YouthBuild is a national organization which works to unleash the intelligence and positive energy of low-income youth to rebuild their communities and their lives. There are more than 225 YouthBuild programs in the U.S. that have participated in building 17,000 units of affordable housing.

Community Youth Services was founded in Thurston County in 1970. Our mission is to empower youth at-risk and their families to meet their goals for safety, stability, belonging and success by providing a continuum of individualized services and advocacy.

Find out more:
CommunityYouthServices.org
YouthBuild.org

The South Puget Sound YouthBuild project is a recipient of a grant from the US Department of Labor and it is against the law for recipients of Federal financial assistance to discriminate on the following bases: against any individual in the United States, on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation or belief; or against any beneficiary of programs financially assisted under Title I of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA), on the basis of the beneficiary's citizenship/status as a lawfully admitted immigrant authorized to work in the United States, or his or her participation in any WIA Title I-financially assisted program or activity.

In addition, as an employer in Washington state, the South Puget Sound YouthBuild project is prohibited from discriminating on the grounds of a person's marital status, retaliation, sexual orientation, gender identity, honorably discharged veteran or military status, or use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability.
**What we do**

The South Puget Sound YouthBuild Project is a full-time program that helps you earn your GED or high school diploma and gives you hands-on training to start a career in the construction trades. And you earn money at the same time!

Through the YouthBuild Project you will learn green-building techniques while constructing low income housing to serve your community. You will have the opportunity to develop leadership skills, build lasting friendships, access career counseling and job or apprenticeship placement, and earn a construction certificate that will make you highly employable.

Throughout the program, you will get support from expert staff to help you be successful in the classroom, at the worksite and in your life.

**Who can be part of YouthBuild?**

Are you ready to rebuild your life and rebuild your community?

If you live in Thurston County and are 17-20 years old and need to earn your high school diploma or GED, you are half way there! You also need to be interested in learning about construction and applying your knowledge at the worksite.

Most importantly, you must be ready to make a positive change for yourself, your family and your community.

YouthBuild participants also must meet **one** of these requirements:

- Low-income
- In or aging out of foster care
- Youth offender
- Youth with a disability
- Child of an incarcerated parent
- Migrant youth

**When Can I Start?**

Interested? Go to [www.communityyouthservices.org/yb](http://www.communityyouthservices.org/yb) and fill out the application. You can also stop by the CYS offices at 711 State Avenue in downtown Olympia, or call 360.943.0780 x126 to request the application.

A required orientation starts on September 9th, 2009. Youth who do well in the orientation are accepted into the program and will continue Monday-Friday, 8am - 2:30 pm. through July 30th, 2010.