



OUR MISSION: *To rebuild hurricane-damaged roofs in under-served areas of Puerto Rico while rebuilding capacity through a Learn and Earn carpentry training program.*

PROBLEMS WE ADDRESS:

- **Need for shelter:** Thousands of roofs that were damaged or destroyed still need to be repaired or replaced and strengthened with hurricane straps;
- **Need for skilled carpenters** to repair the devastation caused by the hurricanes, which was compounded by the departure of hundreds of thousands of Puerto Ricans following the storms; and
- **Unemployment** - by providing carpentry training in a "learn and earn" program, we empower the unskilled and unemployed to become better candidates for employment in the construction industry in Puerto Rico.

OUR OPERATIONAL MODEL:

ASSESSMENT and PRE-BUILD PREPARATION: Our Project Manager (PM) approaches community leaders to locate the most urgent cases as assess each roof. Selection of the home is based primarily on whether there are children or elderly or infirm residents but is also dependent on the type of roof. Our work is limited to roof repairs or reconstruction of galvanized aluminum or tin roofs. If the homeowner and the roof qualify, the PM will make a more detailed assessment, taking measurements and creating a scope of work. The PM will order the materials and notifying the foreman of the schedule for the project. Depending on the size of the roof and extent of the damage, it can take 4 to 6 people from 3 to 10 days to complete. Rain often interrupts our schedule, as we cannot allow anyone on a roof when it is wet. Each roof costs an average of \$8,000 to complete, including materials and labor.

LEARN & EARN PROGRAM: The PM and the trainer will seek trainees from the community to assist in the project. Trainers are the centerpiece of our program as they allow us to strengthen the capacity of each community we help. We are the only Puerto Rico-based nonprofit that is dedicated to training Puerto Ricans to rebuild and strengthen residential roofs with a "learn and earn" program. Trainees who complete the 13-week program successfully will earn a \$1300 stipend (\$100 per week of training) as they learn to build. Once trainees have finished the training program, in addition to their stipend, they are awarded a Certificate of Completion, and for many of them, this is the first "diploma" they have ever received.

POST-BUILD ASSESSMENT: Following the build, the PM and foreman inspect the roof to determine that all is in order (e.g. all hurricane straps are in place, appropriate number of screws in panels and straps, etc.).

For more information, please visit our website at www.protechos.org

PROTECHOS INC. is a 501(c)(3), Puerto Rico 1101.01 and CEFL-approved non-profit organization. P.O. Box 361470, San Juan, PR 00936-1470