

# HOPE for the HOLIDAYS



With your help, Hope Builders connects young people to career opportunities that change their lives. Give Hope and make a donation this holiday season.

Give today at  
[tsjhopebuilders.org/donate](http://tsjhopebuilders.org/donate)



# 49

SINCE SEPTEMBER, YOU HELPED  
YOUTH *find* EMPLOYMENT

**YES,** I would like to give a gift that empowers young people to transform their lives.

- \$50 to support life skills classes for a young person, like Estela.
- \$\_\_\_\_\_ to help as many young people as I can.

GIVE ONLINE TODAY:

[tsjhopebuilders.org/donate](http://tsjhopebuilders.org/donate)

Below are some of the youth who completed training and found employment at an average hourly wage of \$15.23.

Name	Employer	Hourly Wage
Anthony	Sunwest Electric	\$15.00
Cassandra	Associated Gastroenterology Medical Group	\$15.00
Esmeralda	Share Our Selves (SOS)	\$14.00
Evelyn	Los Alamitos Medical Group	\$15.50
Felix	JTC Estates	\$18.00
Gonzalo	Aire Rite	\$15.00
Hector	Pan American Properties	\$16.00
Maria	St. Joseph Hospital	\$15.00
Mayte	StaffRehab	\$15.00
Melanie	North Orange County Regional Health	\$14.00
Nicholas	A.J. Kirkwood & Associates, Inc.	\$16.00
Raul	Mammoth Electric, Inc.	\$15.10
Roxana	MemorialCare Medical Group	\$16.06
Yesenia	St. Joseph Heritage Healthcare	\$16.50
Yesica	Serve the People	\$14.50

To see a list of supporters who have helped these youth find employment, visit  
[tsjhopebuilders.org/amigo](http://tsjhopebuilders.org/amigo)

# BUILDING HOPE

WINTER 2019



[tsjhopebuilders.org](http://tsjhopebuilders.org)



## A message from SHAWNA SMITH

A good job is a transformative tool for change. It has the power to unlock new opportunities, increase skill sets, and expand horizons. A good job with the right support can break the cycle of poverty. This belief is what drives our commitment to preparing young people with the skills they need to get and keep a good job — one that continues to offer the promise of upward mobility long past Hope Builders' involvement.

I recently heard from a graduate, Reyes, who has been in the workforce for a few years. Hope Builders launched him into a career as a journeyman carpenter. Reyes recently helped build Star Wars Galaxy's Edge at Disneyland. He is the sole support for his wife and three kids who are all thriving.

Over the past few years Reyes has leveraged the investment you made in him to reach new heights. Your support and partners like Disneyland make these transformations possible. Thank you for making the power of a good job a reality.

With gratitude,

*Shawna Smith*

Shawna Smith  
Executive Director

## HOPE RESTORED

Estela never dreamed that one day she'd be attending college or studying to become a Help Desk Technician.

"I'm surprised I'm doing well. When I first applied, I didn't have faith that I would make it through," Estela recalls. She's never thrived at school. Growing up, Estela admits she wasn't focused on her education. Her Santa Ana neighborhood was rough and she struggled to find her place.

She dropped out of school for the first time at 17. Over the next several years, Estela struggled to juggle work with school and dropped out two more times. After having her son, she gave school another shot and earned her diploma at 25.

Estela applied to Hope Builders after hearing about the program at church. She assumed it would be general business training and was excited to learn that not only would she receive her CompTIA A+ certification, but could also earn college credits.

A few years ago, Hope Builders started partnering with Santa Ana College (SAC) to dual enroll youth interested in either IT or Business Applications. Through

this unique partnership, Hope Builders' youth attend classes at SAC as well as their weekly life skills training, case management and employment readiness programming at Hope Builders — earning up to 18 credits towards their AA degree and a certification from SAC.

Today, at 27, Estela is the first person in her family going to college. "I want to be a role model for my son."

Estela dreams of working her way up to becoming a forensic computer analyst.

"I know more now, halfway through the program, than I thought I would by the end."

Estela admits, "this is the first time I haven't given up on myself. Hope Builders has given me the support I needed to succeed." Estela is excited to begin her paid Help Desk Technician internship in January.

*"This is the first time  
I haven't given up  
on myself."*

THANKS TO YOUR BELIEF IN ESTELA AND

## A GIFT OF \$50,

SHE PARTICIPATED IN LIFE SKILLS WORKSHOPS TO GAIN CONFIDENCE AND OVERCOME BARRIERS TO ENSURE HER FUTURE EMPLOYMENT RETENTION.





