highlight of their education was a mock roof project where students learned solar panel installation directly from industry expert Keyante Aytch. Working with BEEHYVE's innovative designs and with under the supervision of General Contractor Phil Spika, they gained valuable insights into professional solar installation practices that will serve them in future careers.



KEY MOMENTS

Our program hosted key industry experts who created valuable connections for our students' futures. ComEd representatives presented energy sector career opportunities and potential employment paths, emphasizing how this field offers accessible opportunities for everyone. The Chore Foundation's visit reinforced these professional relationships, showing our students that established organizations are genuinely invested in their success. Students gained critical knowledge about re-entry programs designed specifically for returning citizens, establishing direct pathways from our training to sustainable careers with respected employers.





The Mid-America Carpenters Union Training Center visit exposed students to diverse carpentry career paths across residential, commercial, industrial, and renewable sectors, as well as the union's comprehensive training programs, attractive wage and benefit packages, and streamlined entry process - providing tangible insights into viable construction professions.

CERTIFICATIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

The students worked hard to earn industry certifications:

**OSHA 30
SAFETY
CERTIFICATION**

**OSHA 10
SAFETY
CERTIFICATION**

**CORE
CONSTRUCTION
CERTIFICATION**

**SOLAR
INSTALLATION
CERTIFICATION**

These certifications are like golden tickets. They show employers that these students are serious, trained, and ready to work.



PROGRAM INSIGHTS

Home and Food Insecurities

- Students showed clear signs of food insecurity.
- Basic needs struggles affected mental health outcomes.
- Community partners assisted with delivering essential wraparound services.
- This support system enables full program engagement.
- Addressing whole-person needs creates pathways to success.



Career Paths Beyond Renewable Energy

We understand that not every student will want to work in solar energy or construction. That's why our program offers more than just one path. For students seeking alternative career paths, we provide comprehensive guidance and information about diverse occupational options.

