

Construction Projects and Partners, Advantages and Disadvantages

Role	Advantages	Disadvantages
Subcontracting Free Labor Arrangement: Provides supervised, trainee labor at no cost to the developer.	 No financial risk No liability for missing deadlines More flexibility in trainee schedule 	 No income for work May have little control over training environment or trainee assignments May be dependent on others for YouthBuild schedule
Subcontracting Paid Subcontractor Arrangement: Completes a specific "scope of work" on a single or a few trades. Work is done for a fixed price to be completed by a pre-established deadline.	 Program receives some income Less risk than construction management roles Does not require complex construction management skills or logistics 	 Liability of completing work within a specified deadline Risk of not estimating materials cost correctly May not provide for steady work for trainees throughout training year Depending on subcontract, may not provide broad enough learning experience
Construction Management Works on behalf of the developer to coordinate all subcontractors on the project, in place of a general contractor. Developer assumes all risks and rewards. Coordination work is done for a fee.	 No financial risk or liability Provides control over the pace of the job Provides control over scope of work that trainees undertake Provides leverage with other subcontractors on the job to use trainees effectively 	 Requires highly experienced staff with construction management skills Does not provide same potential for generating program income as general contracting Hard to find willing development partner

General Contracting

Coordinates all aspects of the actual construction work, including all subcontractors for a fixed price/lump sum. General contractor agrees to complete the job within a certain price, regardless of what the job ends up costing, and assumes all risks and rewards.

- Provides control over scope of work that trainees undertake
- Provides leverage with other subcontractors on the job to use trainees effectively
- Potential to generate more income for program than Construction Management
- Requires highly experienced staff with construction management and estimating skills
- Can lose a substantial amount of money, if estimates are incorrect
- Requires a sophisticated financial infrastructure
- Requires cash reserves (working capital) or a line of credit

Development

Obtains a site and oversees all aspects of the development of that site. Assumes the ultimate risk of ensuring that funds available match or exceed project costs. Often receives a developer's fee for this role.

- Provides maximum control over ensuring that projects are available on time for training
- Maximizes control in balancing tension of "training vs. production"
- Can maximize income generated for program
- Requires extensive organizational and staff capacity to fulfill all functions
- Financial risk and liability are significant
- Extra workload could cause housing development to overshadow mission of youth development