iiHOPE BUILDERS

801 N. Broadway Santa Ana, CA 92701



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for more updates on the day-to-day happenings at Hope Builders.

HOPE PATHWAYS TO **PROSPERITY.** tsjhopebuilders.org

A NOTE FROM **SHAWNA** SMITH, CEO



During this season of hope, peace, joy and love, I want to extend my heartfelt appreciation for your support of Hope Builders. Whether you have partnered this year as a volunteer, donor or employer, you are a part of a community of Hope Builders that is breaking down barriers and building pathways to prosperity.

With the demand for skilled. reliable employees growing, Hope Builders is training more young people than

ever, providing them with the expertise to excel in careers in construction, healthcare and child development. Your support directly fuels this growth, enabling us to enhance our curriculum and increase our capacity.

By investing in Hope Builders, you're addressing a critical need in Orange County and helping shape a future where every young adult is connected to career opportunities.

Together, we are achieving incredible transformation, not just for our trainees, but for the entire community. Thank you for being a Hope Builder.

With gratitude,

Shawra Smith Shawna Smith

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Carlos Gonzalez-Board Chair Shawna Smith-Exec. Director

To volunteer, hire a graduate or learn more, visit our website tsjhopebuilders.org

or contact us at info@tsjhopebuilders.org | 714-543-5105





HOPE BUILDERS NEWSLETTER | WINTER 2024

GIFT A SKILL GIFT HOPE

This holiday season, consider a gift to Hope Builders' Career Registry, which provides the tangible support a young person needs to succeed in training.

The Career Registry functions like a gift registry, enabling you to purchase specific items crucial for our trainees' skill building and future success. Items address the everyday challenges faced by our trainees, and include classroom materials, bus passes, gas cards, and childcare support.

These aren't just supplies; they're vital resources that help break down barriers for low-income individuals pursuing their dreams.



To join in empowering the next generation of skilled professionals, visit tsjhopebuilders.org/donate.

Tim Blett Alex Calabrese Michael Cawlina Tara Cowell **Olivia Lindsay** Vince McGuinness, Jr.

Annette Morgan Maria Elena Perales Jeff Randolph Mike Smith Jon Storbeck Lisa Weaver

Find us on social media



in



SINCE JULY, YOU'VE HELPED 88 YOUNG PEOPLE START CAREERS

To see a list of donors who supported the mentorship, hard skills and life skills training of some of the young people listed here, visit tsjhopebuilders.org/amigo

Graduate	Employer	Hourly Wage
Andrew G.	VCI Builds	\$20.00
Antheny S.	VCI Builds	\$20.00
Daniel F.	The LoftCrafters	\$19.00
lan M.	Associated Gastroenterology Medical Group	\$18.00
Jaqueline B.	ABA Enhancements	\$21.00
Jenilee M.	ABA Enhancements	\$21.00
Jonathan F.	W. L. Butler	\$24.00
Kaitlyn G.	Personal Concierge Physicians	\$22.00
Madison C.	Celebrating Life Community Health Center	\$21.00
Maricela A.	ABA Enhancements	\$20.00
Sabrina B.	Personal Concierge Physicians	\$22.00
Saitiel O.	W. L. Butler	\$24.00
Shelsie R.	Healthpointe	\$17.00
Tiffany H.	ABA Enhancements	\$21.00
William B.	Celebrating Life Community Health Center	\$21.00

MEETING THE GROWING DEMAND FOR CHILDHOOD

DEVELOPMENT PROFESSIONALS IN ORANGE COUNTY



Hope Builders' Child Development Careers (CDC) program prepares young adults for rewarding careers working with children with developmental delays. Re-launched in 2022, the program addresses a growing need in our community for skilled professionals who can provide behavioral health services in clinics and schools, with an estimated 15,000 new job openings in Orange County by 2028.

Through comprehensive, hands-on learning experiences and guidance from industry

experts, trainees enrolled in the CDC program are prepared to excel in various roles, such as behavioral technicians, para-educators, instructional aides or early childhood assistant teachers. In partnership with Santa Ana College, trainees receive college credits in Child Development and certification as Registered Behavioral Technicians.

Trainees also work with Hope Builders' staff and volunteers to develop the soft-skills employers look for when hiring. Members of the community serve as tutors, mock-interviewers and guest speakers, helping to ensure CDC trainees are well-equipped to enter the workforce upon program completion.

Hope Builders Career Connections (HBCC), the agency's social enterprise staffing agency, connects graduates with local school districts and clinics, and provides ongoing support for the first six months of employment. Through these efforts, Hope Builders is meeting the needs of both local employers and young adults pursuing their passion for working with children.

Hope Builders invites anyone interested in volunteering as a mock interviewer or tutor with CDC trainees to contact Krista Langford at klangford@tsjhopebuilders.org.

ASHLEY: A HOPE BUILDERS SUCCESS STORY

APPLICANT STAGE

At 21, Ashley applied to Hope Builders after being laid off from her minimum-wage job. Unequipped with the skills needed to find steady work, she found herself struggling to pay rent and buy groceries. "I was forced to use my savings to support myself. I felt scared and so alone. My life was going nowhere."

A friend posted on social media celebrating her completion of Hope Builders' Clinical Medical Assisting training. Intrigued, Ashley began to research the program. She learned Hope Builders also offers a Child Development Careers program, which aligned with her dream of working with children.

TRAINEE STAGE

Hope Builders presented an opportunity for Ashley to prioritize her career growth. "I was able to continue my education without having to worry about going into debt. This allowed me to focus on studying and bettering my soft skills, such as gaining self-confidence." She enjoyed the technical aspects of training, especially learning about different interventions, developing lesson plans, and taking anecdotal notes to support a child's development.

Ashley excelled in the hands-on training environment as she prepared to build a career in the behavioral health field.

To volunteer, hire a graduate or learn more, visit our website **tsjhopebuilders.org** or contact us at **info@tsjhopebuilders.org** 714-543-5105



ASHLEY | Hope Builders' Graduate, Behavioral Technician



Learn more by visiting our blog tsjhopebuilders.org/blog

CAREER BUILDER STAGE

After completing hard-skills training, Ashley worked with a recruiter at Hope Builders Career Connections (HBCC), the agency's social enterprise staffing agency. In September, she secured employment at ABA Enhancements, a clinic that offers behavioral therapies to children with autism spectrum disorders. "Thanks to Hope Builders, I'm able to use these new skills and education to work in a field that I'm passionate about."

HOPE BUILDER STAGE

HBCC will continue to work with Ashely and her new employer for her first six months on the job, providing resources to ensure her continued success. Ashley sees this final stage of the Hope Builders student journey as the beginning of a more promising future. "I will forever be grateful that because of donors like you, I am now working in a fulfilling career. For the first time, my future looks happy."



Give a gift that moves a young person, like Ashley, from poverty to prosperity.

Scan here to donate