

Building Diversity in Construction Careers

Kaiser Permanente Partners with McCarthy Construction and Compton YouthBuild

Investing in the career success of students, particularly those from diverse and low-income backgrounds, is an investment in the future health of communities. Kaiser Permanente and McCarthy Construction recently partnered with the [Compton YouthBuild](#) construction program to provide students with educational workshops, woodworking experience, and the tour of an active jobsite.



Workshops were led by Ursula Duhe, senior project manager at Kaiser Permanente’s National Facilities Services, and Drew Boyd, senior project engineer at McCarthy Construction, who shared their career paths with students. Workshop topics included accountability, responsibility, relationship-building, and management.

“The most valuable part that I’ve learned is that there’s so much that goes into the industry,” shared participant Evelyn Rivera. “There’s so many options you can pick whether it’s being a

foreman, a journeyman, or moving your way up. It’s very inclusive and it’s good for everyone to know it’s such a big industry and they offer you so much training and you can get involved in various ways.”

McCarthy Construction donated materials and supplies for students to build container gardens that they could take home. The activity reinforced lessons about woodworking, power tools, and safety. Finally, students were invited to tour an active construction site – the expansion of Kaiser Permanente South Bay Medical Center’s emergency department. The project highlights the critical importance of construction careers to health care infrastructure.



“We were happy to host the students from Compton YouthBuild for a tour of our emergency department expansion,” said Ozzie Martinez, chief administrative officer at Kaiser Permanente South Bay. “Helping young people develop the skills, knowledge, and relationships that they need for their future careers is an important component of our community health efforts.”

To learn more about Kaiser Permanente South Bay Medical Center’s community health work, please [click here](#).