

COLLABORATIONS

The DO SCHOOL Quarterly Newsletter

12th Edition, Vol. 1

In this issue:

- Information Night
- The Do School Experience
- Message from the Exec Director
- Focus for Health’s Annual Summit
- Progress at LL3
- Power Partners
- Graduation Save-the-Date

Information Night

Interested in learning more about The Do School, ways to partner, progress being made, and future direction? Our board directors are hosting an event to share information on how we can collaborate together to make greater impact. Hope to see you on Wednesday, **November 13th** at Lot 63 between 5:30 and 8:00 PM. Bring a friend!

The Do School Experience

Every day as The Do School’s Superintendent, I have the great opportunity to not only teach, but to watch as our cohort with little-to-no construction experience grows into knowledgeable individual workers in the construction trade. With every day, comes new challenges which our students think through, discuss, and overcome.

Each of our students come from different backgrounds, but hold a common goal; to change their current situation as well as their futures. Imagine being in a position where you can only get low paying base jobs which cannot provide a means for a financially comfortable lifestyle with no hope for growth. There is no hope for anything more than a paycheck-to-paycheck struggle as you make your way through your one chance at life. You are always stressed to make it through the week to get a check that will barely keep your head above water. That is the background of most of our students. They are unemployable due to their past and/or their lack of a skillset. But then they hear about The Do School and suddenly a glimmer of hope presents itself.

(TDS Experience continued on Page 5)

Important Dates to Remember:

- Monday, Nov. 11, 2024—
Veterans Day Holiday
NO Class
- Wednesday, Nov. 13, 2024—
TDS Information Night
at Lot 63
- Tuesday, Nov. 19, 2024—
TDS’ Fourth Anniversary
- Thursday & Friday, Nov. 28-29, 2024—Thanksgiving
Holiday Days Off
- Tuesday, Dec. 3, 2024—
Giving Tuesday
- Friday Dec. 13, 2024—Final
training day for the year
- Saturday, Dec. 14, 2024—
Cohort #4 Graduation
Celebration Reception
at Habitat Forsyth

Message from the Executive Director



“The American workforce needs to upskill.”
‘This message was delivered in a recent newsletter of The Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) and it continues....

“Why is this happening? Part of the problem is there is a mismatch between the capabilities employers are looking for and the ones job seekers have. Regrettably, traditional education pathways often don’t do a good job equipping students with the abilities they need to enter the labor market.”

The Do School (TDS) model fits the category of workforce development that also reduces this mismatch with “alternative credentials”—a fast-track approach to providing entry level skills for its trainees in the construction industry. TDS is among many such nonprofits that deliver “upskill” opportunities with the support of stakeholders in the industry and the community at large. [See similar program in the city of Baltimore: www.projectjumpstarttraining.org]

(Message from ED continued on Page 2)

Annual Summit

The Do School was honored to be a participant for the third consecutive year at the **Partner Appreciation Summit**, held annually in Hamburg, New Jersey. Centered around bringing together the dedicated grantees of **Focus for Health**, the summit continues to inspire and transform. This invite only event is designed to celebrate achievements, foster community connections, and propel professional growth. It features a dynamic mix of keynote speeches, panel discussions, interactive workshops, and networking opportunities. TDS is a 4-time grantee of Focus for Health.

About Focus for Health

Since 2009, Focus for Health Foundation, formerly Focus Autism, has provided funding to organizations addressing health disparities, racial justice, criminal justice reform, and child sex abuse. Founded by Barry Segal, FFH believes in resourcing small, grassroots organizations to change systems that keep people poorer, sicker, and obstructed from a deserved quality of life. ✍



Message from E.D. (continued from Page 1)

EVERY segment of our community benefits from the success of programs that provide opportunities for individuals to work towards sustainable employment to uplift their families and create value for their economic future. TDS' program also contributes to reducing the scarcity of affordable housing and brings aesthetic uplifts to neighborhoods through the rehabilitation of distressed properties.

COLLABORATION has been the linchpin in the success of our program to date—it takes a TOTAL community effort to sustain this vision through whatever resources you are able to contribute.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!
THIS IS THE SEASON OF GIVING

Please consider donating to the future of the Do School—monetarily, in-kind, volunteerism or advocacy through your networks. We are extremely grateful for the support of all of the partnerships we are currently privileged to work with and look forward to sharing our mission with many new ones.

