

COLLABORATIONS

The DO SCHOOL Quarterly Newsletter

Seventh Edition, Vol. 1

Truist Grant Recipient!

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The Do School received a **\$50,000** grant this month from **Truist Foundation** to continue in our effort to build upward mobility in Winston-Salem/Forsyth County communities. This grant will assist in the purchase, rehab and upfit of properties used for training cohorts in construction trade skills in our 20-week program cycles.

"On behalf of The Do School board of directors, I want to extend our gratitude to Truist Foundation for providing The Do School with this grant. Truist

Financial Corporation's purpose to 'inspire and build better lives and communities' dovetails with the purposes of The Do School and this financial support will allow The Do School to succeed at meeting these mutual goals," said John Lenham, board chair.

About Truist Foundation

Truist Foundation is committed to Truist Financial Corporation's (NYSE: TFC) purpose to inspire and build better lives and communities. Established in 2020, the foundation makes strategic investments in nonprofit organizations to help ensure the communities it serves have more opportunities for a better quality of life. Truist Foundation's grants and activities focus on building career pathways to economic mobility and strengthening small businesses. Learn more at Truist.com/Foundation.

Message from the Executive Director



The Collaborative Effect

I wish that I could say that I clearly knew all of the lanes that my original vision of The Do School would occupy. The desire to create a vehicle to carry under-resourced women, men and families toward economic mobility using the construction industry to train, improve the aesthetic value of communities and enhance home ownership opportunities was my aim – to recycle discarded or abandoned people, places, and things into useful, hopeful and important ingredients in the transformation of Our Place, Our Space.

And so, with finite imaginings, our highly committed board of visionaries set about assembling the building blocks of what is emerging as the MOST collaborative force that I have ever witnessed! The transcendent effects of The Do School are indeed a sight to behold! While we are training program participants in the skills of renovation, Underwood Avenue is slowly being knitted together by community members hopeful that the uplifting of potential housing would in return uplift a sense of pride and compatibility between neighbors both near and far. This is important! We are teaching the teachers the habits, language and expectations of a younger generation. We are helping to dislodge the notion of the many that our youth cannot pick up the baton that will inevitably be passed on to them from OUR aging ethos.

(Message from ED continued on Page 2)

Message from E.D. *continued*

I am extremely proud of those members of the cohort who have, and will, accept the challenges of change, and I am forever indebted to our partners who continue to express a solid belief in the vision of The Do School. Perhaps the most amazing reality of this recursion is how a board that never knew each other, simply a group of men and women who came together out of a desire to not just see the problems of our community, but to develop strategies to make a difference!! We implore every believer in this beautiful expression of the power of collaboration to find YOUR LANE...and DO!!

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

More Exciting Grant News!

The Do School received a **\$30,000** grant this month from the **Twin City Development Foundation** to further our cause and efforts "To inspire and promote collaboration in training a capable and sustainable workforce in underserved communities." This grant will assist with stipends for trainees as they participate in the 20-week program cycle to learn construction trade skills.

"Many thanks to the TCDF for their participation in the collaborative efforts of the Do School to increase economic mobility in our underserved communities. This generous support of our vision and mission will enable participants to continue to develop as productive members of our community," said Jerry Anderson, founder and executive director.

About Twin City Development Foundation

Established in 2007 by DataMax Corporation, the Twin City Development Foundation funds programs/projects by local nonprofit organizations or city/county government. Focus areas are economic development and/or education, primarily related to workforce development. Learn more at twincityfoundation.org. *✉*

New Faces

Kicking off the program cycle to start on our second property (LL2 or learning lab #2), we have several new faces and lots of energy around learning new skills and reviving another property. Helping to keep the momentum going is:

The CAN DO Crew

Our third training cohort consists of two females and two males, and ages range from 19 to 54. Bringing together various life experiences, this team (Carissa Provenzano, Corey Weldon, Daimage Davis and Renee Jones) is optimistic about what construction trade skills can offer them as they seek to change the trajectory of their lives. We will introduce more about these individuals in the weeks to come. And as always, we invite you to follow our progress on the website's *News Makers* page as this old house blossoms into a vibrant home. *✉*

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

Learning Lab #2 Progress to date

Below are some pictures of the property that represent the various phases of rehab that has already begun at 1425 Underwood Avenue. Stay tuned for more updates.

At Purchase/Possession



Cleanup Day



Roofing



Framing Porch



Wrapping



Interior Walls Demolition



Interior Walls Framed

