



## 2013 HIGHLIGHTS



### EDUCATE & TRAIN



On June 24<sup>th</sup>, Isles Youth Institute (IYI) hosted its 18<sup>th</sup> graduation at Grounds For Sculpture. Out of the 47 junior and senior high school IYI students, 21 received their high school diploma or GED.

All students earned nationally recognized Pre-Apprentice Construction Training (PACT) certificates, and they worked on homes and construction projects around the city. Projects included post-Sandy renovations, raised growing beds for senior citizens, and park renovations.



This fall, IYI held a Back to School Night & Family Center Kickoff for parents, families, and students. We're excited that IYI is expanding. More than 70 students are attending; in addition, Isles is offering GED, job readiness, and support services to families of students.

Isles Center for Energy and Environmental Training (CEET) provides energy efficiency and environmental job training, targeting existing workers and those most in need of jobs. In 2013:

- 360 trainees are completing courses
- 170 trainees earned national certifications



### REVITALIZE COMMUNITIES

Isles partners with community residents to plan and catalyze the redevelopment of places across the Trenton region. Isles applies Neighborhood Revitalization Tax Credit (NRTC) and Wells Fargo Foundation funds to target the Old Trenton Neighborhood, East Trenton, and the Trenton Historic Development Collaborative area. Additionally, we managed the redevelopment of the Roberto Clemente Park in the Old Trenton Neighborhood and held the grand reopening in August.





## GROW ASSETS



IYI graduate Lamar Allen (right) with Isles' Asset Building Coordinator Kit Patel at the closing on his first home in September.

YouthBuild graduate Lamar worked with Kit all year to be able to purchase his first home in Trenton. It includes an extra apartment, so he is now earning rental income.

Isles also offers an innovative toolbox of financial services to lower wage workers.

This year:

- 60 first time homebuyers sought counseling. Isles facilitated the purchase of 15 homes.
- 90 foreclosure customers sought counseling, resulting in 32 resolutions.
- 200 individuals participated in an Isles Financial Solutions workshop, and 62 customers made use of our services and products.



## LIVE GREEN & HEALTHY

The Isles' Garden Support Network helped 58 community and school gardens, including 15 sponsored by other area non-profits.

This summer, 60 young people in Isles' YouthGrow service gained hands-on gardening and nutrition education skills. They visited the kitchen at Rat's Restaurant at Grounds For Sculpture as well as local farms.

Isles' events helped engage Trenton residents around healthy food. Seven film documentaries and six cooking workshops supported our revitalization work.

Isles tested 250 homes for unhealthy or unsafe indoor conditions.

Isles partnered with Mercer Street Friends to train their community health workers and other home visitors to improve the health of homes. Isles developed a training module on the Seven Principles of Healthy Homes.



*Your gifts further family self-reliance and healthy, sustainable communities. To join Isles' Bridge Builders or Legacy Society, contact Yuki Moore Laurenti at [ylaurenti@isles.org](mailto:ylaurenti@isles.org) or call 609.341.4721.*