Very Best Regards,
Jerry W. Anderson
Founder/Executive Director ✍



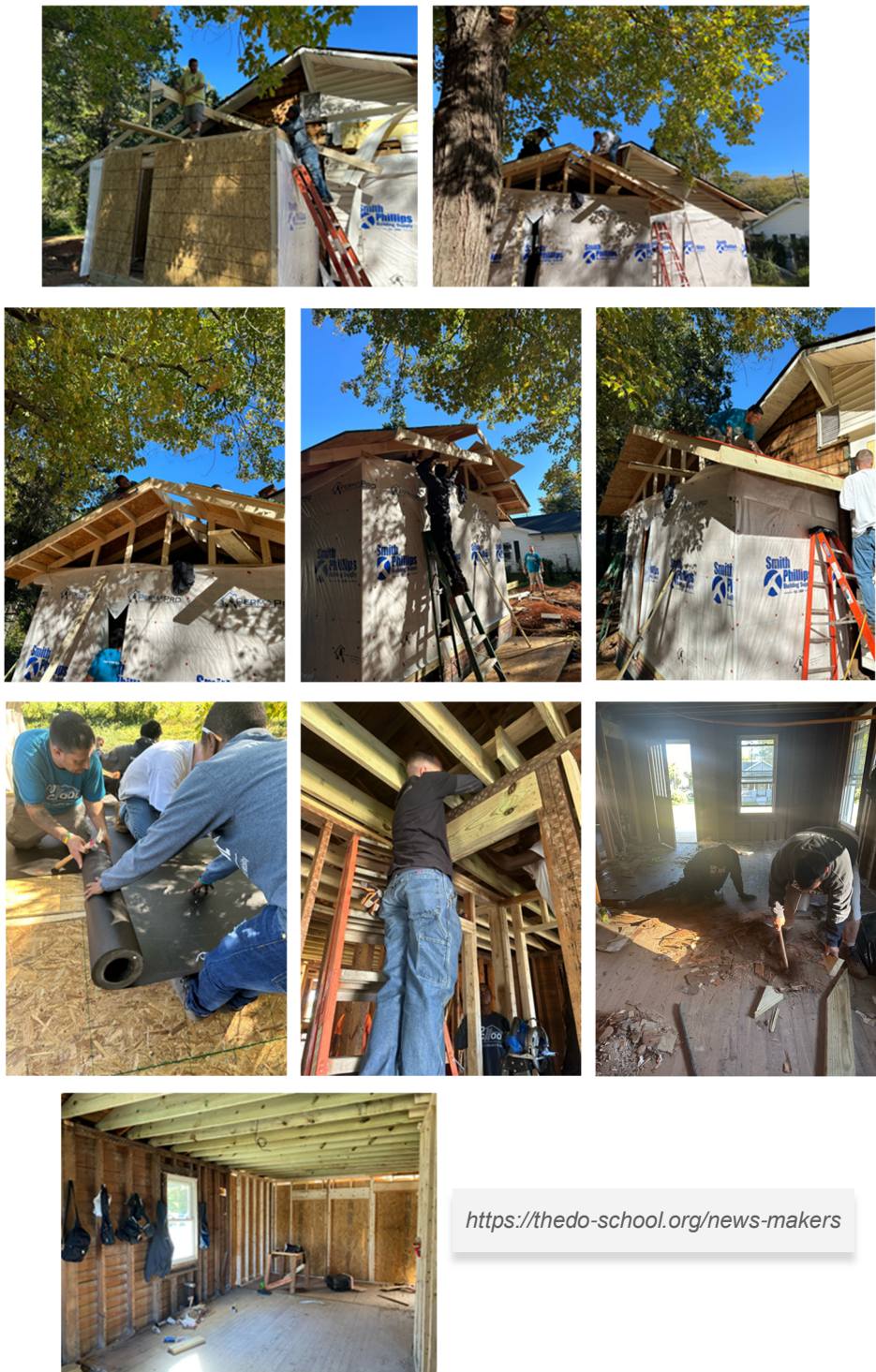
Progress at LL3

Since the rehab started on Aug. 13th at our third learning lab, the live learning experience has included concrete masonry, roofing, carpentry and more. Our cohort has already rehabbed the garage and have moved to the house where they have completed interior framing, and extended the back exterior walls to the kitchen and master bedroom. We are more than halfway through this program cycle and the crew is on a roll. Jake, site superintendent, is leading this team of hard workers who all enjoy working in the construction trades. See Andrea, Cedric, Rob & Wes in action below.



Progress at LL3 (continued from Page 3)

More pictures from 1118 Motor Road.



<https://thedo-school.org/news-makers>

Power Partners

We are excited to recognize special construction trades partners for LL3: Sutton Brothers, Ascendance Electric Inc., Superior Mechanical Inc., Plyler Supply, Smith Phillips Building Supply, Sunbelt Rentals, and Sunnyside Millwork. *You're the BEST!*



Season's Greetings



From our Board of Directors: During this last quarter of 2024 and the upcoming holiday season, we send warm wishes to you and your family!

Diwali, American Indian Heritage Month, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving, Native American Heritage Day, Hanukkah, Christmas, and Kwanzaa.



TDS Experience (continued from Page1)

Our program meets people at their low point in life and through aggressive training, it turns them out with a limitless potential in the construction industry. We teach everything in the area of remodeling from gutting a house (that anyone in their right mind would demolish), refurbishing, framing, electrical, HVAC, plumbing, and finishing. By the time our cohort meets their graduation day, each of them has learned the basics of all these trades and are ready for employment. We equip them not only with the building abilities, but also with confidence in their abilities. They graduate with a sense of sureness in themselves, a résumé, interview skills, and hope to become leaders in the trades.

With a pastor’s background, I feel so blessed to be a part of The Do School. Each day I have a new opportunity to pour into my students. While I love teaching them the art of construction, my greater passion is in building them up as individuals; to help them realize their self-worth and potential. I meet them at their lowest and am able to build them up daily. For me, it is about establishing a relationship with each individual and showing them love and respect (which are unfamiliar concepts for many). I find great joy in watching them as they come to realize that this is something of which they are able to master. I watch as they take life by the reins and steer towards a new life with excitement, hope, and a peace of mind. I have the pleasure of witnessing them overcome the odds and face a new chapter in their life that won’t be hindered by their past, but will launch them into a new future.

Jake Morgan

*“The new dawn blooms as we free it.
For there is always light if only we’re brave enough to see it,
if only we’re brave enough to be it.”*

—National Youth Poet Laureate Amanda Gorman

Graduation Save-the-Date

Please save the date and plan to join us on Saturday, December 14th at noon to celebrate the 2024 graduating class. This special event will be held at 1023 W. 14th Street (Habitat Forsyth’s Housing Education Center) in the classroom.