



Willdan Clean Energy Academy

Impact Report

WestCOP 2022 - Cohort#1

January 31, 2022 – February 11, 2022



Program Overview

Summary:

Project Director: Daniel Bonnet
Email Address: dbonnet@westcop.org
Funding Source: NYSERDA PON 3981
Contract Number: 165811
Purchase Order Number: 173525

Course Name: Advanced HVAC-R & Clean Heat Systems
Course Dates: 01/31/2022 - 02/11/2022
Program Website: www.cleanenergyacademy.org
Cohort #: WestCOP Cohort #1

The Willdan Clean Energy Academy (WCEA) sponsored by Willdan Energy Solutions and supported by NYSERDA PON 3981 funding, successfully completed the 1st WestCOP Cohort of 2022, the 13th Cohort in the history of our Academy. For this round of funding the Academy is focusing on delivering our Advanced HVAC-R & Clean Heat Systems training course, which includes training on the HVAC-R Principles and Systems & Clean Heat Principles and Systems.

Delivery:

- **Delivery Method:** Online virtual Classroom
- **Delivery Platform:** Zoom
- **Delivery Format:** “Weekdays”
Monday through Friday, for 3 hours per morning session [from 11:30am - 2:30pm] and 3 hours in the afternoon [from 3:30pm – 6:30pm, with 1 hour for lunch]
- **Course Duration:** 2 Weeks
- **Course Delivery:** 60 Hours + 2 Exams
- **Course Dates:**
Classes: Monday [1/31/22] – Friday [2/11/22]
HVAC Exam: Friday [2/04/2022]
Final Exam: Friday [02/11/2022]
Graduation: Friday [04/07/2022]

The curriculum consisted of the following lessons:

HVAC-R Training [30-Hours]

- HVAC-R Principles
- HVAC-R Systems
- HVAC-R ECMs
- HVAC-R SMB Program Implementation
- HVAC-R Standards & Codes
- HVAC-R QAQC

Clean Heat Training [30-Hours]

- Clean Heat Principles
- Clean Heat Systems
- Clean Heat ECMs
- Clean Heat Program Implementation
- Clean Heat Standards & Codes
- Clean Heat QAQC

Staffing:

Management Team:

- **Project Director:** Daniel Bonnet [WestCOP]
- **Project Manager:** Amanda Torres [WestCOP]
- **Program Manager:** Ben Altman [EEDC]
- **Program Coordinator:** Cristina Pastrana [EEDC]
- **Career Specialist:** Denise Sonnenberg [EEDC]
- **Program Manager:** Dwayne Norris [SS]
- **Program Coordinator:** Alex Alvarez [SS]
- **Outreach Coordinator:** Teraesa Metivier [SS]
- **Career Specialist:** Niasia Kincy [SS]

Instruction & Delivery Team:

- **Lead Instructor:** Clayton Gregory [GTL]
- **Training Assistant:** Keith Ford [GTL]
- **Instructor:** Gary Smith [GTL]
- **Tech Manager:** Omar Duran [LIFE3]
- **Tech Support:** Katherine Fernandez [LIFE3]
- **Tech Support:** Pavel Angon [LIFE3]
- **Industry Advisor:** Antuan Cannon [Willdan]
- **Program Support:** Joseph Daniele [Willdan]
- **Training Support:** Melodine Williams [Willdan]

Recruitment & Enrollment:

The 33 candidates were selected to participate in this online training program out of 73 applications received and 44 interviews completed.

Total # of Applicants: 73 Applicants

Total # of Interviews: 44 Interviews

Interview Rate: 60.3%

Total # of Candidates Selected: 33 Candidates

- *Acceptance Rate: 45.2% [Overall]*
- *Acceptance Rate: 75% [Interviewees]*

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 the Westchester Community Opportunity Program Inc. (WestCOP) and members of their referral network such as the Goodwill, STRIVE, the Osborne Association, Green City Force, Westchester Putnam One Stop Career Center, and the United Way of Westchester and Putnam. 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.



