LOS ANGELE TRADE-TECHNICAL COLLEGE
CARPENTRY/HABITAT FOR HUMANITY PROGRAM
An Exemplar Community Collaboration Service Program

Through the Los Angeles Trade-Technical (LATTC) carpentry program—in the Construction, Design, and Manufacturing department—students enrolled in advanced courses construct Habitat for Humanity homes.

Here are some highlights of the program to date:

- **LATTC carpentry students have constructed 122 Habitat for Humanity homes.**
- **A significant number of the homes have been constructed in South Los Angeles**—in several of the proposed targeted neighborhoods for the Mayor’s South Los Angeles Strategy—such as
  - 20, two-story homes at 96th St. and Central
  - 20, one-story, three bedroom homes on the Jimmy Carter Project on Santa Ana Blvd. South and North
  - 3 homes on Century Blvd. near Wilmington
  - 2 homes on Broadway near 107th St.
  - 1 home, sponsored by USC, on 24th St. near Hoover
- **Students built the NBA sponsored unit of a triplex in Harbor Gateway**
  - Players, coaches, managers, and staff from the L.A. Lakers, L.A. Clippers, and Phoenix Suns worked on the triplex with LATTC students such as player A.C. Green; Clippers Head Coach, Mike Dunleavy; and General Manager Elgin Baylor

Imagine, through the Carpentry/Habitat for Humanity Program, over 122 families or approximately 500 parents and children, have homes because of the efforts of the LATTC carpentry students. For many, these are the first homes they have owned—ending a cycle of homeless and transition and providing a stable environment in which the entire family can thrive.

**How the Program Works**

Through student volunteer labor and donations of money and materials by individuals and businesses, simple, decent Habitat houses are built with the help of the homeowner (partner) families. Habitat houses are sold to partner families at no profit and financed with affordable loans. The homeowners’ monthly mortgage payments are used to build still more Habitat houses. Habitat is not a giveaway program. In addition to a down payment and the monthly mortgage payments, homeowners invest
hundreds of hours of their own labor — sweat equity — into building their Habitat house and the houses of others.

The Carpentry/Habitat for Humanity Program collaborates with local community Habitat for Humanity affiliates — independent, locally run, nonprofit organizations. Each affiliate coordinates all aspects of Habitat home building in its local area — fund raising, building site selection, partner family selection and support, house construction, and mortgage servicing.

**History of the Carpentry and Construction, Design, and Manufacturing Department**

The Carpentry/Habitat for Humanity Program is an integral part of the LATTC Carpentry Discipline and the Construction, Design, and Manufacturing department.

LATTC offers a Carpentry Associate in Science degree and a Carpentry Construction Technologies Associates in Arts degree as well as their equivalent Certificates of Completion. The Associate in Science degree is designed for individuals seeking entry level positions in the field. The Associate in Arts degree is an evenings-only course of study designed for individuals currently in the field who want to improve their skills or learn new ones.

The total annual enrollment in the Carpentry program is 901. The Carpentry program ranks number one in the state for conferring AA/AS degrees and number three for conferring Certificates of Completion. The employment growth (increase in employment) for carpenters in the state of California and in Los Angeles is 30.9% and 18.5% respectively.

The Construction, Design, and Manufacturing department has a proud history of being one of the oldest programs at the college and is the largest community college program in the state--confering the most AA degrees, Certificates of Completion, and Skills Certificates in 2005-06 of all community colleges. Forty-one degree and certificate programs and over 250 courses are offered in twenty-six disciplines within the department including: Architectural Technology (General) and Architectural Technology M.A.P.S/G.I.S, Computer Aided Drafting, Digital Design, and Historic Preservation; Cabinetmaking/Millwork; Carpentry; Electrical Construction and Maintenance (General) and Electrical Construction and Maintenance Construction Technologies, Basic Electrician Trainee, Motor Control, National Electric Code, Programmable Logic Controllers, Voice Data Video and Fire Life Safety Technician; Machine Shop CNC; Operation and Maintenance Engineer Steam Plant; Plumbing; Street Maintenance Technologies; Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Mechanics; and Welding Gas and Electric. Over 3,600 students, per semester, are enrolled in these programs.
The department hosts professional, industry-seasoned faculty bringing their vast experiences and training. Many of the faculty hold advanced masters degrees, are current licensed contractors, and possess certifications in their respective fields. In addition, LATTC faculty continue to work in the industry so they bring state-of-the-art techniques, expertise, and industry partnerships in to the program.