

Hope Highlights

"To restore hope and see transformation in the lives of gang-affiliated individuals and those involved in the justice system."



In the April 2023 Issue:

James's Story—pp. 1, 3

Director's Corner—p. 2

Prayer Points—p. 2

Community Partners—p. 4

RECOVERY AND HOPE: JAMES'S STORY

This month, we are highlighting James, a Jobs of Hope participant who recently moved into his own housing. Thank you so much to those who responded to our request for donations of household items and furniture to help furnish James's new home!

My name is James. I have two girls that are 7 and 8 years old. Growing up with my mom, dad, and brothers, we were a very strong family. My mom and dad were together for 37 years, and then after my brother passed away in 2008 it just fell off there with both of them, and my mom started heavily drinking. My mom passed away in 2014 from a stroke and cirrhosis of the liver. I have another brother, and he's in prison right now. But I came from a good, healthy background. I always had everything good, but I just decided to hang out with the wrong people.

I've accomplished a lot in life, I've been successful at most of what I've done. But I've had some setbacks. My legal trouble started when I was 21 and I got my first DUI. Drinking is an addiction. It's very hard, it's like a drug. When I got my last DUI, I had gotten a place in Windsor. It was a really nice environment in a gated community. I had a nice car, I had a good job, my kids were coming around. It just took one time that I went out and drank again and I lost it all. Before then, I had been eight months sober by myself. I didn't go through any program. I got everything together, and then I thought, "Hey, I'll just have one drink," and then I started to drink, take shots, and then I got pulled over and I lost it all.

When I first entered the Jobs of Hope program last year, I entered the program because I needed a place to stay. I've always had my own place my whole life. But my landlord said I damaged their apartment, and they put on my record that it was an eviction, so a lot of places wouldn't rent to me. I wanted to get my own place and get situated, but it didn't happen. Since then I've gotten that all taken care of, but that was a setback. It was a good setback, because then I came to Jobs of Hope. I was getting out of work release, and I'd heard about the Jobs of Hope program from people who said that it's a good program. I contacted Andrea, and I heard more about the program, and decided I wanted to stay.

Being sober was one of my biggest goals. As I was adjusting back to society and trying to get on my feet, being around sober people was one of the most important things to me, so I thought the sober living house was a very good part of the program. And I had a good outcome from it. The program helped me to save up money, and got me a stable job. While I was at the House of Hope, I got my own room and got to socialize with people at the house. I got to watch the Super Bowl at the house, and it was really nice to have those kinds of good interactions with sober people, and listen to their stories. I got to hear everybody's background, what people had actually been through. I got to share my story, like being homeless, because for part of my life I was homeless, living on the streets, doing drugs and stealing, just because I didn't care about life at the time. And the guys that were in the house, they're like family now.

Continued on page 3 >>>>>>>>

Director's Corner

Hello to all our Families, Friends, and Supporters,

Recently, President Biden declared April as Second Chance Month 2023. Not only do we appreciate our federal government highlighting the importance of second chances, but we also appreciate all of you for supporting Jobs of Hope and providing the men in our home with second chances. In fact, we should declare every month as Second Chance Month, because we are looking to impact the lives of our men every month.

We have reasons to celebrate in April as well. One of our participants was able to move himself and his family into permanent housing. Many of you donated funds in order to help this participant with kitchen supplies, bedding, and household furniture. We want to send a huge note of thanks to all you that helped this participant to move in and get settled! I know that this gentleman is grateful to all of you as well.

We also have reports from many of our participants that they have found stable employment in the Greeley area. This is great news, and it would not happen with the support of all of you in donating to the work of Jobs of Hope.