Training Delivery:

Total # of Candidates Selected: 33 Participants

Did Not Start: 3 [9.1% ~ DNS Rate]

Audited: 0 [0.0% ~ Audit Rate]

Enrolled: 30 [91% ~ Enrollment Rate]

Selected Candidates that Enrolled: 30 Participant

Dropped: 3 [10% ~ Drop Rate]

Did Not Complete: 7 [23.3% ~ DNC Rate]

Completed: 20 [66.7% ~ Completion Rate]

Enrolled Participants that Completed: 20 Participants

Did Not Pass: 1 [5% ~ DNP Rate]

Graduated: 19 [95% ~ Passing Rate]

SUMMARY:

Candidates Selected: 33

Candidates Enrolled: 30

Participants Completed: 20

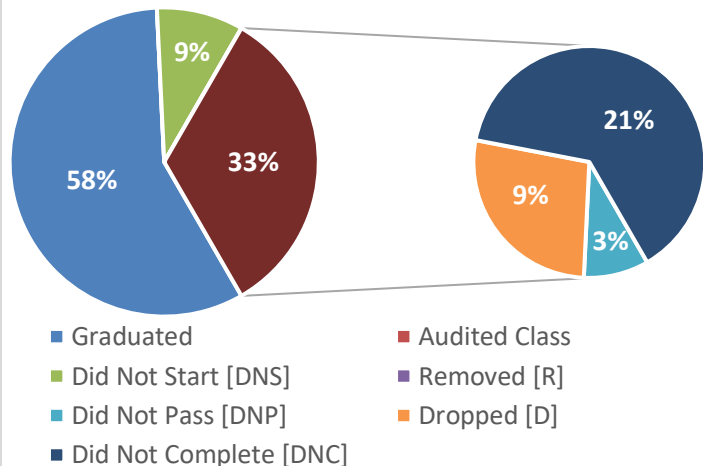
Participants Graduated: 19

Passing Rate: 95% [of Participants Completed]

63% [of Candidates Enrolled]

57.6% [of Candidates Selected]

Cohort #1 Enrollement by Program Participation Outcome



Training Graduates:

Out of the 19 Participants that successfully completed and graduated from the program, below is a breakdown of their educational level and employment status:

Graduates by Employment Status:

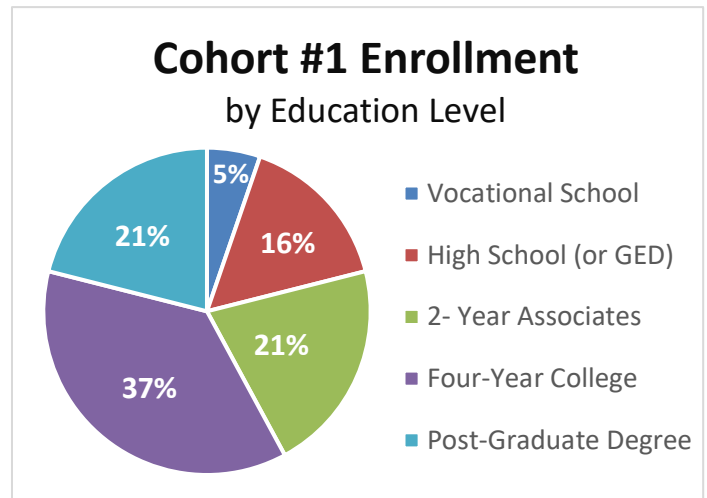
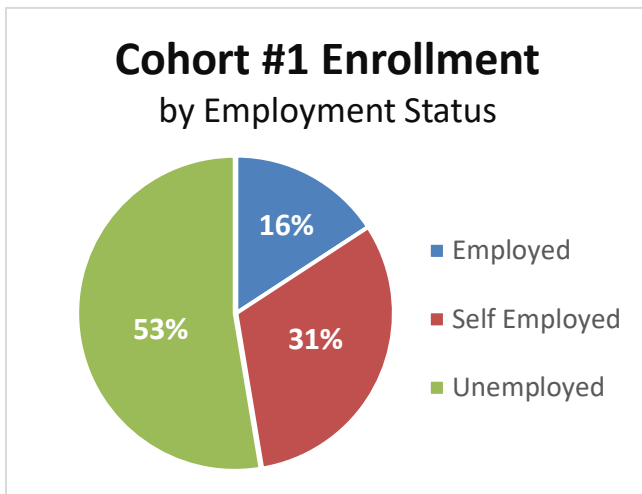
Of the 19 Graduates:

