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Media Contact: Elizabeth Pierre, Just A Start
617-918-7522 / elizabethpierre@justastart.org

YOUTHBUILD STUDENTS BUILD PATIO DECK AT FORMER SITE

Three Cohorts build patio and deck at 1175 Cambridge Street

Cambridge, MA – June 20, 2024 – Students from the YouthBuild Just A Start program have constructed a new patio and privacy screen for the residents of 1175 Cambridge Street as a parting gift. Knowing that Just A Start would be moving to 430 Rindge Ave., the students wanted to leave a meaningful and lasting present for the remaining tenants.

The project, which began in the fall of 2023, saw the collaborative efforts of three different student cohorts. Under the guidance of their instructors, the students participated in every phase of the project, from the initial design and planning stages to the final installation. They worked together to lay out footings, complete structural framing, and set stone pavers, showcasing their skills and dedication to community service.

This initiative not only provided practical experience in construction but also fostered a sense of community and continuity for the students and residents alike.

[YouthBuild USA](#) operates on a pre-apprenticeship model, providing students aged 16-24 who are neither in school nor employed with occupational skills training such as construction (with a focus on green building techniques), employment services, and educational guidance,. The program's vision is to create a world where all young people are recognized for their potential and ability to transform themselves and their communities. As a proud affiliate of the global YouthBuild movement, [YouthBuild Just A Start](#) is a full-time comprehensive youth development program serving Boston's Metro North region. The program offers youth the opportunity to earn their high school credential (HiSET) and develop employment skills in the construction or retail fields.





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About Just A Start

Just A Start believes that access to stable housing and sustainable careers are the essential building blocks of equitable communities. For more than 50 years, we have focused on meeting the fundamental needs of individuals and families who have been systemically denied opportunities to realize their full potential. Our programs include affordable housing, education and job training, and comprehensive support services, spanning Cambridge and beyond. We have developed and currently maintain 600 affordable apartments. To keep community members housed, we also offer financial and technical assistance to prevent evictions, and support low- and moderate-income homeowners. Finally, we prepare individuals of all ages and circumstances with the skills and knowledge they need to secure fulfilling careers, leveraging their talents to achieve economic mobility and strengthen the region's workforce. For more information, please visit www.justastart.org.