



September, 4, 2025

Dear Partners,

I am writing on behalf of the Brotherhood Crusade in support of Higher Wages for Residential Construction Workers. Los Angeles is facing a dual crisis: a severe housing shortage and a shortage of construction workers. The city needs **50,000 additional workers** to meet its housing goals. Yet low wages, immigration raids, misclassification, and wage theft are driving workers out of the industry.

The Brotherhood Crusade is a non-profit institution, founded in 1968 to provide the necessary resources, program services and a voice of advocacy to traditionally underserved and disenfranchised individuals. Our mission is to remove and/or help individuals overcome the barrier that deter their pursuit of success and facilitate opportunities for a better quality of life promoting health and wellness, providing and enhancing educational opportunities cultivating economic growth and building community agencies and institutions. Our commitment and dedication to this has earned us the respect admiration, and trust of our community

Today, the residential construction industry is dominated by large firms that subcontract nearly every aspect of a project—sometimes involving up to forty subcontractors and more than one hundred specialized tasks. This race-to-the-bottom system rewards contractors who cut corners, exploit workers, and sacrifice quality. We cannot afford a “Hurricane Katrina” style approach that imports workers from out of state, only for them to take their income elsewhere. Los Angeles needs a long-term, local workforce that invests in and sustains our communities.

The consequences are clear: the median construction worker in Los Angeles makes just **\$35,400 per year (adjusted for cost of living)**—the second lowest in the country.

That’s why we support the Western States Carpenters and believe the city must prioritize building a stable, local workforce that can afford to **live, work, and thrive in the city they help build.**

This starts by establishing **minimum wage and health benefits** for residential construction workers on qualifying projects.

In Solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charisse Weaver".

Charisse Bremond Weaver
President & CEO
Brotherhood Crusade

Sowing Seeds and Growing a Strong Community