- Employed..... 3 Candidates [15.8%]
- Self-Employed..... 6 Candidates [31.6%]
- Unemployed..... 10 Candidates [52.6%]

Graduates by Education Level:

Of the 19 Graduates:

- Vocational School..... 1 Candidate [5.3%]
- High School (or GED)..... 3 Candidates [15.8%]
- 2-Year Associates..... 4 Candidates [21.1%]
- 4-Year College..... 7 Candidates [36.8%]
- Post-Graduate..... 4 Candidates [21.1%]



Graduates by Gender:

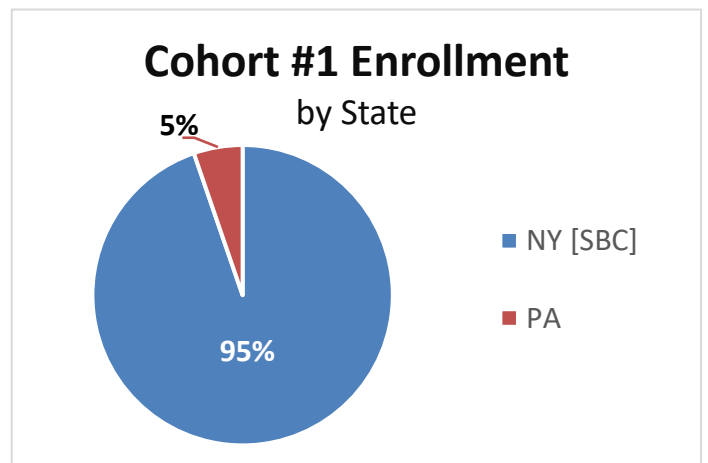
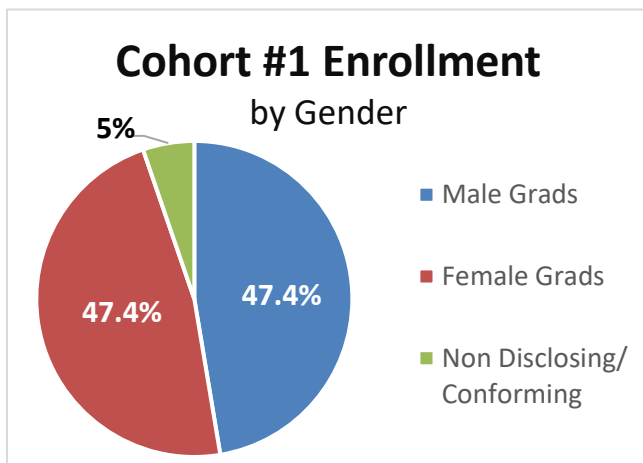
Of the 19 Graduates:

- Male..... 9 Candidates [47.4%]
- Female..... 9 Candidates [47.4%]
- Other..... 0 Candidates [0%]
- Non-Disclose..... 1 Candidate [5.3%]

Graduates by State:

Of the 19 Graduates:

- New York (NY)....., 18 Candidates [94.7%]
- New Jersey (NJ)..... 0 Candidates [0.0%]
- Pennsylvania (PA)..... 1 Candidates [5.3%]
- Other..... 0 Candidates [0.0%]

