

# The Argonaut

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## **Venice Community Housing Corp. celebrates graduation and program completion of 23 young adults**

The Venice Community Housing Corporation celebrated the graduation and program completion Thursday, December 13th, of 23 young adults, ages 16 to 24, who participated in the corporation's Youth Development programs, Venice YouthBuild and Another Chance.

Sixteen youths will receive their high school diplomas and two will receive certificates for completing all of the required high school credits. Six youths will have completed the YouthBuild program but have additional coursework to finish in order to earn a diploma.

Including another graduation held in June, both programs have resulted in 23 high school diplomas for at-risk youths this year, according to the Venice Commu-

nity Housing Corporation.

Both YouthBuild and Another Chance partner with the John Muir Charter School, which provides the academic components of each program on-site at the housing corporation.

YouthBuild provides construction job training, education, leadership activities and case management for at-risk youths.

As part of the construction job training, the youths assisted in performing rehabilitation on four housing corporation buildings which contain 56 units of affordable housing.

Most recently the youths worked with partner Community Design Center to help construct 55 new units of affordable housing.

The Another Chance Program

provides education, case management, and leadership opportunities, while the youths are employed part-time. The young men and women will go on to enroll in college, apprentice programs with construction trade unions, various vocational programs, or to other employment, according to the corporation.

Founded in 1988, the Venice Community Housing Corporation's mission is to preserve the economic, racial and social diversity of Venice and the surrounding area, by maximizing affordable housing, economic and community development opportunities and by providing needed social services to low-income residents.

Information, [www.vchcorp.org/](http://www.vchcorp.org/).