

We Are the Change, an employment preparation program, combines interactive workshops and virtual reality with practical, on-the-job training to equip our youth participants with the skills and experiences needed to build tiny homes. Youth will obtain multiple certifications for trade specific employment that will be applied through the experiential learning of building a tiny home. We are engaging construction companies, electrical, plumbing and welding businesses and other contractors needed to teach, show, supervise and mentor our youth regarding all aspects of the tiny home build.

Woven throughout the program are life skills, soft skills and employability skills development sessions to build and hone the skills that our youth need for long-term life success. We include literacy and basic skills, essential skills training/education in these workshops, with the intention of working our youth towards high school graduation. Individualized need for mentorship in various aspects of each youth's life will be assessed and our youth will be matched with community mentors. Our youth will engage their community through a speaking tour to share their experience and growth because of the program. Upon completion of their 18 weeks of training, youth will then be placed with local employers in the trades field. Employers and businesses in each community will be positively impacted through access to skilled labour and business growth.