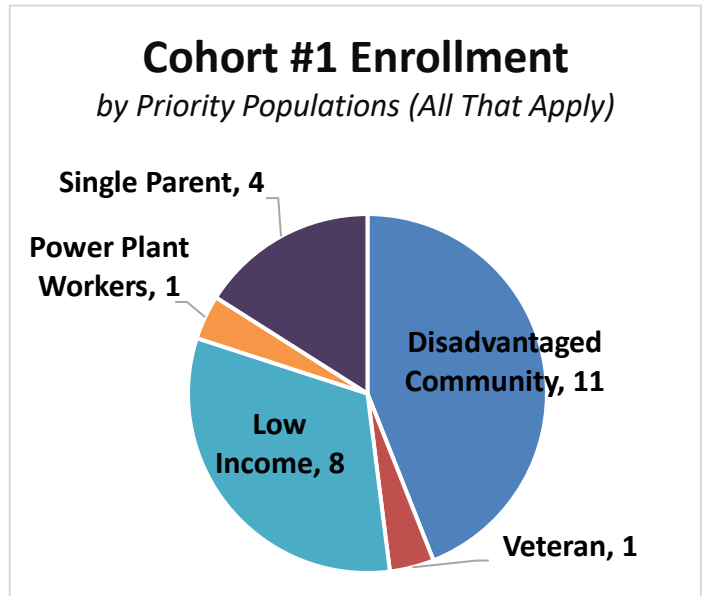


Graduates by Demographics [Check “All that apply”]:

Breakdown below includes every checkbox that everyone checked-off. So, some individuals may be counted twice if they qualify for more than one target demographic.

Of the 19 Graduates:

- Disadvantaged Community...11 Grads [57.9%]
- Low-Income..... 8 Grads [42.1%]
- Homeless..... 0 Grads [0.0%]
- Veterans.....1 Grads [5.3%]
- Native Americans..... 0 Grads [0.0%]
- Disability..... 0 Grads [0.0%]
- Power Plant Workers..... 1 Grads [5.3%]
- Previously Incarcerated..... 0 Grads [0.0%]
- 18-24 Yrs. Old Recent Grads.... 0 Grads [0.0%]
- Single Parents..... 4 Grads [21.1%]

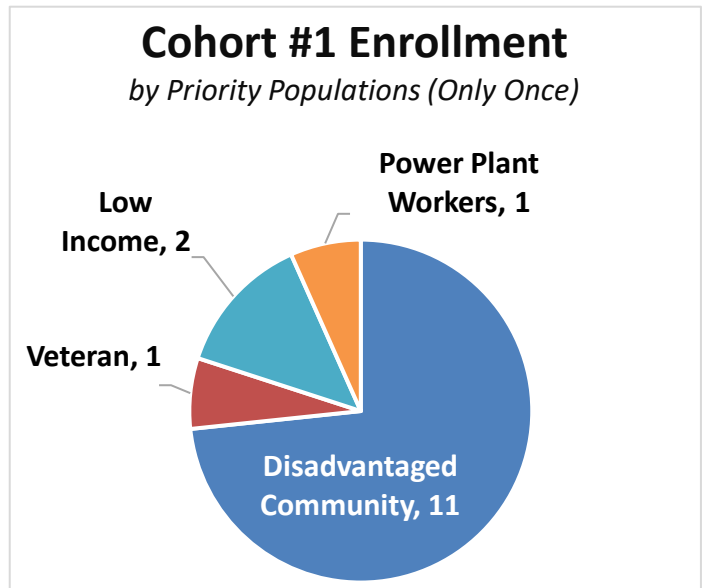


Graduates by Demographic [Only once per person]:

Breakdown below includes only counts each person once, regardless of how many target demographics they qualified for.

