

Washington, DC - Congressman Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) today announced two U.S. Department of Labor grants totaling \$991,699 to support YouthBuild programs in Kingston and Poughkeepsie. YouthBuild assists young adults in obtaining their diplomas or GEDs while providing them with occupational training in the construction industry. The individuals served by the YouthBuild program have typically been through the juvenile justice system, have aged out of foster care or have dropped out of high school.

"The YouthBuild program provides critical assistance to at-risk youth and I am pleased to see these federal funds going towards two very significant programs in my district." said Hinchey. "YouthBuild programs provide educational and vocational training which enables these at-risk youth to regain their confidence in school and offer them the tools necessary to build a bright future."

The Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) of Ulster County will receive \$519,199 for the BOCES YouthBuild Partnership in Kingston, to help YouthBuild trainees who receive their GED to attend college-level courses. In Poughkeepsie, Nubian Directions II will receive \$472,500 for New Directions YouthBuild, which serves youth in Poughkeepsie's Northside Corridor. The New Directions program will include a course developed and presented by Dutchess Community College to support students in their educational endeavors and encourage post-secondary education.