

Hennepin County

Department of Community Corrections and Rehabilitation

Community Productive Day Program

The Hennepin County Department of Community Corrections and Rehabilitation supervises more than 26,000 adult and juvenile clients at any given time. Many of those clients participate in services through the department's Client and Community Restoration division, such as the Community Productive Day program. Program participants earn a livable wage while learning transferable skills before being placed into jobs with private sector businesses.

Construction Pathway

As the largest county in Minnesota, Hennepin County is constantly growing, and the need for skilled construction professionals is always in high-demand. The Bureau of Labor Statistics project that the construction industry will be one of the fastest growing industries well into 2020, with an estimated growth rate of 4.5%. In Hennepin County, jobs in the construction industry start at \$19 an hour.

The program's construction pathway helps fulfill the rising demand for skilled construction professionals by providing high-quality on-the-job-training for clients ages 18-34 who are under the department's supervision. Upon successful completion of training and union-approved classroom curriculum, participants earn a certificate in general carpentry skills and are eligible for union jobs.



24 clients annually

Each year, the program trains 24 participants who are under the department's supervision.



6 months of education

Every six months, 12 participants receive 1,040 hours of combined classroom and on-the-job experience.



32 hours on-the-job training weekly

Each week, participants receive eight hours of union approved classroom instruction by a Journeyman Carpenter, and 32 hours of job-site-training on a variety of construction related projects.

Client Centered

About half of the department's adult clients are unemployed or underemployed, and many do not have the financial stability needed to complete on-the-job training without earning an income. Clients in the construction pathway earn \$15 an hour while participating in the program, helping to minimize the financial barriers that many people face when trying to complete job training.

In order ensure positive outcomes for participants the following program requirements are in place:

- Participants must live in or return to Hennepin County
- Participants are paid while in the program
- Participants complete union-recognized classroom curriculum
- A strong union partnership prioritizes program participants for apprenticeship employment

Projects range from remodeling houses that the county has acquired through tax forfeiture, to performing residential and commercial work for contractors with publicly funded projects. Future projects are in development with the county's Facility Services department and the program is exploring opportunities to collaborate with Minneapolis Housing Authority.

