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YouthBuild program graduates receive diplomas

The Venice Community Housing Corporation held a graduation ceremony May 13 for 11 members of its vocational training program, Venice YouthBuild.

At the ceremony, 10 young adults aged 18 to 24 received their high school diplomas and 15 youths received Pre-Apprenticeship Construction Training Certificates in Facilities Maintenance and Weatherization Assistance, a housing corporation spokesperson said.

Sponsored by the Venice Community Housing Corporation, Venice YouthBuild works to help youths become self-reliant for a lifetime. The program provides education, vocational training and placement, leadership activities and case management for at-risk youth.

YouthBuild partners with the John Muir Charter School, which provides the academic components of the program on site at the housing corporation.

As part of the program's construction job training, the program graduates assisted with rehabilitating units of the housing agency's affordable housing property. Eight of the youths gained additional work experience by installing solar panels on the homes of low income families through a partnership with GRID Alternatives, the housing corporation spokesperson said.

Information, www.vchcorp.org.