Save the Date!

Hope Builders' 2016 Light Up A Life gala
September 17, 2016
Join us at The Promenade & Gardens
tsjhopebuilders.org/blog

TAKING A TOUR

Upcoming Tour Dates
May 10 at 1 P.M.
June 14 at 8:30 A.M.
July 12 at 1 P.M.
For more information about how to get involved, visit tsjhopebuilders.org/light-up-a-life

NAME COMPANY Hourly Wage
Alexis G. St. Joseph Heritage Healthcare $13.35
Alisa T. MemorialCare Medical Group $13.25
Amanda A. St. Joseph Heritage Healthcare $15.00
Angelica F. H&S Marketing $12.00
Amy L. American Solar Direct $15.00
Abdiy G. Share Our Selves (SOS) $12.00
Angel T. MemorialCare Medical Group $12.00
Barba M. McDo $12.00
Carlos A. H&S Marketing $12.00
Crista J. Hope Builders Construction Company $12.00
Christian M. St. Joseph Health — Revenue Cycle Services $13.35
Christa N.打击 for Children $12.00
Claudia G. H&S Marketing $12.00
Claudie P. H&S Marketing $12.00
Cristin M. Share Our Selves (SOS) $12.00
Deisy M. UCI Medical Center $12.00
Dinora R. Anaheim Regional Hospital $12.00
Edmond F. Hope Builders Construction Company $12.00
Emeesto A. Sylpho Construction Inc $12.00
Esparanza P. H&S Marketing $12.00
Gabriela D. Friends of Family Health Center $12.00
Gonzalez C. H&S Marketing $12.00
Jacqueline B. Hope Builders Construction Company $12.00
Jaime A. Share Our Selves (SOS) $12.00
Jennifer F. MemorialCare Medical Group $12.00
Jennifer L. H&S Marketing $12.00
Jenise B. Hope Builders $12.00
Joaquin D. H&S Marketing $12.00
Julie E. Health Care Partners Clinic $12.00
Justina C. Open Door Centers $12.00
Karen M. St. Joseph Health — Revenue Cycle Services $12.00
Kevis B. Hope Builders Construction Company $12.00
Lauren V. Friends of Family Health Center $12.00
Maria M. Orange County Rescue Mission $12.00

VIVIAN’S TRANSFORMATION:
BUILDING A BETTER LIFE

Growing up in Orange County wasn’t easy for Vivian. Her parents’ struggles with alcohol prevented them from maintaining steady employment or housing for their family. The lure of gangs and drugs was constant in her neighborhood. Always a good student, Vivian immersed herself in her studies to escape her daily struggles.

After high school, Vivian tried to do everything the right way. She got married at 18 and had her first baby by 20. She thought she was building a better life for her family.

In 2013, Vivian’s life turned upside down when her husband became physically abusive. Pregnant with her third child, she knew she had to make a change.

Fearful for her life, and those of her children, Vivian left her apartment and never returned. For the next two years, she struggled to secure stable housing and often stayed with family or friends while working two minimum-wage jobs until she had enough saved to rent her own apartment.

“When two of my friends applied to Hope Builders, they tried to get me to go with them, but I wasn’t ready. Almost two years later, I finally decided to turn in my application.”

In 2015, Vivian enrolled in Hope Builders’ Administrator and Billing Clerk program. She excelled and with the support of her case manager, rebuilt her self-confidence and worked on her punctuality. “It was hard juggling class and three kids. I frequently had to run from my car to class, but I made it!”

Halfway through the 20-week program, Vivian’s parents showed up at her apartment looking for a place to live. “I thought I was strong enough to take care of them too,” Vivian recalls.

The burden of her parents became too much, and with the encouragement of her case manager, Vivian asked her parents to leave. “It was a really hard time for me. I felt my parents had taken advantage of me and were jeopardizing all of my hard work.”

With renewed determination, Vivian did so well during her four-week externship with the HURT Family Health Clinic that they hired her full-time as their new Eligibility Specialist, earning $14 an hour.

Just a few months into her new role, Vivian is working towards her certification to become a Certified California Counselor and is excited to advance her career.

