

Success

Rural Job Training Building Maintenance Repairer

Sam Paul: Trained and Working in His Village

Sam Paul recently completed his Building Maintenance Repairer apprenticeship and is now a journeyman living and working in the village of Kipnuk, Alaska. Along with 340 hours of course-related instruction, Paul also completed more than 4,000 hours of on-the-job training. Paul is now certified by the US Department of Labor as a BMR technician and is qualified to build, maintain, repair and renovate housing and public buildings. BMRs have a wide range of construction skills such as carpentry, electrical, plumbing, painting, welding, and sheetmetal work.

The Denali Training Fund provided travel expenses for Paul to attend training during his apprenticeship as well as room, board, and basic tools. The JATCs of several trade organizations provided instruction for the BMR apprenticeship.

During his apprenticeship, Paul was employed by CVR building sidewalks; the Y-K Delta Health Corporation building a new clinic; and AVCP Housing building a triplex in Kipnuk.

“I was glad to be in an apprenticeship,” Paul said. “Without it I wouldn’t have had these jobs.”

Paul was gratified to learn that one of his friends would soon be moving into the triplex he helped to build. Housing is often in short supply in Alaska’s Bush communities. With his training as a Building Maintenance Repairer, Paul was able to help construct a new dwelling for his village.

Paul is one of several recent graduates of AWP’s Building Maintenance Repairer apprenticeship.



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