



Construction Trades Workforce Initiative

October 2020

Dear Friends,

“IT’S NOT WHAT HAPPENS TO YOU, BUT HOW YOU REACT TO IT THAT MATTERS.” This quote from Greek philosopher Epictetus does a great job capturing our current times. Our world has drastically changed over the past several months, and, **because of your generous contributions**, we have been able to work diligently to adapt our practices to meet the needs of our partners and community members.

WITH YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT, WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO:

- I) REGISTER OVER 100 COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO VOTE**
- II) LAUNCH SAN LEANDRO UNIFIED’S FIRST MC3 PRE-APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM**
- III) INSTRUCT VIRTUAL MATH & MECHANICAL TEST PREP CLASSES**

See below for more details.

The impact of the global health pandemic on different sectors of the economy is still largely unknown, however, the construction industry has long proven to be resilient and the “silver tsunami” of retirements promises to open opportunities for employment. Your continued support will allow us to shape and leverage workforce agreements in order to build pathways and partnerships that bridge the gap between union labor and disadvantaged communities.

On behalf of CTWI’s Team and Board, we would love for you to join us in celebrating our partner, Alameda Building Trades Council, at their **46th Annual Holiday Luncheon on Friday, December 4th**, benefitting CTWI. More details are provided in the invitation attached.

As always, we’d love to hear from you. Feel free to contact me at 646-338-7367.

In solidarity,

Beli Acharya
Executive Director
[CTWI WEBSITE](#)

I) CTWI REGISTERS OVER 100 COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO VOTE

Last month, we spearheaded a Statewide Nonpartisan Guide to Voting Workshop in partnership with The League of Women Voters, Alameda Central Labor Council and the Anti Recidivism Coalition. We had over 30 different organizations from across the State and upwards of 100 participants (high school students, formerly incarcerated community members, pre-apprenticeship participants and union members) attend!

Topics covered included:

- Why voting matters and how it impacts communities of color
- The history and critical relationship between union labor and political elections
- How to vote if you are System Impacted
- How to register to vote and complete the 2020 Census

Educating our marginalized communities that we serve to Empower them to Exercise their right to vote is essential. As a follow up, we will be holding another workshop on October 20th to review propositions that are up for a vote this election. To register, please email Beli@ctwi-btca.org

II) CTWI LAUNCHES SAN LEANDRO UNIFIED'S FIRST MC3 PRE-APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

School is back in session, whether in-person or virtual, and that means that the next generation of union construction members need to still be developed and invested in. With our guidance and support, San Leandro Highschool launched their first ever Multi-Craft Core Curriculum (MC3) Pre-Apprenticeship cohort. 25 students (9 female 14 male), are enrolled in our program where they are learning the technical and soft skills necessary to succeed in any union construction trade. With these learned skills, they will be ready to work on local jobs, helping unions and contractors meet workforce goals set in the City's Community Workforce Agreement.

This Fall, CTWI will be recognized as the San Leandro/Eden ROP School District's "Business Partner of the Year" for our dedication to forging a pathway to the construction trades for San Leandro Graduates. We look forward to our continued partnership with the School District. *(*Pre-Covid Photograph Used)*

III) VIRTUAL MATH & MECHANICAL FOR THE TRADES TEST PREP CLASS

The process to get into the list trades (electricians, plumbers, fitters etc.) is very competitive and requires a candidate to pass both a math, mechanical and oral exam. Currently, only 5 - 10% of the labor pool passes this rigorous exam consisting of math, mechanical aptitude, and an interview. To address this challenge, CTWI has partnered with Oakland Adult and Career Education to create a Math for the Trades Test Prep Course to ensure that residents are adequately prepared for these exams.

This is our **FOURTH** year running this program, which has helped several dozen students pass these exams and get accepted into the highest paying trades. **Virtual classes are NOW in session.** For more information, see our flyer attached.