Stay up to date by following us at:  
[facebook.com/tsjhopebuilders](https://facebook.com/tsjhopebuilders)

To volunteer, hire a graduate or make a gift, please contact  
[info@tsjhopebuilders.org](mailto:info@tsjhopebuilders.org)  
or call (714) 543-5105

**Board of Directors**

- Katie Skelton—*Board Chair*  
Shawna Smith—*Executive Director*
- Alex Calabrese
  - Carlos Gonzalez
  - Jon Gothold
  - Tom Honan
  - Kathy Kramer
  - Vince McGuinness, Jr.
  - Sister Eileen McNerney, CSJ
  - Jeff Randolph
  - Kathleen D. Rodin
  - Elva Rubalcava
  - Mike Smith
  - Larry Stofko
  - Jon Storbeck
  - George Urch
  - Chuck Walker

# 100 HOPE BUILDERS'

Launched by Greg Palmer and Adrian Foley in 2018, Hope Builders' 100 (HB100) is a group of Orange County leaders dedicated to developing and scaling innovative solutions to the skills gap. Under the groups' strategic guidance, Hope Builders' launched its fee-for-service model to leverage existing programs while cost-effectively connecting youth to employment. Hope Builders appreciates the vision and guidance of our 2019 HB100 members:

**Behr Paint Company**

Jeff Filley  
Drew Hatcher  
Richard Maus

**Brookfield Residential**

Adrian Foley  
John O'Brien

**DecisionQuest, Inc.**

Philip Anthony, Ph.D.

**Disneyland Resort**

Elva Rubalcava

**eMaxx Partners**

Tim Blett

**First American Homebuilder Services**

Joe S. Tavaréz, Jr.

**Fitness International, LLC**

Andrea Ojeda

**Guaranty Chevrolet**

Bruce Hamlin

**Hakes Sash & Door**

Allen Hakes

**Heffernan & Boortz**

John Heffernan

**J.P. Morgan Chase & Co.**

Vince McGuinness, Jr.

**Lennar**

John Lavender  
Jeff Roos

**Providence**

Jo Ann Escasa-Haigh

**St. Joseph Heritage Healthcare**

Douglas Leal

**St. Joseph Hospital**

Katie Skelton  
Jeremy Zoch

**StaffRehab**

Lindsay Joseph  
Sara Palmer

**Supplemental Health Care**

Greg Palmer

**Tait & Associates, Inc.**

Rich Tait  
Tom Tait

**TRI Pointe Homes**

Tom Grable

**William Lyon Homes**

Jim Perry

To learn more about HB100's impact and its recent bi-annual meeting, visit

[tsjhopebuilders.org/HB100blog](https://tsjhopebuilders.org/HB100blog)

## PAVING THE HIGHWAY *to* HIGH WAGES



In 2020 Hope Builders will expand upon the success of its fee-for-service model by launching paid Help Desk Technician internships for youth in its IT training program. This shift puts youth on a fast track to living wage employment. According to MIT, the living wage for a single person with no children in Orange County is \$15.85 per hour. To date Hope Builders' social enterprise, Jobs Work, has achieved the following since its launch in 2018.



**\$445,000**  
Income generated.  
Net revenue was  
reinvested in training.



**83%**  
Youth accept employment  
with field training site with a  
\$15 median hourly wage



**70**  
Youth matched to local job sites



**19,100+**  
Hours of manpower provided

To join an advisory board of staffing experts or serve as an internship provider visit [tsjhopebuilders.org/hire](https://tsjhopebuilders.org/hire) or contact Laura Stagner at (714) 543-5105 ext. 123

IN 2020, WE'LL BE CELEBRATING **25** OF HOPE  
years

To celebrate, we invite you to visit Hope Builders' blog at [tsjhopebuilders.com/blog](https://tsjhopebuilders.com/blog) for monthly mini-milestones and join us at the Light Up A Life gala on September 19, 2020.

A message from our founder

*Sister Eileen  
McNerney*



When I first became a Catholic nun over 60 years ago, I didn't know that our Jesuit founder had directed the first Sisters of St. Joseph to "pay particular attention to the needs of the dear neighbor." Those first sisters viewed the "dear neighbor" as anyone within their reach who was in need of help. With the high cost of living in Orange County and the median price of a home at \$712,000, it's not hard to look around and see who might need a boost. Paying attention to the "dear neighbor" makes a lot of sense given the fact that no one of us can make it through life without the help of others.

I learned recently that the word HOPE (as in Hope Builders) first appeared in the English language about a thousand years ago — denoting some combination of DESIRE AND CONFIDENCE. Our students come in our doors with a burning DESIRE to better their lives. Highly focused workforce training with the promise of employment gives them the CONFIDENCE that they can do so.

We are most grateful to you — donors, employers and friends — for continuing to give the gift of HOPE.

YOUR GIFT HAS THE POWER  
TO TRANSFORM LIVES.  
**CONSIDER GIVING TODAY.**

[tsjhopebuilders.org/donate](https://tsjhopebuilders.org/donate)