## SUN-REPORTER, THURSDAY, AUGUST 21, 2014 • PAGE 2 **Construction Industry Workforce Initiative** (CIWI): Working With District 10 Young Adults

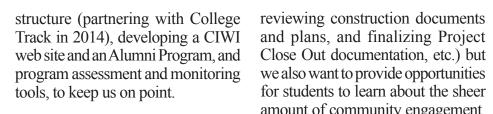
To Provide Internship And Opportunities In Real Estate Development And Construction

### **By Monica Wilson**

Why did you start CIWI?

o provide exposure, experience and opportunity for low-income, first genera-Let tion college students that have an interest in construction management, real estate development, core components civic engagement, and A&E. CIWI's goal has always been to create oppor- through August (12 weeks), 20 hours the internship program? tunities for students interested in the per week, totaling 240 hours of direct professional side of construction so experience that they can have careers as Project Leadership Component: Participat- CIWI has grown from one Gen-Engineers, Project Managers, Esti- ing in community, civic and related eral Contractor (Cahill Contractors,

Architect and Engineers. In 2012, we had two interns, and now we reached our 2014 program goal of providing 10 internship positions. The growth has been slow, steady, and sustainable. We have also focused on the programs infra-



How is the program set up?

CIWI includes the following three community including active partici-

Internship Component: June

maters, as well as Developers, and industry meetings such as Commis- our Founding Partner/Funder) to sion for Community Investment and now an impressive team of seven

East Bay.

CIWI/Leadership and Mentorship Program: Professional Speaker Series, including Omar Mutwakil, Project Engineer (Roberts-Obayashi/Shipyard) and Yusef Freeman (McCormack Baron Salazar/Alice Griffith (HOPE SF)), 10 (Southeast Sector). I am pleased are very proud of that. convened at College Track.

Housing Action Coalition (SF HAC) (Key Partners + Funders), including Francisco participants are from D10. opments including Hunters View and SPUR.

series including presentations from Obayashi, John Stewart Company, counseling and small group events, Hester. such as a Resume and Cover Letter Workshop

Each year, we try to expand our partners and program and one of the best partner investments we have made has been with College Track. College Track (a key D10 Stakeholder) provides an invaluable role in identifying D10 young adults who may be interested in participating in the CIWI program. As well, as part of our Leadership and Training component, we also convened a guest speaker series at College Track, including participation from key members from Roberts-Obayashi and McCormack Baron Salazar, both firms are active within D10 at the Shipyard and Alice Griffith. We have also had Meet and Greets with key stakeholders, including City of Oakland City Council Member, Lynette Gibson McElhaney (District 3) and Michael Cohen, Principle, Strada Investment Group and the former Director of the San Francisco's Office of Economic and Workforce Development (OEWD).

All of the interns will learn technical skills over the summer such as in Estimating/Project Take-Offs, Document Control (RFIs and Submittals), participating in site inspections,

Cahill Contractors, Nibbi Brothers, Mentorship Component: Speaker Strada Investment Group, Roberts- been like? To assist in identifying students for shape their interest, technical skills sion Bay.

for students to learn about the sheer amount of community engagement, due diligence and planning work it requires to design a building or new pation by the local community. Who have you partnered with for

CIWI has roots in both SF and the



CIWI/Leadership and Mentorship Program: Meet and Greet, with City of Oakland City Council Member Lynette Gibson McElhaney (District 3) and Michael Cohen, Principal, Strada Investment Group and former Director of Office of Economic and Workforce Development (OEWD).

candidates, and providing space to Area construction industry and de-

interview/recruitment, we have part- and passion for pursuing a career in nered with three great organizations construction/real estate, as well as to that work with students to get them know that there are numerous people, to and through college---College firms, mentors, and associations Track ,Juma Ventures, and East Bay that are committed to their success College Fund. They are key and (providing opportunities and opening extremely valuable partners that doors). We try to stress the imporprovide a critical role in coordinating tance of developing their networking our outreach, identifying potential database, familiarity with the Bay have workshops, team meetings, etc. velopment trends. We have recently In 2014, we developed a strategic developed an Alumni program, and plan to identify and recruit young both graduates are still working with adults from San Francisco's District Cahill, and both are from D10. We

to say that all of our San Francisco As well, based on our GC/Devel-CIWI interns are from D10. In oper Team, many of the interns are Infrastructure (CCII), San Francisco General Contractors and Developers other words, 100 percent of our San working on very high profile devel-What have the interns' experiences HOPE SF, and on developments within Office of Community Invest-I think for most, the internship may ment and Infrastructure's (OCII) industry representatives, one-on-one BBI Construction and McGuire and be the proverbial "lightbulb or Aha Project Areas including Hunters" moment" -the time that helps them Point Shipyard, Transbay, and Mis-



# **Congratulations D10 Students!**





## **CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY** WORKFORCE INITIATIVE

Supporting the Renaissance of the Southeast Community and our Educational partners serving the youth and young adults returning to school



Construction Industry Workforce Initiative, based in the Bayview, is a program of

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