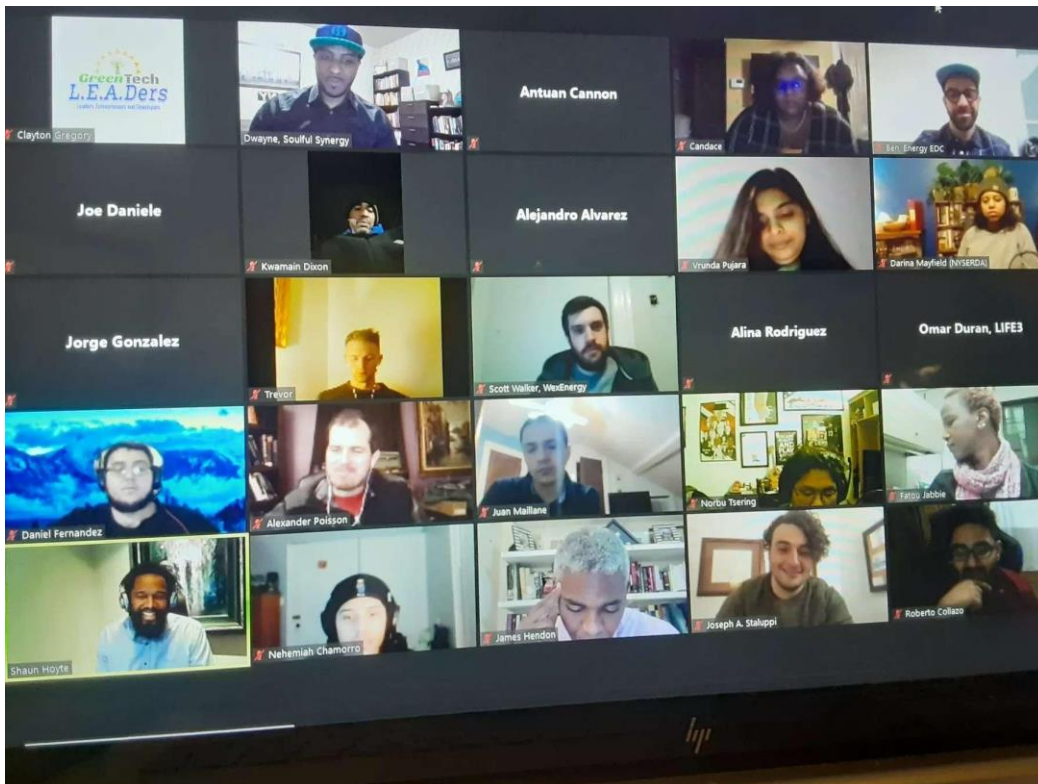




Willdan Clean Energy Academy [WCEA]

Impact Report



TS-Cohort#2 | WCEA Cohort #8

February 2021 - April 2021

Program Overview

Summary:

Project Director: Antuan Cannon
Email Address: acannon@willdan.com
Funding Source: NYSERDA PON 3981
Contract Number: 155503
Purchase Order Number: 158738

Course Name: Small Commercial Energy Efficiency Analyst [SCEEA] – Thermal Systems
Course Dates: 02/22/2021 – 04/09/2021
Program Website: www.cleanenergyacademy.org
Cohort #: Thermal Systems Cohort #2 - WCEA Cohort #8

The Willdan Clean Energy Academy (WCEA) led by Willdan Energy Solutions and supported by NYSERDA PON 3981 funding, successfully completed the second cohort of 2021 – the 8th cohort overall, in the history of our Academy. For this round of funding our program is focusing on delivering our Small Commercial Energy Efficiency Analyst [SCEEA] – Thermal Systems training course.

