



2022

**ANNUAL
REPORT**

BUILDING SKILLS NY

www.buildingskillsny.org



DEAR SUPPORTERS,

As we begin 2023 together, we invite you to take a look at the progress we made in 2022. As a New York City construction workforce development nonprofit, we provide technical skills training and job placement services to historically underserved individuals across the boroughs. In collaboration with our many partners, we are dedicated to equipping low- to moderate-income level individuals with the tools and resources they need to thrive in construction, obtain meaningful employment, and embark on the path to a living wage.

In 2022, the Building Skills team made 350 job placements, up from just 41 placements in 2016. We also expanded our hallmark technical skills training program, the Construction Career Accelerator (CCA), to encompass carpentry, plumbing, electrical, and high-efficiency HVAC training, all while doubling our financial support for the program. Since the CCA's inception in the fall of 2021, the Building Skills team has worked with community colleges and other community-based organizations to insure that nearly 120 participants graduated from the program. We also held our first Best of Building Skills fundraising event, which allowed us to thank our most steadfast partners while raising \$100,000 to directly support our core programming.

Thanks to your support, the Building Skills team was also able to grow in 2022. We hired a Director of Communications and Grant Writing, Siera Nezaj, and are planning to grow our program staff in 2023 to better serve our participants. Thank you to the entire BSNY staff, including Glenn Hilzen, Tatanisia Lumley, Felicia Forster, Ariel Leyva, and Olivia Torres for their tireless work.

Raising the bar on job placement, skills training, and fundraising activity enabled Building Skills to grow our employer network in 2022, as more contractors increasingly rely on our team to connect well-trained, hard-working employees to construction sites across the five boroughs. We're also happy to report that we've seen an increase in the number of young adults and NYCHA residents we serve, reassuring we remain true to our mission.

Thank you for joining us on this journey as we **Build Skills** and **Build Futures**. *We couldn't do our work without you.*

Sincerely,



David Meade
Executive Director, **Building Skills NY**



ABOUT US

OUR MISSION

Building Skills NY (BSNY) is a nonprofit construction workforce development organization connecting underemployed and unemployed New Yorkers to construction training and job opportunities throughout New York City. Our mission is to provide more opportunities for New York City job seekers to get trained for careers in construction, while helping employers find a ready, willing, and able workforce. As a workforce intermediary, we leverage our relationships within the real estate development and construction industry and are dedicated to reducing underemployment in communities across the city, ensuring that local jobs are paths to tangible economic gains. BSNY is **Building Skills** and **Building Futures**.


KEY ELEMENTS OF OUR PROGRAMS

- Working with a city-wide network of leading workforce agencies to provide free construction job placement assistance to unemployed and underemployed New York City residents;
- Carefully vetting each candidate to ensure they are “work ready” with the experience and skills required on job sites, providing contractors with assurance of worker preparedness and ensuring the likelihood of on-the-job success;
- Focusing on job retention and job continuity by regularly monitoring each workers’ on-the-job performance, and intervening when appropriate with counseling and support, and tracking each worker to ensure that after a project has ended they are promptly placed in another construction job providing unprecedented continuity of employment;
- Assisting workers in acquiring advanced construction skills which can lead to broader career pathways and expanded opportunities with higher rates of compensation.

BUILDING SKILLS BY THE NUMBERS

350 JOB PLACEMENTS

MADE IN NYC
100% of placed BSNY participants live in one of the five boroughs



PEOPLE OF COLOR

99%



of placed BSNY participants identify as Black, Hispanic, Asian, or multi-racial



JUSTICE INVOLVED

13% of placed BSNY participants were previously involved with the criminal justice system. Re-entry into the workforce helps reduce recidivism

NYCHA RESIDENTS

21% of placed BSNY participants are NYCHA residents



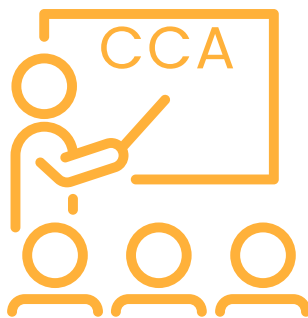
YOUNG ADULTS



1 in 5

of placed BSNY participants are young adults (ages 18-25)

74 CONSTRUCTION CAREER ACCELERATOR GRADUATES



14,661 Construction Career Accelerator program hours of training completed

91% Construction Career Accelerator completion rate

290 Industry-valued certifications awarded

20% increase

Average increase in wages after CCA completion



30 CCA participants received \$20/Hour stipends, tools, and PPE

1,350 Hours of case management provided to support the success of CCA participants

In 2022, we helped connect hundreds more New Yorkers with construction jobs in their own communities.



