



Progress Update

Just a little update on Cornerstone Craftsman. Below are some things we achieved in April and May.

1. Cornerstone Craftsman successfully advocated for two court-involved pre-apprentices in support of their receiving favorable outcomes and being excluded from public schools in Alexandria.
2. Even Scale (Roberto's construction business) won a painting project at the Northern Virginia Detention Center, which includes skilled trades training for ten residents from the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice. As part of the project, the participating DJJ residents will receive wages during the project and up to six weeks following it. This is relevant to our work since Cornerstone Craftsman's pre-apprentice program curriculum was created and implemented early on through Even Scale.
3. A pre-apprentice attended an Alexandria City Gala and networked with Virginia House delegates, senators, representatives, and Maxwell Frost, the youngest ever elected to Congress.
4. Roberto met with the union heads of the Plumber/Steam Fitters, Electrical, and Carpenter trades to discuss ways to secure guaranteed employment for pre-apprentices, with wages ranging from \$24.50 to \$60.00 per hour.
5. On May 16th, donor Janet Barnett hosted a pizza party for 20 friends at her house. Roberto introduced Cornerstone Craftsman and his personal story behind launching the nonprofit. Robert, Ken, and Derry attended.
6. Roberto met with Tammy Mann, ED of Campagna Center, to discuss developing a program for young adults.
7. Roberto and Derry are in discussions with prominent local family foundation, which is interested in our work.
8. Three Cornerstone Craftsman pre-apprentices attended a city council legislation meeting to broaden their understanding of local governance and encourage active participation in the community.



9. Roberto met with a financial planner to discuss tailoring their programs to include early financial literacy for 12 to 17-year-olds.
10. Cornerstone Craftsman actively engaged with pre-apprentice parents to promote healthy living habits and encourage participation in Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) activities.

Roberto Gomez,



PS: Check out five new [participant testimonials](#) recently added to the [Cornerstone Craftsman](#) website in the Program Overview.