Delivery:

- **Delivery Method:** Online virtual Classroom
- **Delivery Platform:** Zoom
- **Course Duration:** 60 Hours + Exam
- **Delivery Format:** “Nights & Weekends”
Monday & Wednesday evenings, for 3 hours per evening [from 6:00pm - 9:00pm] and Saturdays for 6 hours [from 10:00am – 5:00pm, with 1 hour for lunch]
- **Course Duration:** 5 Weeks
- **Course Dates:**
Classes: Mon [02/22/21] – Wed [03/31/21]
Final Exam: Wednesday [03/31/2021]
Graduation: Friday [04/09/2021]

The curriculum consisted of the following lessons:

- **Green Economy**
 - Policies: GGBL, CMA, REV, NENY, CEF
 - Incentives: SMB, C&I, TDM, CHP, P4P
 - Standards: ASHRAE, NYCECC, NYS TRM
- **Core System #1:** Building Envelope
- **Core System #2:** Heating Systems
- **Core System #3:** Domestic Hot Water Systems
- **Software:** Energy Modeling Overview
 - Net Energy Optimizer [NEO]
 - ConEdison SMB Program Prescriptive Tool
 - ConEdison SMB Program Custom Tool

Recruitment & Enrollment:

The 30 candidates were selected to participate in this online training program out of 91 applications received and 43 scheduled interviews completed.

Total # of Applicants: 110 Applicants
Total # of Interviews: 47 Interviews
Interview Rate: 42.7%

Total # of Candidates Selected: 38 Candidates
Acceptance Rate: 34.5% [Overall]
Acceptance Rate: 80.9% [Interviewees]

Of the Candidates selected Total # of:
Jobseekers: 13 Candidates [40.6%]
Non-Jobseekers: 19 Candidates [59.4%]

Enrollment Breakdown by Employment Status:

Total # of Candidates Employed: 19
Job Seekers: 0 Candidates [0.0%]
Non-Jobseeker: 19 Candidates [100.0%]

Total # of Candidates Unemployed: 13
Job Seekers: 13 Candidates [100.0%]
Non-Jobseeker: 0 Candidates [0.0%]

The candidates that participated came from a variety of backgrounds and professional experiences including students from priority populations across NYS. We received student referrals from New York Institute of Technology, Harlem Business Alliance, NYC Human Resources Administration, Department of Education Technical High Schools, Green City Force and more. These students have a familiarity with clean energy, but more importantly a passion for the subject matter and a willingness to learn more, work hard, and commit to the training process.

Staff:

Management Team:

- **Project Director:** Antuan Cannon [WLE]
- **Project Sponsor:** Joe Daniele [WLE]
- **Outreach Specialist:** Gerard Mondesir [WLE]
- **Project Manager:** Kata Maitrechit [WLE]
- **Program Manager:** Ben Altman [EEDC]
- **Program Coordinator:** Michael Schumer [EEDC]
- **Career Specialist:** Candace Campo [EEDC]
- **Program Manager:** Dwayne Norris [SS]
- **Program Coordinator:** Andrea Caya [SS]

Instruction & Delivery Team:

- **Lead Instructor:** Clayton Gregory [GTL]
- **Training Assistant:** Keith Ford [GTL]
- **Instructor:** Gary Smith [GTL]
- **Tech Support:** Omar Duran [LIFE3]
- **Academic Advisor:** Ehsan Kamel [NYIT]
- **Experiential Education:** Amy Bravo [NYIT]
- **Outreach Coordinator:** Alejandro Alvarez [SS]
- **Career Specialist:** Lily Mosely [SS]

Training Outcomes:

Total # of Candidates Selected: 38 Candidates

Total # of Candidate Attrition: 6 Candidates
Attrition Rate: 15.8% [Overall]

Total # of Candidates Completed: 32 Graduates
Completion Rate: 84.2%

Total # of Candidates DNC: 3 Participants
DNC Rate: 7.9%

Total # of Candidates DNP: 3 Participants
DNP Rate: 7.9%

Total # of Candidate Attrition: 6 Participants
Attrition Rate: 15.8%

Accomplishments by Project Task:

Task 1. Enter a Subcontract

- Contract agreements were signed and countersigned with all subcontractors and completed before program start date. Contracts were provided to NYSERDA on 2/11/21 for review and approval

Task 2. Curriculum Development

- New training curriculum for Thermal Systems was developed by Green Tech Leaders
- Existing Curriculum was modified for Career Accelerator by Soulful Synergy & Energy EDC