Vivian says, “Hope Builders is the place where my dreams became a reality. Before Hope Builders, I had nothing. But look at me now!”

Additionally, the Southern California Carpenters Union Local 2361 recognizes Hope Builders’ construction training program as a pre-apprenticeship. This means that youth, who decide to pursue careers in carpentry, can now fast-track their admission to the union and enroll in its apprenticeship program offered in conjunction with Santiago Canyon Community College. They will receive additional training certifications in the skills needed for journeyman to advance in their chosen field, as well as necessary retraining enhancements for new and emerging technologies.

Did you know that once youth finish their training, Hope Builders provides an additional two years of support services that helps youth find and keep jobs and advance their education?

In partnership with Phlebotomy Training Specialists of California, Hope Builders offers an accelerated 3-week phlebotomy certification program. On average, youth who successfully complete this additional training advance their salary by $5 per hour.

JOIN US TO INVEST
in ANAHEIM

For more transformations like Vivian’s, visit tsjhopebuilders.org/blog
GREETINGS from SHAWNA SMITH

It is a dynamic time around Hope Builders as we celebrate the opening of a new Anaheim training center. This process of growing has reinforced for me the importance of strong roots as we leap out to serve new areas of enormous need in Orange County. It’s also reinforced my deep gratitude for those who have invested in building our strength over the years enabling us to empower young people to realize their potential.

At Hope Builders, we whole-heartedly believe that opportunity makes a difference in the lives of young people. Opportunity, however, doesn’t fall from the sky—it is made. In the case of Hope Builders, opportunity is made from an incredible partnership between investors like you, our programs, and young people hopeful for a second chance. Around Hope Builders, opportunity筹码up as a new job or college enlistment like those that have resulted from our new educational partnerships. It’s the result of an unlikely coupling, perhaps, and yet a powerfully transformational one. Without your support it isn’t possible. Together, we are Hope Builders.

With gratitude,
Shawna Smith
CEO/Executive Director

AMIGO SPOTLIGHT
Sue and Frank Calabretta

As a teacher at St. Joachim’s Catholic School in Costa Mesa, Sue has been aware of Hope Builders and other local ministries of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange for years. It wasn’t until her brother, Dan Banis, invited her and her husband, Frank, to join him at Hope Builders’ 2005 Light Up A Life gala that they got personally involved. With a chuckle, Frank recalls, “We didn’t know what to expect, but wanted to support Dan and thought a nice dinner gala might be fun!” The Calabrettas were so impressed with the trainees they met and the mission of Hope Builders that they sponsored an Amigo Scholarship that night and have continued to do so every year since.

When asked why they’ve maintained their involvement, Frank references the proverb—Give a man a fish and you feed him for a lifetime. “Not everyone has parents or mentors that can help them cultivate these interests. That’s the role we see Hope Builders playing for our neighbors. Sue and I want them to have this same opportunity.”

Philanthropy has always been important to Sue and Frank. They recall times when they had very little, but always found ways to give back and encourage others to do the same.

“From the letters we receive from the trainees to the updates we receive from staff, every encounter we’ve had with Hope Builders has been inspiring and genuine. We are excited to see the organization grow in Anaheim and know they will maintain their high standards for excellence as first established by the Sisters.”

Hope Builders is grateful for the longtime support of Sue and Frank. Each year, their generosity empowers a new group of young people with the life skills and job training needed to achieve enduring personal and professional success.

PARTNER HIGHLIGHT
Client Processing Services

Gail Haddad, Chief Executive Officer of Client Processing Services, first heard about Hope Builders when a graduate, Dana, applied for a position. As the business owner of a growing company, Gail hired Dana because she seemed motivated and eager to learn.

She was right!

Gail has since hired nine more Hope Builders graduates as Office Administrators and Customer Service Representatives and is proud that they make up nearly half of her team.

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When asked if she had any advice for potential employers, Gail enthusiastically replied, “Yes, try their candidates! They are looking for careers. It’s not just a job to them. It’s a chance to start a new path in life.”

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