

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 19, 2017

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## **#YouthInPower Across Los Angeles Region Celebrate #YouthBuild Day Through Community Service, Community Revitalization and Action**

(LOS ANGELES, CA- April 19, 2017) On Tuesday April 25<sup>th</sup> The Los Angeles Region YouthBuild Collaborative, in conjunction with YouthBuild USA, will celebrate its fourth annual Global YouthBuild Day. Approximately 500 young people, staff and stakeholders will be coming together in regions across the county to celebrate YouthBuild - in Norwalk, Lennox, South Central and Canoga Park. We want to draw attention to the young people who have embraced opportunities to go back to school, celebrate their leadership and commitment to service and to recognize youth power to transform their neighborhoods. #YouthInPower

There are four collaborative projects taking place in the Los Angeles Region on the same day:

1. Little Free Library Project, will take place from 10 am to 2 pm at Field of Dreams YouthBuild located at 15014 Studebaker road, Norwalk, CA 90650. This group will be building, finishing/painting, and installing freestanding mini libraries in the Norwalk community to tackle literacy issues that result in poverty and incarceration of the venerable youth in our neighborhoods. Participating programs include Field of Dreams YouthBuild, Compton YouthBuild and Venice Youthbuild. 2. Build and Beautify, will take place from 9am-1pm at Lanark Park in Canoga Park. This group will be building an Empowerment Garden that contains a pop-up library filled with books, benches where stories can be read and a garden to Young people will be recognized for their outstanding leadership and selfless service. Participating programs include RUTH YouthBuild, Antelope Valley YouthBuild and Youth Policy Institute YouthBuild. 3. Solar in the City, will take place from 3pm - 6pm in Lennox, CA where students will be partnering with GRID Alternatives to educate and connect Lennox residents to free Solar PV incentive programs available in their communities. Installing a Solar PV system can save residents hundreds of dollars on their yearly electricity bill, creates local job opportunities and is an important step in the fight against climate change! Participating programs include CCEO YouthBuild and GRID Alternatives. 4. Pop Up Youth Center and Beautification Project, from 9am - 3pm at 6525 S. Normandie Ave., Los Angeles, CA where students will be beautifying an abandoned garden, revitalizing the garden and transforming the abandoned space into a Pop Up Youth Center to have young people share resources that support young people and their families. Participating programs include CRCD YouthBuild, AYE YouthBuild, Home Sweet Home YouthBuild, Youth Justice Coalition and New Earth YouthBuild.

The YouthBuild program is the most comprehensive community-based, non-residential education and job training program for the most disadvantaged youth, in which low-income young people aged 16 to 24, who have left high school without a diploma for many reasons, get to reconnect to education and redefine their goals. They enroll full time for about a year during which they work toward their diploma, preparing for college, while learning job skills and internalizing the ethic of service through building affordable housing for homeless and low income people in their neighborhoods. Each local, community-based, sponsoring organization services their community and supports the growth and progress of young adults to become leaders and champions of their own lives. For more information, visit: <a href="http://www.youthbuild.org">http://www.youthbuild.org</a>

For more information about the Los Angeles Region YouthBuild Collaborative visit <u>www.larybc.org</u>. For more information on YouthBuild USA visit <u>www.youthbuild.org</u>

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