



**Green Energy Training Services (GETS)
Rising Sun Energy Center
Berkeley, CA**

California Youth Energy Services (CYES) is an employment program run by Rising Sun that hires local youth ages 15-22 to do free residential energy audits and basic water and energy efficiency work. The program has been running since 2000 has satellite offices in different cities. Residents can make an appointment to have an inspection and initial work such as water-saving showerheads and clotheslines installed. After having a CYES audit and initial energy efficiency work done, clients can apply to the CYES attic subsidy program that can potentially give them a 60% subsidy on attic insulation that is installed by one of RSEC’s attic sub-contractors. Youth also educate residents about their options, what work they've done, and what other thing could be done on the home. Last summer CYES weatherized 2,100 homes.

This year, Rising Sun is developing the Green Energy Training Services program (GETS) as the next step of the career ladder for people who've decided they want to pursue a career in energy efficiency, targeting young adults 18-25. The program includes 80 hours of vocational training and curriculum that is designed to go on top of an existing construction trades program. Rising Sun is piloting the program in partnership with Richmond Build, which does construction training, and Solar Richmond, which does solar installation training. The GETS program takes a whole home performance approach to energy efficiency.

This case study is current as of May 2009. For more information, please visit <http://www.risingsunenergy.org/cyes.htm> or contact Jailan Adly at adly@risingsunenergy.org.

Timeline	The GETS pilot will start in May 2009 and is designed to run for three months.
Region	The GETS program is piloting in Richmond, CA with plans to have programs in Berkeley and Oakland, CA. RSEC is currently designing an affiliate model for curriculum distribution.
Objective	The objective of the GETS program is to provide a next step career step after CYES and do workforce training for people with barriers to employment. Trainees will be prepared to take the BPI entrance service exam. The goal is to get trainees ready to either enter community college or entry-level job positions that will get them

**This case study is meant to give a snapshot of the program profiled here.
For the most up to date information on this program, please visit their website**

	onto the career ladder.
Partners/Allies	Rising Sun receives feedback on the development of the GETS curriculum from an employer council. Employers agree to take on trainees as apprentices and later many of them hire trainees full time. Rising Sun will also partner with organizations that do construction and solar training programs that complement the GETS energy efficiency training.
What is the source of capital/financing?	The CYES program is funded through ratepayer dollars through the CPUC which is administered by PG&E, the water districts, and local governments. The GETS program is currently being funded through local governments and grant dollars. In Oakland partner organizations will go in together to get funding for the whole package of training and retrofitting. The training program will become self-sustaining as other organizations purchase the rights to the curriculum.
Job creation	The goal of GETS is to train only as many people as the employer council has indicated there is a demand for. The important thing is getting employers to be a part of the process and put their best faith effort into it.
Challenges	There need to be more home performance companies (such as Sustainable Spaces, Advanced Home Energy, and Building Solutions) that do a diagnostic of the whole home rather than focusing on a single area such as appliances or weatherproofing.
Reflections	Employer buy-in has been critical for the adult program. Being able to offer customer incentives and free services helps us reduce barriers for residents and support growth in the number of small businesses in the weatherization sector.