



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Children's Cabinet Awarded \$1.84M YouthBuild Grant from U.S. Department of Labor

RENO, Nev., August 4, 2026 – The U.S. Department of Labor has awarded The Children's Cabinet a \$1,840,000 grant to lead Washoe YouthBuild, a comprehensive pre-apprenticeship workforce development program serving opportunity youth ages 16 to 24 in the Reno-Sparks metropolitan area. This marks the fourth time the nonprofit has received federal funding to operate this program.

The grant will enable The Children's Cabinet to serve 80 young adults who have left high school before earning a diploma or are significantly involved in the juvenile justice system. Through YouthBuild, participants will earn a high school diploma or high school equivalency while preparing for careers in the skilled trades.

Over the course of the 40-month program, participants will receive integrated academic instruction, occupational skills training, leadership development and wraparound supportive services. Washoe YouthBuild operates through a two-track model: Track 1 serves students ages 16 to 18 who are co-enrolled at Redfield Academy and pursuing a high school diploma, while Track 2 serves young adults ages 18 to 24 pursuing a high school equivalency through the Washoe County School District's RiSE Academy and Northern Nevada Literacy Council Adult Basic Education. Participants spend approximately 50% of their time in education, 40% in occupational skills training and 10% in leadership development.

The program is made possible through partnerships with United Construction, the Washoe County School District, Washoe County Juvenile Services, NevadaWorks, The Building and Construction Trades Council of Northern Nevada, Toll Brothers Reno, The Empowerment Center and the Village on Sage Street. Certified trainers from the Building and Construction Trades Council of Northern Nevada will train The Children's Cabinet staff to deliver the nationally recognized NCCER Multi-Craft Core Curriculum, equipping participants with foundational skills in construction math, blueprint reading, workplace safety, hand and power tools, materials handling, and employability. Participants will also gain hands-on experience at the Empowerment Center, a Reno nonprofit supporting women recovering from substance abuse and trauma, and the Village on Sage Street, a 312-unit affordable housing community for low-income working individuals.

"We are incredibly grateful to continue our partnership with Washoe YouthBuild and excited for what lies ahead," said Yvette Myers Director of Community Development at The Empowerment Center. "Over the past two years, Washoe YouthBuild participants have made a lasting impact on our campus by constructing more than 80 wood-framed beds for residents and designing and building a beautiful playhouse that continues to bring joy to the children residing on our campus. We look forward to continuing this partnership and providing meaningful, hands-on learning opportunities that benefit both the young people in the program and our community."



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Keeping Children Safe & Families Together



The program will continue to provide Community Health Worker I (CHW I) certification and expanded career pathways in pipefitting and welding, preparing participants for careers in high-demand construction, health and human services, and skilled trades.

"YouthBuild gives young people who may have faced significant obstacles a second chance to earn their education, develop valuable career skills and build a brighter future," said Kim Young, CEO of The Children's Cabinet. "Thanks to this investment from the U.S. Department of Labor and the strength of our community partnerships, we're helping participants gain the confidence, credentials and hands-on experience they need to enter meaningful careers while strengthening our local workforce."

Washoe YouthBuild 2026 will launch in fall 2026. Interested youth can contact The Children's Cabinet at www.childrencabinet.org/who-we-serve/i-am-a-youth/youth-work-experience/

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About The Children's Cabinet

Established in Reno in 1985, The Children's Cabinet exists to keep children safe and families together by offering services and resources that address unmet needs. The organization represents a unique and effective collaboration between the private sector and public agencies in Nevada. The Children's Cabinet helps more than 15,000 families annually with a wide range of services: basic needs, child care resources, education, work experience programs, crisis intervention, and family counseling. As a non-profit agency, The Children's Cabinet relies on community support to provide programs and services at no charge to children and their families.

Disclosure

Washoe YouthBuild is supported by the U.S. Department of Labor. A total of \$1,840,000.00 is financed with Federal funds, and \$460,000.00 is funded by other sources.



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