Home Builders Institute Partners With 14 New Community Organizations to Provide Mentoring Services for Youth With Promise

Washington D.C. – March 9, 2011 – Home Builders Institute (HBI) today announced partnerships with 14 new community organizations to provide mentoring services for youth with promise and untapped abilities as part of its Construction-Coaching Opportunities to Reach Employment (C-CORE) program. Funded by a three-year grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, the residential construction industry-sponsored C-CORE mentoring program matches youth aged 16 to 18 with mentors recruited from the greater home building community, from carpenters and contractors to real estate agents and appraisers.

Through the C-CORE program, students are able to give back to their communities by participating in service projects with their mentors that promote leadership development and relationship building. With the addition of these 14 new community partners, C-CORE is now available in 28 communities in 11 states in the Southeastern and Southwestern U.S.

“Developing strong relationships with community partners is key to ensuring the success of the HBI C-CORE mentoring program,” said Fred Humphreys, president and chief executive officer of the Home Builders Institute. “These partnerships provide structure at the grassroots level to ensure that mentoring services are being delivered effectively and provide young people with a knowledgeable resource as they pursue careers in the home building industry.”

HBI C-CORE community partners facilitate the day-to-day operations of the mentoring programs in each of their cities. They are responsible for recruiting and training mentors, facilitating positive relationships between mentors and mentees, and improving the employability of mentees through leadership development and community engagement.

The following new organizations will serve as HBI C-CORE community partners:

**Florida**
- Ace Mentor Program, West Palm Beach, Fla.

**Georgia**
- Youth Connections Inc., Atlanta, Ga.

**South Carolina**
- Home Builders Association of Greater Columbia, Florence, S.C.
- Home Builders Association of Greater Columbia, Charleston, S.C.
Louisiana
- Big Buddy Program, Baton Rouge, La.
- The Kennedy Center, Shreveport, La.

Texas
- Houston Works, Houston, Texas
- House of Isaiah, Dallas, Texas

Mississippi
- Youth Solutions, Jackson, Miss.
- Gaston Point Community Development Corporation, Gulfport, Miss.

California
- VIP Mentors, Los Angeles, Calif.

Nevada
- University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, Las Vegas, Nev.

A full list of C-CORE locations can be found at http://bit.ly/dKgYfj. For more information about the C-CORE program, or to become a mentor, visit www.hbi.org or contact Tadar Muhammad at 1-863-557-5054 or tmuhammad@hbi.org.

About Home Builders Institute
Home Builders Institute (HBI) is the 501(c)3 affiliate of the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) that provides training, mentoring, curriculum development and job placement services in support of the housing industry. As the workforce development arm of NAHB, HBI has prepared youth and adults for residential construction careers for more than 40 years. Visit www.hbi.org for more information.