We're proud to complete another outstanding year of connecting historically underserved New Yorkers with access to good jobs, workforce training and career opportunities in the construction industry. Alongside a fast-growing network of citywide partners and stakeholders, **Building Skills New York** is transforming lives and creating brighter futures for the hardworking men and women who call our city home.

350

job placements in 2022

93

Contractors/employers in the 2022 BSNY network

99%

of placed BSNY participants identify as Black, Hispanic, Asian, or multi-racial

64

Construction jobsites in the 2022 BSNY network

290+

no-cost certifications awarded to BSNY participants (NCCER, OSHA SST, Flagger's, etc)

100%

of placed BSNY participants live in one of the five NYC boroughs

74

Participants graduated from BSNY's Construction Career Accelerator (CCA) skills training program

As we continue working collaboratively with community-based non-profits, industry leaders and local elected officials, we're poised to achieve even greater success over the year to come. When more New Yorkers get on the career track in construction, our city grows even stronger. Visit www.buildingskillsny.org to learn more.

NEW IN 2022: BEST OF BSNY

"BEST OF BUILDING SKILLS NY" FUNDRAISER

To help cap an incredibly successful year, BSNY held its inaugural "Best of Building Skills" fundraiser, which recognized LaGuardia Community College for the Workforce Partner Award, Lendlease for the Safety Training Award King Contracting Group for Employer of the Year Award, Brookfield Properties for the Impact Developer Award, and Denise Moore and Deshawn Preston as Building Futures Honorees.



Our inaugural fundraiser raised \$100,000 and marks the beginning of something even greater. We are thankful for everyone who attended and donated to our fundraiser.



The event featured remarks from NYC Deputy Mayor Maria Torres-Spring, who said:

"Workforce development organizations like Building Skills NY are essential to creating a stronger system of economic and workforce opportunity within New York City ...Coordinating a network of nonprofits, employers, and government agencies that work together is critical to further developing New York City's talent development ecosystem and advancing equity."

MEET OUR WORKERS

“I want more women out there; let’s do this together,” says Denise. “When I got my foot in the door in construction, I saw how much things have progressed for women. It’s not a man’s world anymore. When opportunity knocks at your door, how can you not open it?”

When Denise connected with Building Skills NY, she had spent years working in healthcare, banking, security, and manufacturing and delivery. While a delivery driver, Denise was drawn to the flaggers she would see on her routes, which piqued her interest in the construction industry. Now, Denise is with a landscaping company in Far Rockaway, Queens. “I love landscaping- I get to build something for myself and my community and be creative in the process,” says Denise. “I get to walk past my work and see what it’s done for my community. I wish more people had this much pride in their work, women especially.”

Denise, whose son passed away several years ago, feels like she has meaning once again. “I wish my son was here to see me. I can imagine him saying ‘Look at my mom, nothing is impossible for her.’ It’s all about doing the work, and he would’ve appreciated that.” Denise’s work is a way to honor her son and their bond; working outside with other people keeps her grief at bay and motivates her to wake up each day with purpose.

Denise’s best advice for other women and mothers who want to find their purpose in construction: prove to your employer that you are worth their time. “I’m a team player, I’ll better myself for your company. I’m an asset to your company. That’s the attitude I have when I go to work each day. Hard work is rewarding work, and this is just the beginning.”

Denise Moore



MEET OUR WORKERS



Wilson Diaz



Wilson Diaz always knew he wanted to work with his hands.

The 20-year-old Bronx native attended a vocational high school and went straight into getting his plumbing certification. In February, he studied in our Construction Career Accelerator program to get his HVAC certification.

Now, he's doing carpentry work for C&S Subcontracting on houses in the Melrose neighborhood of the borough he grew up in, but he also sometimes moves around to other sites as needed.

Diaz says he's proudest of being named foreman of this project in his own neighborhood and getting recognition for his can-do attitude. Diaz has taken a leadership position at work before he's old enough to legally drink alcohol. Diaz said Building Skills NY is a great resource and safety net as he works to advance his career in construction.



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Con Edison
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