

How can contractors get involved?

The We Can Build It (WCBI) consortium is pleased to support contractors in sourcing competitive candidates to build the Obama Presidential Center (OPC). Our process to connect employers with a competitive workforce begins once a contractor is awarded the scope of work on the project. WCBI will work on a consultative basis with each contractor to understand their current workforce and advise next steps to achieve the project hiring goals.

Through an online process, the WCBI partners are alerted in real time once a job opportunity is submitted by the contractor and the team in turn submits competitive candidates to match each opportunity, taking into consideration the necessary skills and goals for each trade.

For all workforce needs, please reach out to:

Ebba Schmid

Chicago Women In Trades

ESchmid@CWIT.org

(312)766-1924

Ashley Nicoson

Hire360

ANicoson@HIRE36OChicago.com

(312)575-2515

How can candidates apply for Construction Trade Career Opportunities?

- 1 Complete a WCBI Assessment online at hire36Ochicago.com/opc/. Candidates will be contacted by email on the next steps
- 2 Candidates are invited to an online virtual information session.
- 3 At the virtual information session candidates will learn about the 4 WCBI workforce providers and the different services they offer. Candidates will also be given more information on the building of the Obama Presidential Center.
- 4 Once a candidate attends an information session, they are given the opportunity to choose the WCBI partner that will meet their specific needs.
- 5 WCBI partners provide training, resources and support for the candidates along their career journey into construction apprenticeships.

WCBI Partner Directory

Chicago Women in Trades

Website: CWIT.org

Email: OPC@CWIT.org

Phone: 312-942-1444

HIRE360

Website: HIRE36OChicago.com

Email: Info@HIRE36OChicago.com

Phone: 312-575-2500

Revolution Workshop

Website: revolutionworkshop.org

Email: bgunn@revolutionworkshop.org

Phone: 708-529-6288

St. Paul Community Development Ministries

Website: stpaulcdm.org

Email: BJones@SPCDM.org

Phone: 773.538.5120

For more information on the WCBI Partnership

WCBI-OPC.ORG

OBAMA
PRESIDENTIAL
CENTER



**DIVERSIFYING
THE WORKFORCE**



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[obama.org/
the-center/](http://obama.org/the-center/)

**Lakeside Alliance
Builders of OPC**



Lakeside Alliance

Lakeside Alliance is a joint venture between four Black-Owned Companies- Powers & Sons Construction Company, UJAMAA Construction Inc., Brown & Momen, Inc., Safeway Construction Company, and Turner Construction Company, a North American based International construction service company committed to creating and sustaining a diverse, equitable and inclusive workforce.

The five firms provide a team of experienced and committed specialists who bring the most innovative solutions to the construction Industry. Lakeside Alliance will execute a new paradigm in the business where community and capability are merged.

We Can Build It: Partnership for Community Jobs In Construction

We Can Build It (WCBI) an Obama Foundation initiative, is committed to building a pipeline of diverse talent that is not only equipped to build the Obama Presidential Center, but are also prepared to participate in future projects across the city.

WCBI is a partnership between diverse and experienced workforce development organizations which include, Chicago Women in Trades, HIRE360, Revolution Workshop, and St. Paul Community Development Ministries. Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters and IBEW Local 134 are also supporting partners to WCBI.

From outreach, to apprenticeship training, to test preparation, mentorship and job placement, the consortium is prepared to assist any Chicagoan—no matter their background or experience—establish and maintain a successful career in construction.

WCBI Partner Organizations



Chicago Women in Trades
Build a Career Join a Sisterhood

Founded by tradeswomen in 1981, CWIT improves women's economic equity by increasing participation in high-skill occupations. In 1987 CWIT developed the Technical Opportunities Program (TOP) receiving accreditation from the NCCER Pre Apprenticeship program.

TOP is a FREE 12-week program. The curriculum includes math comprehension, apprenticeship entry exam preparation, physical strengthening, basic construction safety, job readiness skills, resume building, apprenticeship application support, post-graduation case management, hands-on workshops, field trips to apprenticeship training centers, mentorship from tradeswomen, and mock interviews with industry professionals.

In addition, CWIT offers a FREE 12- week hands-on Welding Program. Welding prepares women with the skills to build a career in manufacturing, welding & metalworking construction trades. The curriculum includes: three welding practices (MIG, Stick, and TIG) American Welding Society Certification, shop math, blueprint reading, OSHA-IO Certification, shop safety, job readiness, and resume building.



HIRE360

HIRE360 is a unique partnership between developers, general contractors, the hospitality industry, and trade unions with the goal to ensure the coming work is done equitably and inclusively. Our work is built upon four pillars starting with Workforce development where HIRE360 focuses on recruiting and preparing candidates for entry into union apprenticeship programs and supporting apprentices as they become journey workers. Our second pillar is Workforce Development in which HIRE360's objective is to create and grow self-sustaining contractors that will help in building many of the mega projects planned for Chicago.

For our third pillar HIRE360 models socially responsible hiring and Supply Chain accountability to transform communities that are rich in talent but lacking in resources or opportunity. Our last pillar focuses on Youth Development. HIRE360 is partnering with area high schools and faith-based organizations to recruit diverse young people to work on projects in their community and show them the benefits of a career in the trades.



Revolution Workshop

Revolution Workshop provides free construction job training to help unemployed and underemployed people in Chicago build a career in the trades. Since 2018, RW has trained over 150 people, placing 90% of graduates into entry-level skilled-trades careers. RW's hands-on program trains candidates to meet the requirements and skills of our local industry, including OSHA-10 safety, proper use of hand and power tools, construction math, as well as an understanding of the punctuality and work ethic required in the field. In addition to construction skills, RW provides holistic case management services related to financial literacy, transportation, housing, and mental health.



St. Paul Community Development Ministries

At St. Paul Community Development Ministries (SPCDM), "We Train To Place" into U.S. Department of Labor registered apprenticeship programs. SPCDM offers free 12-week Pre-Apprenticeship Construction Training Program opened to men and women. We also offer math/reading remediation to maximize test results for entry into the construction building trades. Participants are offered opportunities to obtain several important certifications including OSHA 10, CPR/First Aid, and welding.

Participants in the 12-week training program are also offered courses for aptitude test prep, financial literacy, resume writing, and interview Skills. St. Paul also offers their participants with opportunities to network within the construction industry. Case management is also offered to all participants which includes career supports and retention services to help ensure long careers in the industry. SPCDM has successfully placed over 225 men & women into the unionized skilled trades (carpenters, electricians, plumbers, pipefitters, painters, etc.) with a living wage, medical & dental benefits, and a pension.



Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters

The Chicago Regional Council provides the construction and maintenance industries with productive, competitive and certified professionals, encompassing a wide variety of crafts and skills. CRCC offers every member continuing and developmental training in various specialties.



IBEW Local 134

The IBEW represents active members and retirees who work in a wide variety of fields, including utilities, construction, telecommunications, broadcasting, manufacturing, railroads and government.

