

YOUTHBUILD

CMHA Youthbuild students connect with Cleveland Judges

On Friday, September 2, 2011, CMHA held a meeting to bring together Youthbuild students and Cleveland Judges Nancy A. Fuerst and Ronald B. Adrine. The judges inspired youth to focus on goal setting and planning for their futures, starting with obtaining their GEDs.

Youthbuild is a youth and community development program that simultaneously addresses core issues facing low-income communities including housing, education, employment, crime prevention, and leadership development. CMHA and Youthbuild works together to use the intelligence and positive energy of low-income youth, ages 18-25 years old, to rebuild their communities and their lives.

“The best part about speaking with both of the judges was to find out that they are no different from myself. I learned the importance of goals and to never give up,” said Shequetta Washington, Youthbuild participant. “The more education you have, the higher the position you will acquire to become successful.”

The program consisted of a welcome from Robin Holmes, Youthbuild Coordinator, remarks from the Cleveland Judges, as well as Jeffery K. Patterson, Acting CEO of CMHA.

Washington concludes, “This program has taught me that there is more to construction besides getting dirty. Being a part of the group has helped me to meet new people, open my mind to new ideas, and climb through life’s obstacles. Together we are building life skills that will better our futures.”