



Field of Dreams TradeBridge

Mission Update & Community Newsletter

“Building Skills. Rebuilding Lives”.

The Field of Dreams TradeBridge was created to address one of the most urgent challenges facing our communities today — the growing shortage of skilled workers in the building trades.

Our mission is simple but powerful:

To provide hands-on training, mentorship, and real-world experience that prepares people for meaningful careers in construction and the skilled trades.

Through our **Building Trades Boot Camps**, students gain exposure to multiple trades while learning the safety practices, technical skills, and professional expectations required to enter the workforce.

Major Milestone: Training Facility Secured

Thanks to the generosity and support of our early partners and donors, The Field of Dreams TradeBridge has officially secured a training facility in the heart of El Cajon. A special thank you to First Baptist Church of El Cajon for believing in our Mission and giving us the honor of renting their West Building.

The facility includes:

- Two large classrooms for instruction and training
- Administrative office and reception space
- A 60' x 60' fenced paved courtyard for hands-on mock construction projects

This facility allows us to begin building mock wall systems and construction training structures where students can practice real building techniques across multiple trades.

We also have purchased:

- A 40-foot equipment container for storing donated tools, materials, and training assemblies, located off site.

Nationally Recognized Training Curriculum:

We are partnering with the Home Building Institute (HBI) to bring a nationally recognized building trades curriculum to our program.

This training includes instruction in nine building trades, along with essential industry certifications such as:



- **OSHA-10 Safety**
- **First Aid**
- **CPR**
- **Workplace Readiness**

Students will complete training modules, are tested then receive certifications that help them enter apprenticeships, internships, and entry-level trade positions.

Launching Our First Boot Camp

We are currently preparing to launch our first Building Trades Boot Camp in late April or early May.

Our goal is to provide scholarships for at least 20 students in this first class.

Each \$5,000 scholarship covers the full cost of a student's training including and associated expenses:

- **Access to the nationally recognized curriculum**
 - **Hands-on training materials**
 - **Safety equipment and certifications**
 - **Tools and supplies used during training**
 - **Program support and instruction**
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Remaining Launch Goal

\$75,000

This funding will support:

- **Training structures and construction materials**
- **Tools and equipment for hands-on instruction**
- **Safety gear and classroom supplies**
- **Scholarships for students**
- **Part-time administrative support**
- **Program operations and facility expenses**

You can view our Master Material List here:

<https://fieldofdreamstradebridge.com/files-1>

Opportunities to Partner



We invite companies, contractors, and community members to help us launch this program.

Donors

Support student scholarships and program launch through financial and material contributions.

Contractors

Help provide mentorship, internships, and job pathways for graduating students.

Suppliers

Donate tools, safety equipment, building materials, or training supplies.

Mentors & Volunteers

Experienced tradespeople can volunteer to mentor students or teach short skill sessions.

Help Us Build the Bridge

Every contribution helps prepare the next generation of skilled trades professionals while strengthening our communities.

Get involved today:

<https://fieldofdreamstradebridge.com/donations-of-all-kinds-1>

With sincere gratitude,

Dennis Songer

Founder & Executive Director
Field of Dreams TradeBridge

Building skills and Building lives

<https://fieldofdreamstradebridge.com/>