

November 2012



Vintage Electric Inc. (VEI) was founded in May of 2004 with a simple mission in mind: “doing business the old fashioned way.” In an era where everything needs to be done cheaper and faster, our friends at VEI pride themselves on going the extra mile to provide excellent craftsmanship and service at a fair price. The model has proven very effective thus far. The company has swelled to about 30 employees, and although they still like to tackle the smaller residential service calls, they have also reached the capacity to take on some very large projects such as the Campus USA Headquarters Building, the Gainesville Health and Fitness Center in Jonesville, North Florida Retirement Village Cypress Building, and Phase 1 of the Perry Center for Emerging Technologies in Alachua.

Part of “doing business the old fashioned way” means investing in the community to grow the next generation of professionals. Mike McGraw, President of VEI strongly supports the cultivation of young tradespeople. 90% of VEI employees have graduated or are currently enrolled in the Builders Association of North Central Florida (BANCF) Apprenticeship Program. Apprenticeship provides over 8000 hours of training and field experience, further solidifying the foundation of VEI. “It is our responsibility as contractors and tradesmen to train next generation” McGraw said in a recent interview.

Rebuilding Together NCF has also been the beneficiary of some of VEI’s commitment to the community. As an organization that pairs volunteers of varying skill-levels with tradespeople in North Central Florida, the projects that we are able to address are occasionally limited by our need for skilled partners. There are two projects over the last year that we would not have been able to complete if it were not for friends at VEI. Chancey Padgett and other exceptional employees have donated their time, expertise, and materials to ensure the success of these projects and improve the lives of two families in Alachua County.

Vintage Electric’s commitment is not limited RTNCF. They have made financial and skilled donations to many local organizations throughout the region including the PACE Center for Girls, and ABC’s “Extreme Makeover: Home Edition.” This is the spirit of VEI--giving back to the community and making a difference at every opportunity, treating clients like friends and family, taking on large commercial projects while taking time out on an evening or a weekend to address a small service call; business done “the old fashioned way,” while planning for continued success in the future.

On behalf of the staff of Rebuilding Together NCF, we would like to recognize our friends at Vintage Electrical Inc. for their commitment to improving the lives of families throughout North Central Florida.