Task 3. Deliver the Training

- **Total # of Students Admitted:** 38 Candidates
- **Total # of Students Completed:** 32 Graduates
Completion Rate: 84.2%

Task 4. Development of Learning Management System

- Learning management systems was updated to include additional tracking and monitoring; *specifically added a tracking mechanism for determining if a participant resides in a disadvantaged community.*

Task 5: Program Outreach

- # CBO Partners Engaged: 7

Task 6: Program Recruitment

- **Total # of Applicants:** 110 Applicants
- **Total # of Interviews:** 47 Interviews
 - *Interview Rate: 42.7%*
- **Total # of Candidates Selected:** 38 Candidates
 - *Acceptance Rate: 34.5% [Overall]*

- Acceptance Rate: 80.9% [Interviewees]

Task 7: Career Support Services

Career Accelerator:

- We successfully delivered our Career Accelerator professional development workshop series over 10 Sessions to 13 graduates of the program who voluntarily registered

Capstone Projects:

- 5 students only participated in a skills gap filling exercise
- 3 students participated in a skills gap filling exercise and then went on to work with an employer partner
- 4 students went directly on to work on a capstone project with one of our employer partners
- 7 of 32 are or have engaged in continuing education after the Clean Energy Academy. This is either at the weekly Energy EDC Lighting class, or with our partner AEA in their DC37 workers union residential energy efficiency training class.

Of the 32 Program Grads:

- **Total # of Grads Incumbent Workers:** 19 Grads (59.4%)
- **Total # of Grads In-School:** 0 Grads (0%)
- **Total # of Grads Unemployed:** 13 Grads (40.6%)
- **Total # of Grads Underemployed:** 0 Grads (0%)
- **Total # of Grads Jobseekers:** 13 Grads (40.6%)

Of the 15 Job Seekers:

- **Total # of Jobseekers enrolled in Career Accelerator:** 13 Job Seekers (100%)
- **Total # of Jobseekers participating in Capstone:** 12 Job Seekers (92%)
- **Total # of interviews Facilitated as of 7/18/21:**
 - 6 Interviews (46%)
- **Total # of Job Placements realized as of 7/18/21:** 3 Placements (23%)

Task 8: Plan to Sustain Training:**

- Established Academic partnership with NYIT; have begun wireframing the initial pilot Asynchronous course development; have received approval to extend CEUs from ASHRAE for this course
- Development of new relationships with non-profit workforce agency partners who can potentially institutionalize the training long term
- Added buy-in from Willdan management to find funding internally to expand the program amongst Willdan employees and their contractor network

Task 9: Evaluation**

- Transitioned Participant Pre & Post Surveys from PDF forms, to online survey
- Began having students take pre-course technical assessments to establish knowledge baseline

Task 10: Reporting**

- Updated impact report template for NYSERDA, including new Cover sheet, quarterly reporting [metrics] template and summary of accomplishment by task

Activities & Accomplishments

Graduation

Description: Participants engaged in a graduation ceremony where they each received a certificate of completion signed by Willdan and ConEdison program managers. The graduation included several special guests and presenters; each of these special guest presenters shared valuable insight with our students about the opportunities available to them in the clean energy industry and how they can find career success. Our students were inspired by the support from these industry leaders and reminded that they are part of a large network of seasoned professionals.

Delivery: Friday 4/9/2021 from 6:30pm - 8:30pm

Participation:

Notable Attendants: Darina Mayfield, Project Manager - NYSERDA

Speakers: James Hendon, Principal, Energy EDC; Joseph Daniele, PM - Willdan; Shaun Hoyte, PM - ConEdison; Rachel Rosen, CEO & Co-Founder - WexEnergy; Scott Walker, PM - WexEnergy.

Career Accelerator

Description: After course completion all student graduates are invited to participate in our Career Accelerator program. This is a 10-session, 20-hour career advancement webinar series. The classes cover important topics related to career advancement and professional development, including resume and cover letter development, interview preparation, and connecting to job market strategies.

