



CISCO

CONSTRUCTION NEWS BRIEFS

Construction Industry Service Corporation - www.cisco.org - 630.472.9411 - Dan Allen, Executive Director

2ND ANNUAL CONSTRUCTION EXPO IS ONE FOR THE RECORD BOOKS

With 21 trades represented and nearly 300 young adults in attendance, the August 5th Construction Expo at St. Paul Community Development Ministries (SPCDM) was the largest Hands-On Career Fair on record.



The registration table was busy all morning.

"The event was a united effort of labor, union contractors, faith and community organizations all coming together to provide young men and women an opportunity to enter into union construction apprenticeship programs and ultimately a lifetime career," said Dan Allen, CISCO's Executive Director.



SPCDM Executive Director Kevin Anthony Ford addresses the community.

The coverage the event received from CBS News Chicago brought the event's purpose to the foreground. Reporter Jim Williams was on hand to interview participants, current apprentices and trades representatives.

On his FaceBook page, Williams wrote: "I rarely advocate for groups I cover; I let the stories speak for themselves, but I'm making an exception, because our young folks on the south and west sides need jobs. The St. Paul Community Development Ministries is connecting men and women to good paying, union construction jobs, even helping them prepare for the tests they must take."



CBS News Chicago reporter Jim Williams talks to IBEW 134 Apprentice Brandon Davenport. There are currently 5,460 registered apprentices and 41% are minorities in Cook County alone.

The event also helped showcase the opportunities that are available to minorities in Chicago and the surrounding area.

"We need to dispel the myth that the trades in our city are not open to minorities or women, but in fact, are accessible to any qualified person," said Chicago & Cook County Building Trades President Tom Villanova.

CISCO's Education-to-Careers Director Johnetta Ryan arranged the record number of trades that were on hand at the event which included: Boilermakers, Bricklayers, Carpenters, Drywall Finishers, Electricians, Heat &



Chicago & Cook County Building Trades President Tom Villanova explains the pathways to apprenticeships and careers in the union construction industry.

Frost, Laborers, Machinery Movers, Riggers & Erectors, Mechanics, Operating Engineers, Painters, Pipefitters, Plumbers, Roofers, Sheet Metal Workers, Sprinkler Fitters, Teamsters and Tile Setters.

CISCO partnered with the following individuals and organizations: SPCDM, Chicago Public Schools, Chicago Teachers Union, Chicago & Cook County Building Trades, Exploring Program/Boy Scouts of America Affiliate, Chicago Federation of Labor, Ullico, the Illinois Department of Central Management Services and Alderman Willie B. Cochran (20th Ward) of the City of Chicago.



Robert Reiter, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer of the Chicago Federation of Labor, one of the event's big supporters and sponsors; speaks to the community about the event's goals.

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CONSTRUCTION EXPO THEME: WHO WILL BUILD OUR FUTURE BRIDGES, INFRASTRUCTURE AND HIGH-RISES?

Apprenticeship Coordinators and Instructors interact with the next generation of potential union construction apprentices.



Sheet Metal Local 73 Instructor Ron Kaps demonstrates to this woman how this piece of equipment prepares a duct connector collar.



Operating Engineers Local 150 Instructor James Cuadrado gives tips to this participant during a computer-simulated truck filling exercise, while another instructor, Dan Reda, helps at the exhibit table.



The Boy Scout Color Guard appropriately kicked off the closing ceremonies to the event.



Pipefitters Local 597 Apprenticeship Instructor Calvin Gordon walks an attendee through a computer welding exercise.



Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters Asst. Coordinator Kina McAfee helps a participant with penciling the drywall.



Using football halves, Heat & Frost #17 Apprenticeship Coordinator Bob McGuckin demonstrates a sealant technique.



Ceramic Tile Finishers Apprenticeship Instructor Gavin Collier watches as this young man attempts to cut tile.



Laborers Apprenticeship Instructor John Retondo assists with a concrete coring exercise.



Bricklayers Apprenticeship Coordinator Don Walker gives trowel pointers.



Carpenters Instructor Bill Jordan helps this young man with measuring.



Jim Williams interviews Maurice King, IBEW Local 134 VP/CISCO Board Member.