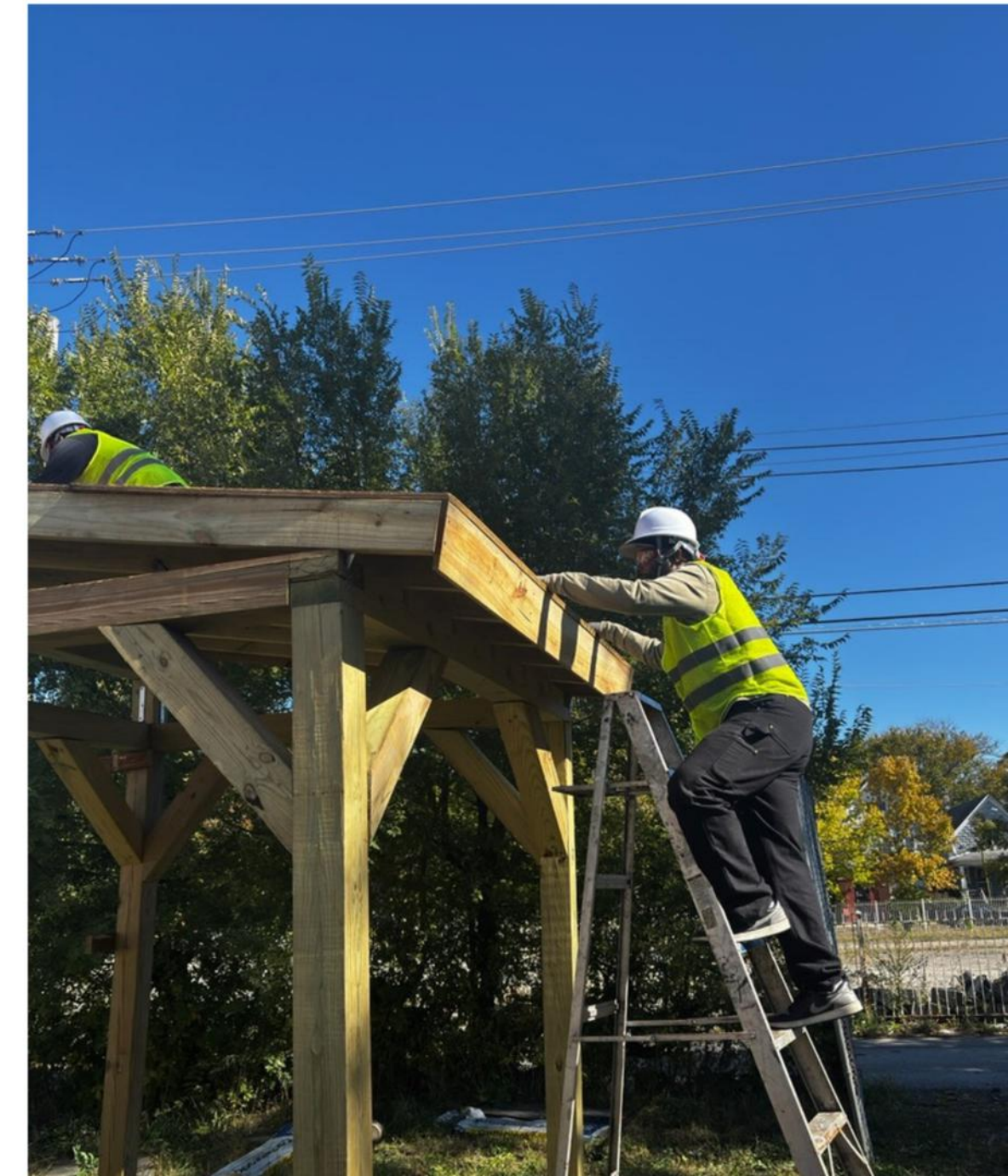
Traditional Construction Trades

- Carpentry 35k-75k
- Plumbing 61k
- HVAC 60k

Other Technical Careers

- Warehouse management 58k
- Truck driving 64k (Local)
- Delivery services 42k-52k
- Field Safety Manager 80k

Our goal is to demonstrate to students that successful careers can be built through multiple pathways. We understand that solar installation and construction aren't suitable for everyone, and that's perfectly acceptable. What's truly important is discovering a career path that both inspires passion and offers long-term stability.





Isaiah Berryhill, Age 18
Status: No known record of arrests
Level of Education High School Diploma
Father: No

A skilled handyman who demonstrated exceptional ability to collaborate effectively with diverse team members in group settings.



Jovanny Martinez, Age 30
Status: Re-entry
Level of Education: High School Diploma
Father: Yes

One of the most hands-on learners in the cohort, they consistently demonstrated exceptional efficiency by completing tasks thoroughly within given deadlines.



Tyshon Murray, Age 26
Status: Re-entry
Level of Education: No high school diploma or GED
Father: Yes

A natural classroom leader who excelled in academic assessments. Their willingness to seek clarification and ask questions demonstrated both confidence and a genuine commitment to learning.



Latony Bogan , Age 18
Status: No known record of arrests
Level of Education: Graduates HS spring 2025
Father: No



Kamari Offord, Age 20
Status: No known record of arrests
Level of Education High School Diploma
Father: No

SUCCESS STORIES



Looking Ahead: The success of these seven students demonstrates the potential revealed when investing in local talent.

Since the conclusion of our fall 2024 cohort, we are delighted to share the achievements of Kamari Offord and Isaiah Berryhill, who have secured consistent employment as construction laborers with Underground Construction. Their dedication and skills acquired through the program have paved the way for promising careers in the construction/Renewables industry.



The consistent employment of Kamari and Isaiah not only demonstrates the effectiveness of our training program but also highlights the growing demand for skilled laborers in the construction sector. Their stories serve as inspiration for future cohorts, showcasing the tangible opportunities that await those who embrace the challenges and rewards of this dynamic industry.



LOOKING AHEAD

Our program transforms lives by opening doors of opportunity for young people. We recognize that success looks different for everyone – whether it's becoming a solar installer, a skilled carpenter, or pursuing an entirely unexpected path. What matters most is that our students now have choices, skills, and the confidence to pursue their dreams.

By providing targeted training and supportive guidance, we empower students to see beyond their current circumstances. Each graduate represents a unique success story – a testament to what's possible when young people are given the right tools, support, and belief in their potential. We're not just teaching skills; we're building futures, one student at a time.

Our pride comes from watching these young individuals grow, learn, and ultimately chart their own paths to success. Their journeys are just beginning, and the possibilities are limitless.