Delivery: Classes began on Monday [4/12/21] and took place every Monday and Wednesday evening from 6:30pm-8:30pm, for 5 weeks, for a total of 10 sessions.

Participation: Of the 32 students who graduated, 13 students attended the career accelerator course.

Notes From this Cohort: Many of the students in this cohort needed a lot of resume help. We have already seen vast improvements with students who have revamped their resume and how much clearer they are able to communicate the value they plan to bring potential employers.

Capstone Projects

Description: As part of the career accelerator, we encourage students to sign up for a capstone project where they get more involved with one of our employer partners on an active, real-life project. As needed, we will also assign students an exercise to fill their skills gap, such as a billing analysis or lighting audit assignments to prepare them to be effective when they take on an employer-connected capstone project.

Delivery: 03/17/2021 – Present

Participation: We currently have 13 students that are active or have been active in this unique training experience to receive hands-on experience. Students let us know what type of career role they are most interested in and we are working with employer partners to find a project that meets the needs of both student and employer.

Photos:

WILLDAN CLEAN ENERGY ACADEMY
 ANY QUESTIONS?
 Dwayne R. Norris (917) 830-7157
 CEA@soufalfenergy.org

APPLY AT CLEAN ENERGY ACADEMY
 LIVE VIRTUAL CLASSROOM
 NEXT SESSION: Nights & Weekends
 START DATE: Monday, February 22, 2021
 Mondays & Wednesdays 6pm - 9pm
 Saturdays 10am - 5pm
 for 5 Weeks

PROGRAM OVERVIEW
 This is a free 60 hour energy efficiency technical training, combined with an Online Dynamic Learning Management System delivery method. The program focuses on energy efficiency, outreach, education and implementation assistance initiatives for small commercial properties.

LEARN
 • Real-world application of sustainability policies & standards
 • Use of software tools and energy audit processes

BUILD YOUR PORTFOLIO
 • Create energy audit reports and analysis
 • Prepare for industry recognized certifications

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
 • Resume writing and cover letter writing support services
 • Internship and job placement assistance services

Visit us at: CLEANENERGYACADEMY.ORG

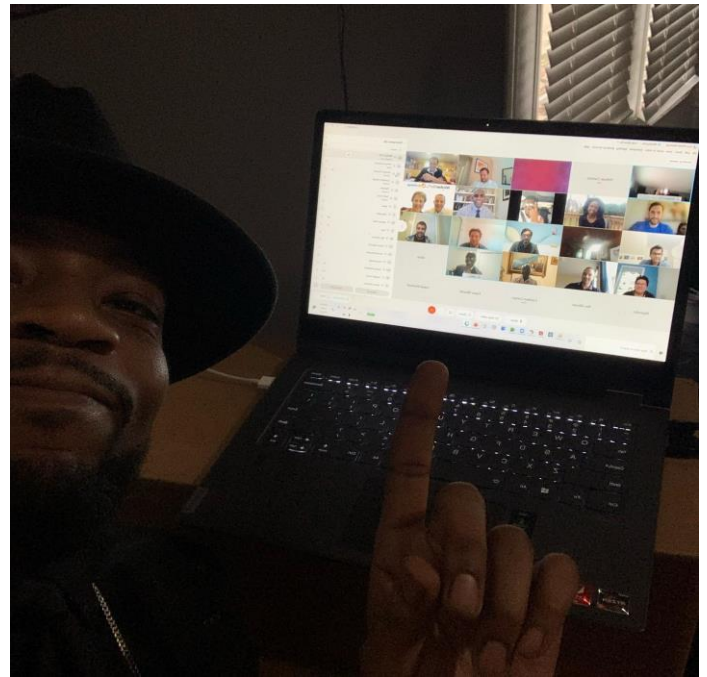
This program is open to everyone, regardless of age or background. To be considered for participation in this program, please apply using the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/winwinapp>
 All Applicants will undergo interviews, evaluations and a screening/selection process

