Green Opportunities (GO) connects youth and adults from low-wealth Asheville and Buncombe County neighborhoods to sustained employment opportunities that support families and improve community and environmental health. GO believes everyone has a stake in the growing green economy and preparing people for meaningful jobs is at the very core of what we do. Here is how we work.

We work where it counts.
GO’s service area is composed of neighborhoods marked by chronic joblessness, generational poverty and lack of opportunity.

![North Carolina Our Service Areas](image)

Our Service Areas

- **Building Performance**
- **Green Construction**
- **Food Service**
- **Nonprofit**
- **Other**
- **Solar**
- **Farm & Garden**

**64%** of participants have significant barriers to employment:
- Lack High School Diploma: **37%**
- Lack Work Experience: **35%**
- Have a Criminal Record: **66%**

% Employment barriers by type

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Training a new workforce.
GO programs offer multiple career tracks in the green collar economy. Through a constellation of training, community outreach and engagement, and career placement, we help to break the cycle of poverty.

- **Skills training**
  - Each participant receives valuable trainings, technical certifications, and essential workplace skills.
  - Total number of trainees: 300+ members completed training & 662 Free technical certifications were issued.

- **Outreach & Service**
  - New skills are used for community improvement, hands-on experience, and pre-employment training.

- **Career placement**
  - GO helps graduates find permanent jobs with employer partners or through our social enterprises.
  - New skills are used for community improvement, hands-on experience, and pre-employment training.

Why the green economy?
It’s more than just a way to make our neighborhoods healthier and more resilient. Over the last 6 years, North Carolina’s green economy has grown significantly.

**2008** 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013

- **Weatherization**
  - Wages & Stipends: **$1,207,064**
  - Value of Certifications: **$389,098**
  - IMMEDIATE ECONOMIC TOTAL: **$1,596,162**

- **Green Construction**
  - Wages & Stipends: **$389,098**
  - Value of Certifications: **$389,098**
  - IMMEDIATE ECONOMIC TOTAL: **$778,196**

- **Food Service**
  - Wages & Stipends: **$1,596,162**
  - Value of Certifications: **$389,098**
  - IMMEDIATE ECONOMIC TOTAL: **$1,985,260**

- **Nonprofit**
  - Wages & Stipends: **$1,596,162**
  - Value of Certifications: **$389,098**
  - IMMEDIATE ECONOMIC TOTAL: **$1,985,260**

- **Community Engagement**
  - Wages & Stipends: **$1,596,162**
  - Value of Certifications: **$389,098**
  - IMMEDIATE ECONOMIC TOTAL: **$1,985,260**

- **Partnerships**
  - Wages & Stipends: **$1,596,162**
  - Value of Certifications: **$389,098**
  - IMMEDIATE ECONOMIC TOTAL: **$1,985,260**

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Investing in the Community
GO manages social enterprises that employ community members and training programs that pay work stipends. Combined with the value of the portable technical credentials, the IMM economic impact is substantial.

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The community benefits overall.
It’s about more than just job training. As a result of our programs, community assets and activities add up to a big payback on the local level.

- **Weatherization**
  - Over 1,200 public housing units and 200 homes and businesses weatherized, saving over $300,000 and 5.5 million lbs of CO2 annually.

- **Community Engagement**
  - Over 100 community outreach and advocacy events held, educating residents about sustainability and working to build resource networks.

- **Information Sharing**
  - Over 200 hands on projects responsible for creating 18,750 sq. feet of garden land and additional spacemaking projects.

- **Community Service**
  - Over 200 volunteers and 200 hours of volunteer time spent working in local community outreach projects.

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For more information: [www.greenopportunities.org](http://www.greenopportunities.org)