WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Ruben R.  
2020
• Working part time and earning minimum wage at his neighborhood recreation center in Anaheim
• No definable skills — felt like he missed his opportunity in high school because he was too distracted by friends to focus on school
• Finally, at age 23, a friend referred him to Hope Builders

NOW
• New talent — easily finding the vein to draw blood thanks to the hands-on training he received at Hope Builders
• Employed as a medical assistant since March 2021
• Working at MemorialCare Medical Group earning $58,000 annually plus full benefits

“Taking classes virtually was the hardest part of training. My instructor wouldn’t let me give up!”

Maricela C.  
2020
• 23-year-old single mom of two, renting a bedroom in a house shared by multiple people
• Last worked in 2018 at a fast-food restaurant, earning $11 per hour
• A former foster youth, didn’t have a lot of support to figure out how to launch a career
• Inspired to call Hope Builders about new training program by autistic nephew and passion for working with children

NOW
• Behavioral Technician at the Mitchell Child Development Center since February 2021
• Earning $16.50/hour
• Lives on own with her two kids thanks to her steady income

“I always thought I’d be stuck in a job I didn’t enjoy. Now, I love my job!”

Below are some of the young people who completed training and found employment at an average hourly wage of $19.06.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Employer</th>
<th>Hourly Wage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abigail S.</td>
<td>UCI Medical Center</td>
<td>$21.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexia E.</td>
<td>Obria Health Clinic</td>
<td>$17.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brenda B.</td>
<td>Providence</td>
<td>$19.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Briana T.</td>
<td>Advance Dermatology Care Center</td>
<td>$19.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evelyn D.</td>
<td>Providence Medical Foundation</td>
<td>$18.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guadalupe A.</td>
<td>St. Jude Heritage Medical Group</td>
<td>$19.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hayleigh G.</td>
<td>Pacific Medical Clinic</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laura B.</td>
<td>Providence</td>
<td>$18.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Layloni V.</td>
<td>Footprints Behavioral Interventions</td>
<td>$21.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Micaela M.</td>
<td>Anaheim Union High School District</td>
<td>$21.81</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nadia O.</td>
<td>Newport Center Urgent Care</td>
<td>$17.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roxana R.</td>
<td>Providence</td>
<td>$18.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruben R.</td>
<td>MemorialCare Medical Group</td>
<td>$28.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yvette G.</td>
<td>Providence Medical Foundation</td>
<td>$18.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zaire M.</td>
<td>Southland Integrated Services</td>
<td>$19.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To see a list of donors who supported youth with the training and skills needed to find employment, visit tsjhopebuilders.org/amigo

To learn more about Ruben and Maricela visit: tsjhopebuilders.org/category/blog

Building Hope  
Winter 2021

tsjhopebuilders.org

Shawna Smith

A message from SHAWNA SMITH

Hope Builders is all about unlocking opportunity. I’ve lived long enough to know the best indicator of an opportunity is a challenge.

These days it’s impossible to escape the news about gaps in the workforce and the need for skilled talent. Layered into this are important issues of diversity and inclusion. These are big challenges.

From my vantage point at Hope Builders these also represent enormous opportunity for the young men and women we serve. Our proven track record of preparing and vetting young people for careers in high-demand industries like healthcare and construction makes Hope Builders a valuable resource to employers. This is the fuel we are harnessing to accomplish our plans for growth and to transform the lives of more young people like Ruben and Maricela. We recognize in this moment an opportunity to put more young adults onto a pathway to prosperity and we intend to make the most of it.

Together with the support of people like you, who join us in the belief that opportunities make a difference, we can transform challenges into opportunity.

Shawna Smith
10 DAYS OF BUILDING A PATHWAY TO PROSPERITY

Hope Builders’ fall fundraiser, 10 Days for Building a Pathway to Prosperity, ran from August 28 through September 6 and centered around the theme of unlocking greatness. Guests enjoyed personal talks and inspiring lessons from celebrity speakers, followed by a Hope Builders’ student or alumni sharing how their life has been transformed. Ten days of inspirational and motivational messages benefited everyone involved while exceeding financial expectations and raising over $750,000.

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Hope Builders Career Connections’ (HBCC) Vision

In our fall newsletter we announced that HBCC—Hope Builders’ social enterprise staffing agency—is on track to generate 25% of the agency’s income by 2023. This means growing revenue from the business from $373,316 to more than $1 million. Many supporters have since reached out to ask “How?”

The answer involves a mix of scaling Hope Builders’ programs and expanding HBCC’s line of business. Here’s what that looks like:

2021–2023

- Increase enrollment 190% to 362 trainees annually
- Expand healthcare training, with addition of Behavioral Technician training and expansion of existing Medical Assistant training
- Double the number of Construction training cohorts offered annually
- Expand HBCC operations
- Offer direct placement in addition to temp-to-hire
- Begin placing graduates of Hope Builders’ Behavioral Health and Medical Assistant programs (in addition to Construction graduates).
- This will result in a 115% increase in the number of people placed through HBCC this year and a 70% increase in placements the following year.

CAREER REGISTRY

Hope Builders not only helps young people like Ruben and Maricela develop skills, but it also mentors them so that they can address obstacles that may impede their success in the workplace. These are things like a lack of childcare or transportation, unreliable access to technology or available professional attire or tools. By giving to Hope Builders’ Career Registry you can help Hope Builders’ trainees address these concerns.

Give today to help launch a career, visit tsjhopebuilders.org/donate

$35 Uniform to Dress for Success
To best model the workplace, Hope Builders requires all trainees—like Ruben and Maricela—to wear uniforms and to show up every day, on time and drug free.

$75 Resume and Interview Skill Development
Ruben is now earning $28/hour because he confidently and effectively communicated his skills and talents to his employer.

“Hope Builders helped me become more confident and come out of my shell. I know I have what it takes to be successful.”

$100 Monthly Childcare Voucher
Maricela credits the additional support she received for childcare expenses with helping her to stay focused during training.

“My kids are my inspiration. I was able to focus on my classes, knowing my kids were being safely cared for by a babysitter.”

$200 Chromebook for Virtual Learning
Both Ruben and Maricela received Chromebooks to help them successfully complete their virtual lectures and assignments.