Of the 19 Graduates:

- Disadvantaged Community... 11 Grads [57.9%]
- Low-Income..... 2 Grads [10.5%]
- Homeless..... 0 Grads [0.0%]
- Veterans.....1 Grads 5.3%
- Native Americans..... 0 Grads [0.0%]
- Disability..... 0 Grads [0.0%]
- Power Plant Workers..... 1 Grads [5.3%]
- Previously Incarcerated..... 0 Grads [0.0%]
- 18-24 Yrs. Old Recent Grads.... 0 Grads [0.0%]
- Single Parents..... 0 Grads [0.0%]



TOTAL # OF PRIORITY POPULATIONS & DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES 15 Grads [78.9%]

Career Services:

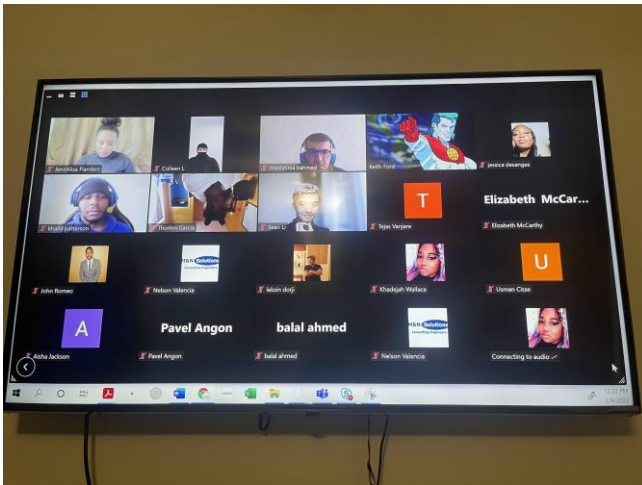
Career Accelerator:

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 [02/22/22] and took place every Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:30pm-8:30pm, for 5 weeks, for a total of 8 sessions.

Participation: Of the 19 Graduates:

- # of Accelerator Participants: 12 Grads [63.2%]
- # of Mock Interviews: 13 Grads [68.4%]



Capstone Projects:

Description: As part of the Career Accelerator, we strongly encourage students (particularly jobseekers) to sign up for a capstone project where they get more involved with one of our employer partners on an active, real-life project. Students let us know what type of career role they are most interested in, and we work with employer partners to find a project that meets the needs of both student and employer.

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: Capstone projects begin the third week of the Career Accelerator; for Cohort #1, Capstones began the week of 03/08/22, and ran for approximately 6 weeks.

Participation: Out of the 19 graduates that participated in the career accelerator:

- # of Capstone Lab Participants..... 4 Grads
- # of Capstone Project Participants..... 6 Grads
- Total # of unique Capstone Participants...7 Grads

Continuing Education:

Overview: We support our graduates by informing them of, and making discounts available to them to participate in various types of continuing education courses, including:

- BPI BSP..... 0 Certs
- BPI MFBA.....0 Certs
- GPRO Fundamentals..... 0 Certs
- GPRO O&M..... 0 Certs
- GPRO CM..... 0 Certs
- GPRO Electrical..... 0 Certs
- GPRO Mechanical..... 0 Certs
- GPRO Plumbing..... 0 Certs
- NALMCO CALT..... 4 Certs
- EPA 608 12 Certs
- OSHA 10.....0 Certs
- OSHA 30..... 0 Certs
- SST..... 0 Certs
- Total # Enrolled in Continuing Education...12 Certs

Career Services Outcomes:

Graduates by Placement Outcome:

Of the 19 Graduates, there were 10 Grads (52%) that were unemployed at the time of enrollment:

Of the 19 Graduates:

