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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 2, 2017

WCCC INMATES GRADUATE FROM WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE GREEN CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM

HONOLULU – Seven women at the Women’s Community Correctional Center (WCCC) received coveted Windward Community College certificates of professional development today as part of the facility maintenance and green construction program. The women held a special graduation ceremony at WCCC and took groups on a tour of the 8’ x 20’ container home they built as their final project.

Previously, students applied their skills on different projects in the facility. This is the first time they worked on building a container home.

“At first you could see the concern on their faces but that concern turned to confidence as the weeks went by,” said Michael Moser, Windward Community College Director of Career and Community Education. “Watching them as they worked with complicated electrical schematics to figure out how to wire a building, hit a switch, and light up a room makes the weeks of work all worth it”.

The Windward Community College Facilities Maintenance and Green Construction Program at WCCC is a comprehensive program that aims to educate participants in professionalism, commitment and responsibility. The program teaches techniques that reduce fossil fuel and energy consumption for more environmentally friendly construction.

The training was comprised of 270 instructional hours over an 18-week period and included hands-on training and understanding of basic construction principles. Students received instruction in carpentry skills; removing and installing electrical devices; removing, installing and repairing plumbing fixtures; installing and repairing drywall; basic masonry repair and painting.

“WCCC administration strives to create positive change in inmates,” said WCCC Warden Eric Tanaka. “This cost-effective training program is a stepping stone for the women who will eventually be released from prison. They now have skills to get a legitimate job, improve their options, and change the course of their lives”.

Pictures from today’s graduation as well as the container home the ladies built are attached. You can find the full photo album, including videos and interviews, on our Facebook page at www.Facebook.com/HawaiiPSD.

Pictured in this email:

- #1 – Outside of the container house the women built.
- #2 – Inside kitchen area of container house.
- #3 – Bathroom of container house.

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