BROUGHT TO YOU BY: **myserda** Energy, innovation solutions. **WILLDAN**
 In Partnership with Con Edison's Small-Medium Business Program

IMPLEMENTED BY: **Life** **NEW YORK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY**
GreenTech LEADERS

POWERED BY: **WINWIN**

EMPLOYER PARTNERS:
 2020 District Light Technology Applications
 JuleSmart
 Efficiency
 CSK International
 Energy Conservation & Supply
 Kowl Energy Group
 US Tech
 Spring Bank



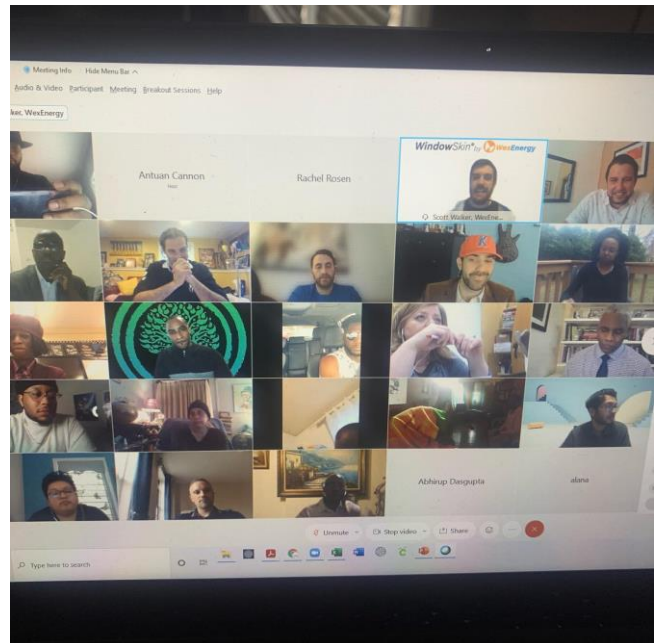
Graduation Agenda:
 6:30pm - 6:35pm: Arrival
 6:35pm - 6:45pm: Introductions
 6:45pm - 7:00pm: Guest Speakers #1
 7:00pm - 7:15pm: Certificates Part #1
 7:15pm - 7:30pm: Guest Speaker #2
 7:30pm - 7:45pm: Certificates Part #2
 7:45pm - 8:00pm: Cheers & Closing

The Willdan & CEA Team invite you to join us
Virtual Graduation Ceremony
April 9th, 2021
 from 6:30 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.
 for a ceremony followed by a toast to your continued success!

Hosted by the
Willdan Clean Energy Academy Team
 It's time to
Celebrate!

Logos: Clean Energy Academy, WinWin, Life, Kawi, Willdan, Myserda, GreenTech LEADERS, New York Institute of Technology, Anvirovation.

Please join us using the following link: <https://willdan.webex.com/jmeecacacmon>



Testimonials

Name of Student: Ayman Helo

I have always been interested in learning more about building science and building systems, specifically how to make our buildings more green and efficient. I wanted to understand more about current technology for solutions in buildings and thermal systems especially in the NYC area. I believe the course was very organized and the trainers were a very educated and professional team. I learned from Clayton, Antuan, Professor Ehsan, Dwayne and the guests who were invited in these 60 hours more than I learned over a full semester at school.

I gained more knowledge and skills than my expectations before attending this course. I even spoke to my friends and professors at NYIT about it so more students will get the chance to attend this beneficial course. I came to a better understanding of how thermal systems work in buildings. I feel more confident to make recommendations for buildings I work on or design in my future career as an architecture designer. I am very grateful for the whole, great professional team that made this course as amazing and useful as it is.

Ayman Helo
WCEA Cohort #8 Graduate



Name of Student: Alana Lindsay

I had a great time in class in both the commercial thermal systems class as well as the career accelerator sessions. These last 3 months have been jam-packed with information and tools that really helped me learn new laws and other industry information as well as redo my resume, etc. The best part of this is that I will still have their help afterwards when I am looking for a position as they will help connect me with their employer contacts and more. This was worth it.

Alana Lindsay
WCEA Cohort #8 Graduate