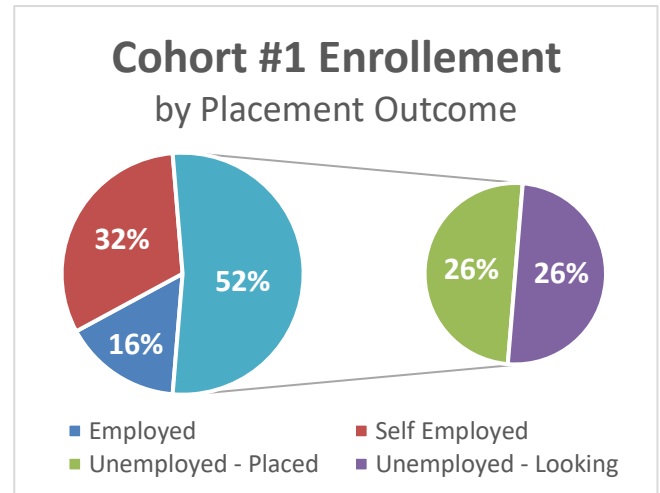
- Total # of Placements..... 5 Grads [26.3%]
- Total # of Employment..... 0 Grads [0.0%]
- Total # of Promotions..... 0 Grads [0.0%]

TOTAL # OF SUCCESSFUL OUTCOMES.. 5 Grads [26.3%]

Of the 5 Successful Placement outcomes, the outcomes can be categorized as follows:

- Total # of Internships..... 0 Grads [0.0%]
- Total # of Part-Time Jobs..... 0 Grads [0.0%]
- Total # of Full-Time Jobs..... 5 Grads [26.3%]
- Total # of Apprenticeships..... 0 Grads [0.0%]

TOTAL # OF SUCCESSFUL OUTCOMES.... 5 Grads [26.3%]



Graduation:

Description: Participants will engage in a graduation ceremony where they each will receive a Certificate of Completion signed by Willdan and ConEdison program managers. The graduation will include several special guests and presenters; each of the presenters will share valuable insight with our students about the opportunities available to them in the clean energy industry and how they can find career success. In the past, students have been inspired by the encouragement they receive from these industry leaders. We have no doubt these participants will receive the same from the reminder that they are part of a large network of seasoned professionals.

Delivery: Friday 04/07/2021 from 3:30pm - 5:30pm


Invited Guest:


Notable Guest Speakers Invited:


- Shaun Hoyte, Con Edison SMB Program
- Daniel Bonnet, WestCOP
- James Hendon, EEDC
- Ron Kamen, Earthkind Energy
- WD Scherle, Soulful Synergy



Testimonials

<p>Name of Student: Dhruvi Sheth</p> <p>I am pleased to be a part of Clean Energy Academy, #Cohort 1 2022. The way of teaching is really appreciated. The program itself is an achievement and gives exposure to me. After taking the class, I have more sense of knowledge in the HVAC and Heat pump field</p> <p>- Dhruvi Sheth</p> <p>WestCOP WCEA Cohort #1 Graduate</p>	
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<p>Name of Student: Jesse Rodriguez</p> <p>After taking the HVAC/Heat-Pump course with Clean Energy Academy, I earned a course certification and the EPA 608 Universal certification as well. Within a month of job searching after the course, I made the career change into energy efficiency with a large company and have been in the field for three weeks as of now. Not only did the course help me earn the new job, but also gave me a huge head start during my training period, allowing me to begin working in the field sooner. The courses were thorough, the instructors were excellent breaking down all concepts into easy-to-understand language, and the support during my job search from the staff was phenomenal and I couldn't have asked to be part of a better program. So appreciative to Clean Energy Academy for the new opportunity in my career.</p> <p>- Jesse Rodriguez</p> <p>WestCOP WCEA Cohort #1 Graduate</p>	
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<p>Name of Student: Ernesto Vivanco</p> <p>I think it was an amazing experience for me. I had the opportunity to meet wonderful and talented people and learn not only from the material they offered me but also from their own experiences.</p> <p>– Ernesto Vivanco</p> <p>WestCOP WCEA Cohort #1 Graduate</p>	
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