Opening Doors to Construction:

Youth Construction Projects with local authorities & housing

associations in Wales

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Who we are

We work with young people aged 16-30.

We support young people from underrepresented and disadvantaged backgrounds with low employment prospects, including young offenders.

We help them access training, education and employment opportunities in the construction industry.



"I'm now planning to start a civil engineering course now. The Construction Youth Trust helped me find out about courses and funding, it's as if all these doors have been opened for me." Vicki, Newport





What we do

We provide:

- free courses that provide practical work experience and careers advice.
- free OCN accredited courses in practical and professional construction skills.
- introductions for young people to employers



"Finding out who you are and what you want to do takes work - but it's worth it I feel positive about the future now." Naomi, Sheffield





Our aims

- Raise industry awareness and aspirations.
- Increase confidence.
- Provide real work experience.
- Widen access to construction jobs.
- Increase diversity and equality in the construction industry.
- Showcase hidden talent to employers.



"The most valuable lesson that any child can learn is that he or she can achieve a great deal more by becoming part of a team than they ever could on their own."

HRH The Duke of Gloucester





Our programmes

Mobile Classrooms

 Deliver hands-on courses in construction skills in deprived areas.

Live Community Projects

 Provide training to local residents whilst renovating and improving local facilities. Up and coming projects include Bettws in Newport and Barry.



"The sessions have been a real eye opener and I can't get enough of them - while my youngest child is being cared for in the crèche, I'm out learning new skills!." Sarah





Our programmes

Real Apprentice

 Working alongside industry experts to redevelop rundown properties in local communities.

Toolkit for Life

 Providing advice and support to young offenders to help them bridge the gap between custody and employment.



"People wanting to go into construction need to know the variety of opportunities out there - get as wide an experience as you possibly can, and only settle on a trade or job when you know you like it."

Pellum





Our programmes

Budding Brunels

 Providing careers guidance to Year 12 students through workshops, site visits and work placement opportunities.

Pink Ladies

 Working with young women teaching DIY and construction skills through the mobile classroom.



"Together we can make a real difference to young people's lives and provide the industry's future workforce."

Francis Salway, Land Securities





The Real Apprentice

- Six week project delivered in Newport funded by the Big Lottery fund and supported by NCH.
- 7 NEETS were selected for the project after an application and interview process which involved over 50 people.
- NCH provided two empty flats which needed to be restored to Welsh Housing Quality Standard and an apprenticeship as the prize for the winner.
- The seven finalists were split into two teams and were responsible for the renovation of one flat



"I had always been interested in a career in construction but I had been unsuccessful at obtaining sustainable employment, the CYT provided me with training and an opportunity to meet potential employers" Ashley, Newport





The Real Apprentice

- They were taught different skills and trades each week which they would then apply to the renovations.
- The new skills were delivered by a Construction Youth Trust trainer and a representative from Wates
- Each team was assigned an interior design student from Glamorgan University who helped them design the aesthetics of their flat.
- They worked with CSkills every week to gain CV writing and interview skills, and preparing for the apprentice assessments

 which they all passed!



"I will never be able to repay the trust for all that they have done for me" Daniel, Newport

In February 2012 Daniel won the Newport Construction Initiative's "Outstanding Achiever Award 2011".





The Real Apprentice

What happened next:

- NCH housed new residents into the newly renovated homes.
- Craig Simpson was named the winner and awarded an apprenticeship with NCH.
- A further five participants progressed into employment.
- One participant become a regular volunteer with Construction Youth Trust.
- We repeated this success in the Real Apprentice in RCT with six of the participants progressing into employment.



"I have a lot to thank the trust for, without the opportunity of working on the Real Apprentice project I probably would not be in employment completing a plumbing apprenticeship today" Craig, Real Apprentice Winner



Tai Calon Housing Association

- Tai Calon Housing Association supported our Engagement Gateway project which involved working with the hardest to reach unemployed people.
- They helped to recruit local residents onto the project and supported us during ice breaker sessions.
- We recruited 8 people from the local area who were unemployed and not getting JSA.
- We delivered a two week NQF Level 1 qualification at the housing association.
- The group plastered a large part of a warehouse used by the housing association.



"With record levels of unemployment, it is vital that we continue to help those furthest from employment by providing them with the skills and opportunities they need to progress onto the career ladder."

Helen Devitt, Wales Manager





Tai Calon Housing Association

- All 8 participants gained a qualification at the end of the course.
- The also gained confidence and self belief.
- The participants were able to apply their new skills around homes they rent from Tai Calon.
- We progressed the participants onto other projects in their local area and college courses.
- We are also providing participants with work placements during the Autumn.



"I really enjoyed the course and can't wait to start further training at College in September, I hope to be a qualified electrician one day"

Matthew, Cwmbran





Resident Engagement

We are often asked to deliver engagement targets for Housing Associations. Projects in Wales in 2012 have included:

- NCH Easy Peasy DIY teaching residents skills which they can use in their own homes.
- NCH Residents Festival providing residents with new skills and the knowledge of what opportunities are available to them.
- UWHA Fun Day –up-skill and increase knowledge.
- Newydd Housing tasters with young NEETs.
- Tai Calon taster sessions to decrease anti-social behaviour and up-skill residents



"Building Bridges has really helped me get away from trouble on the estate, its proper tidy I've learnt loads of new skills and I feel like I can get a job now because they have helped me understand how to prepare for an interview."

Jamie, Blaenau Gwent



Who we work with

- Local authorities and housing associations
- Contractors and consultants
- Schools and colleges
- Local communities
- Prisons and Youth Offending Teams



"For some young people this is a first opportunity. I'm very proud to be involved with a programme that helps to give opportunities to young people furthest away from employment."

Mary O'Shaughnessy,

Enterprise





Who we work with









































Benefits to supporters

- Demonstrate CSR to stakeholders
- Demonstrate commitment to local communities
- Generate positive PR
- Strengthen brand values
- Inspire and motivate staff through volunteering and fundraising
- Discover hidden talent



"It is essential that we invest in our young people and engage and excite them about the built environment."

Chris Pape, Vinci Plc





Benefits to young people

- Gain OCN qualifications
- •Gain practical work experience where opportunities don't exist for them
- •Improve CV
- Gain industry awareness
- Meet real employers
- •Build confidence through new interactions



"I did four weeks work experience organised by the Trust and was inspired by the people I worked with. I came right out and asked them for an apprenticeship!" Diego, London







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