

Summer Institute students learn how to build a house



During the summer of 2008, ALI students helped build not one, but two houses – and not just any houses! ALI students from Grand Rapids and Greenway high schools joined their instructors Dan Bredemus and Trevor Howe, the Northern Minnesota Builders Association (NMBA) and Itasca County Habitat for Humanity to build two homes in Bovey, Minnesota. Their efforts resulted in affordable Habitat for Humanity homes for two local families, who worked alongside the students. This was the first summer project sponsored by ALI. Students enrolled in ALI's Summer Institute program had the opportunity to learn by doing and develop hands-on technical skills from professionals, which is a major element of the ALI program. In addition to this real-world working experience, each student received .5 credit toward graduation.

Summer Youth Build Partners

Habitat for Humanity
 Northern MN Builder's Assn.
 Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce
 Iron Range Resources
 Northland Foundation
 Blandin Foundation
 Northeast MN Office of Job Training
 Higgins Electric
 Electric Union #250



Applied Learning Institute

today's learning - tomorrow's opportunities

Applied Learning Institute (ALI) was formed in 2006 to enhance the curriculum in northeast Minnesota by providing experiential learning that combines hands-on training and technology. The result will be highly trained, knowledgeable workers who are equipped with the technical and problem-solving skills needed by employers in the region and throughout the world. From this point on, each year thousands of work opportunities will be available in northeast Minnesota. While the region will have 7,500 openings each year due to retirements alone, some jobs have not even been created yet.

ALI programs are in the fields of advanced automotive, business entrepreneurship, construction trades, healthcare, industrial technology, natural resources and pre-engineering. ALI is a partnership connecting northeastern Minnesota school districts, colleges of the Northeastern Higher Education District (NHED), Iron Range Resources (IRR), Range Association of Municipalities and Schools (RAMS), and Minnesota Center for Engineering and Manufacturing Excellence (MNCEME). ALI is funded through a Minnesota legislative appropriation to NHED, funds from Iron Range Resources, and membership dues from partner institutions.