



TRADEWORX

PRESENTED BY THE HOME DEPOT CANADA FOUNDATION & BLUE DOOR

The Home Depot Canada Foundation's new targeted investment to combat youth homelessness by creating opportunities for career education and skilled trades training

ABOUT THIS PROJECT

TradeWorx, powered by [The Home Depot Canada Foundation](#) and launched in 2021, supports a coalition of 10 successful Canadian employment social enterprises (ESEs) helping bridge systemic gaps and prevent youth homelessness.

Through TradeWorx, solutionary leaders across Canada are coordinating efforts to provide youth at-risk of homelessness with the skills training needed to secure a long-term well-paying career in construction, resulting in the ability to afford and retain housing.



Check out these podcasts and webinars for a more in-depth look at the program:
[On the Way Home](#) | [A Way Home Canada](#) | [Inside the Orange Door](#) | [Homeless Hub](#)

HOW IT WORKS

The program provides participants with the education, skills training, hands-on experience, and other supports they need to secure well-paying in-demand careers in construction trades. Although the concept of social enterprise is not new, TradeWorx is innovating by creating a coalition that builds capacity and nationwide interventions through social enterprise.

Different from traditional employment training programs, ESEs (such as [Blue Door's Construct](#)) provide extensive wraparound supports throughout the program to address barriers that threaten to propel the youth into homelessness. Supports include wages/living allowances to prevent evictions, food programming, psychotherapy, childcare, transportation, and emergency assistance.



"We've invested heavily in research and housing initiatives over the last eight years and we know helping to break the cycle of youth homelessness requires an integrated approach"

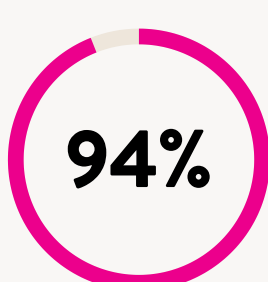
- PAMELA O'ROURKE

HOME DEPOT CANADA FOUNDATION BOARD CHAIR AND HOME DEPOT CANADA VP OF MERCHANDISING

IMPACT

100 YOUTHS

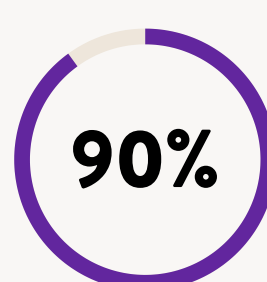
will receive skills training and wraparound supports by the end of 2021 (amidst a global pandemic)



graduate into careers



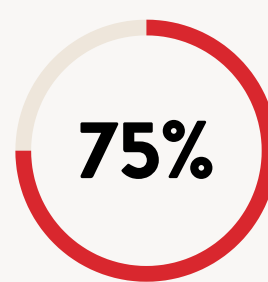
gain basic math, literacy, teamwork skills, and improved self-confidence



gain work experience related to post-program employment

"We are all learning a lot and this program gives us great opportunity to find a career path, helping us get our foot in the door"

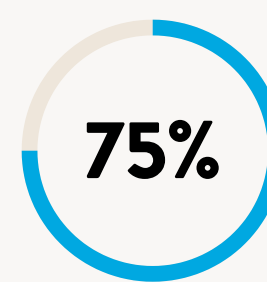
- PROGRAM PARTICIPANT



report career stability and development



achieve balance of education/credentials needed to decrease employment barriers



report improved housing stability

SUCCESS IN PARTNERSHIPS

This program has been successful because of strong cross-sector partnerships across 10 organizations. Powered by The Home Depot Canada Foundation, TradeWorx supports a coalition of Canadian employment social enterprises, including:

- [Building Up](#)
- [Choices for Youth](#)
- [The RAFT](#)
- [Construct – York Region](#)
- [Construct – Durham](#)

[Blue Door](#) provides the platform and act as an intermediary partner for the following 5 non-profit organizations and employment social enterprises:

- [Purpose Construction](#)
- [Newo Global Energy](#)
- [Community Builders](#)
- [Quint Development Corp.](#)
- [Labour Education Centre](#)

"This cross-sector collaboration marks the beginning of a national coalition of employment social enterprises focused on homelessness prevention. Together, we are working to bridge systemic gaps and end youth homelessness across Canada"

- EMMY KELLY

BLUE DOOR CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

ABOUT BLUE DOOR

Founded in 1982 and the largest emergency housing provider in York Region, Blue Door provides lifesaving support to children, youth, men, women, and families at risk of or experiencing homelessness.

www.bluedoor.ca

To learn more about the TradeWorx program, contact Emmy Kelly at emmy.k@bluedoor.ca



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