

# Hope Builders: Working Today for a Better Tomorrow

Despite a thriving economy and low unemployment rates, there are far too few qualified candidates that meet the demand of local employers. According to the Society for Human Resources Management, every time a business replaces a salaried employee, it costs 6 to 9 months' salary on average. For an employee making \$40,000 a year, that's \$20,000 to \$30,000 in recruiting and training expenses.

Compounding this, over 42,000 Orange County youth are neither in school or working. Each of these youth imposes an immediate taxpayer and social burden of \$51,350.

Orange County-based Hope Builders seeks to bridge this gap by partnering with employers, educators and philanthropists to upskill the community's future workforce through programming that integrates skills training with intensive life skills and employment readiness preparation.



Annually, Hope Builders serves over 500 young adults (ages 18-28), of whom: 100 percent are low income and unemployed or underemployed; 46 percent are pregnant or parenting; 74 percent are undereducated and 66 percent receive public benefits. Despite an eagerness to work, these youth often don't know how to access avenues to employment and education.

Committed to connecting young people to life-changing career opportunities, Hope Builders' 11-month construction program fast-tracks youth into jobs with long-term career potential and competitive wages at companies like Infinity Plumbing Designs.

At 26, Ed applied to Hope Builders to find a better way to provide for his family. He was working the night shift cleaning the grounds at a local amusement park and also holding down a part-time job in a warehouse to make ends meet.

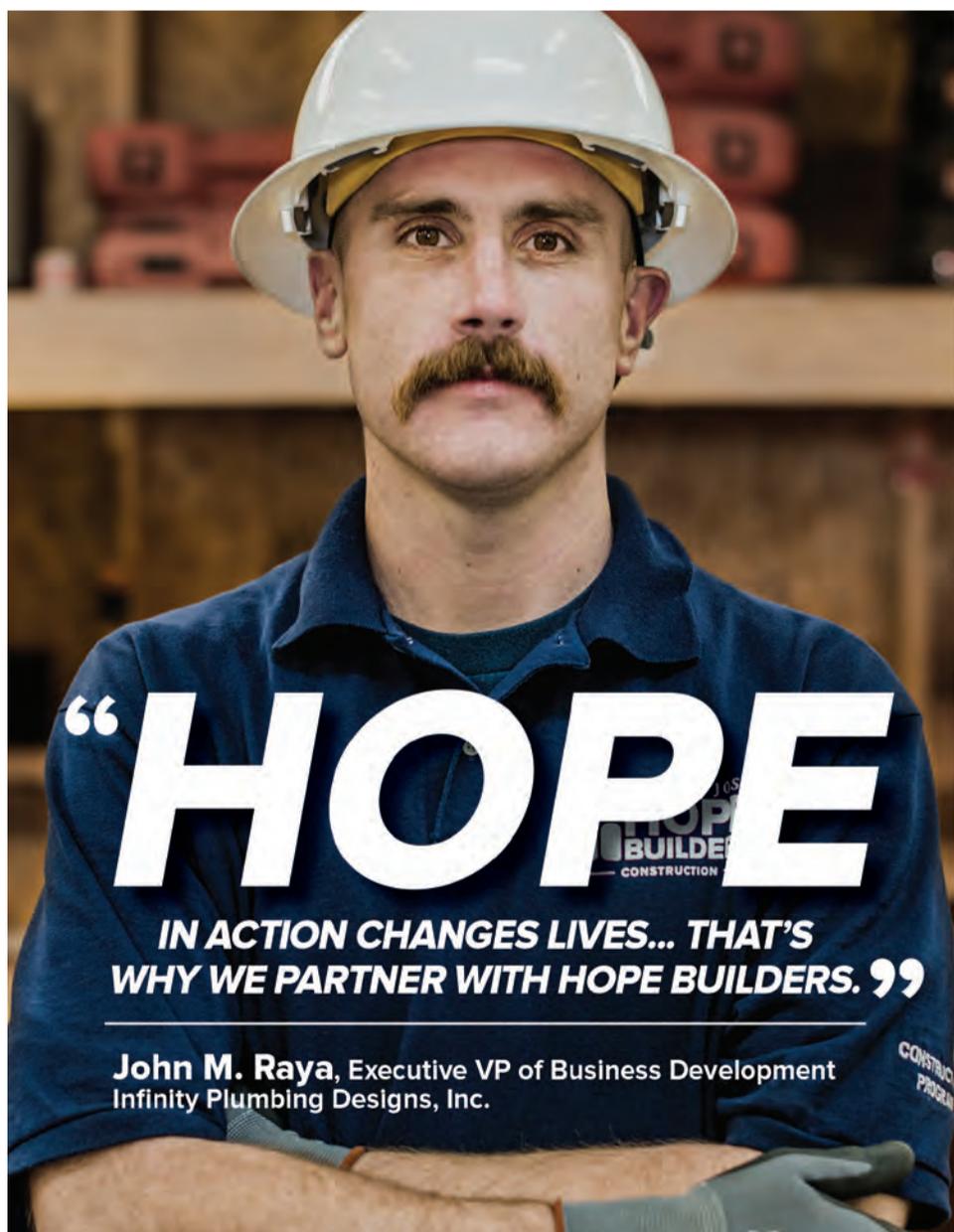
He heard about Hope Builders from his sister, who had successfully completed their healthcare training program a year earlier "I was looking for a career," he said. "I know that plumbing will be useful forever. There are two million homes in California, and all of them have plumbing."

The training schedule was challenging for Ed. He often arrived at the training site after having worked his full night shift. His drive to succeed got him through. He learned how to measure, frame, wire electricity and lay pipes. Most importantly, Ed says he learned not to be afraid—anything he messed up, he could fix.

Hope Builders placed Ed with Infinity Plumbing Designs where he now earns \$14 per hour. He spends workdays laying pipes, leveling them, installing gas lines, etc. The job is satisfying, and offers significant opportunity for growth. After years of working around the clock, Ed now gets home by 4 p.m. and has time to spend with his family.

Over the next five years, Hope Builders is committed to expanding its proven model and connecting local employers to a prepared and motivated workforce. To ensure a thriving Orange County, by 2022, Hope Builders will recruit, vet and train 1,000 youth like Ed for career opportunities that transform their lives.

For more information, please visit [www.tsjhopebuilders.org](http://www.tsjhopebuilders.org) or contact [info@tsjhopebuilders.org](mailto:info@tsjhopebuilders.org).



“**HOPE**”

IN ACTION CHANGES LIVES... THAT'S WHY WE PARTNER WITH HOPE BUILDERS. ”

**John M. Raya**, Executive VP of Business Development  
Infinity Plumbing Designs, Inc.

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tools needed to achieve enduring success



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Drawing will take place on Saturday, September 15, 2018 at the Light Up A Life gala. Winner will be announced at the time and place of the drawing. Winner need not be present to win. Winner will get to choose between a 2018 Chevrolet Camaro 2SS or Traverse Premier. For complete rules, please visit [tsjhopebuilders.org/raffle](http://tsjhopebuilders.org/raffle).