



We're investing in our students and in return they're helping to rebuild our communities! I'm excited to share with you that the City's Office of Economic Opportunity is leading the **PCTA Home Build Program** in partnership with the Providence Career and Technical Academy (PCTA), Casa Buena Builders, and state partners. Through this innovative program, youth helping to build a bungalow from the ground up on **Blackstone Street in South Providence** have gained practical, hands-on experience.

Best of all, when the 770-square-foot home is completed and sold, the proceeds generated will support another home construction project for students to work on.

At the South Providence site approximately **150 juniors and seniors** will gain valuable trade skills by assisting with the pouring of the foundation, framing, electrical, plumbing, heating and air conditioning, roofing, drywall and finishing. Additionally, **100 ninth- and tenth-graders** will have shadowing opportunities and observe their handiwork. Students will **work on a new home every year** and each new project will be scheduled to **align with the curriculum of career and technical education (CTE)** programs.

We want our young people to be on paths to success. To support the learning that occurs during school, Providence is **prioritizing summer and year-round learning and employment opportunities** for youth. This will help to **prevent summer learning loss** so that our children never stop growing – both inside the classroom and beyond. Last year we **offered over 1,300 summer and year-round employment and advanced internship** opportunities for youth ages 14-22. We are also **making strategic investments in innovative technologies to level the playing field** by providing resources that enable our youth to **succeed at every level in their education.**

We look forward to sharing an update when the home is completed.