This past weekend (April 24th), I was blessed to participate in the Kairos Inside program at the Buena Vista Correctional Complex. This program was a weekend retreat inside the prison for a select group of inmates. I was blown away with the testimonies of these inmates, of how God was healing them of past hurts, helping them deal with insecurity and anger, and how they were dedicating their lives to follow God and proclaim the good news (the Gospel) of Jesus to their fellow inmates. It inspired me to know that God is working on the hearts of people in our communities, no matter the economic or social situations. Let's all keep praying and supporting ministries like Jobs of Hope, so that we can see similar changes in the lives of men and women in our local community.

It is our prayer that the men in Jobs of Hope can someday speak to restored marriages and families, stable employment, sobriety, and stable housing.



We cannot do this important work without the prayers and financial support of all of you. Please keep praying that God would bless this ministry and help us to keep impacting the lives of men in Jobs of Hope.

If you feel inspired to become a monthly partner with Jobs of Hope, please go to our website (www.jobsofhope.org) and click the link to become a financial partner.

We love and appreciate each and every one of you. My door is always open. Come by and say Hi.

Till then,

"May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you. May the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace."

Dan Ordaz, Executive Director

Prayer Points

- We thank you for transforming the lives of participants like James and we pray that you will allow us to continue helping men to find stable housing and employment. We pray that you will guide James as he continues on the path you have planned for him.
- We thank you for the many people in Weld County and beyond who support us in our mission to change lives and transform lives through your power.
- We pray for all the participants and alumni of Jobs of Hope and ask that you will give them success.

*Father, thank you for all; for everything that is working in my life and even for the things that are not working as yet. Just want to say thank you Lord for all and in all, in the name of the Lord Jesus.
(1 Thessalonians 5:18)*

James's Story, Continued



Roundtables, weekend recovery meetings, and other fellowships at the House of Hope and Jobs of Hope office are a key part of men's success in the Jobs of Hope program.

For me, Jobs of Hope is a very comfortable environment, I've never felt uncomfortable coming to Jobs of Hope. When I was talking with Andrea, I was able to spill my heart out. I even broke down in tears, I put my pride aside and let it all be known. Andrea was there to hear me out, and she just made me feel so comfortable. I have a lot of family members, but I don't associate with them because they're negative. Andrea has been a big help, and she's like my family support. And the director at the time I joined the program, Ernesto, was really good with me as well, giving me a chance, giving me hope that there was a place to stay and get on my feet.

There are so many resources that this program offers. What I did through the program is that I kept my job, saved up money, and got the place where I'm living now. And the people that donated money helped me get my furniture and helped me get my bed.

I'm trying to get my brother who's in prison to join the Jobs of Hope program when he gets out on parole. I referred somebody to come here just recently, one of my friends who has been a good friend for a very long time.

He's at the house right now. He was on the streets and gave me a phone call, and I said, "Let's go sit down and have breakfast." I told him what I accomplished in the program. I explained to him that this program helped me and it can help you. I told him it's a comfortable environment, that they helped me with vouchers to the clothing bank, and they can help you with vouchers to get your own place. There's just so many resources.

My outcome from going through the Jobs of Hope program is that I'm much calmer and I'm successful. I've been sober for about 13 months. I've been able to save more money. Jobs of Hope helped me with time management, savings, and counseling resources. I got a place to live. I don't know where I'd be if I didn't have the help from Jobs of Hope. And now I have plans for the future. I'm trying to get custody of my girls. I plan on saving more. Before, I was just living check-to-check. Even though I had a good job, I would still be broke at the end of the two weeks. In five years I'd like to get a house and finish school. I've got an associate's degree but I want a master's. I hope to keep going to the meetings at Jobs of Hope, too. I enjoyed it, and I refer it to anybody. I tell them to give it a chance and see where it takes them. For me it worked, and I'm thankful.

Become a Monthly Partner

We ask you to consider supporting us financially so that we can continue to provide life-transforming services for men like James. If you would like to donate, please visit www.jobsofhope.org, or scan the QR code to the right on your phone.

Scan. Donate. Done.



Powered by
PayBee



paybee.io/@jobs_of_hope@3

Community Partners



Baker Team



Family of Christ
Presbyterian
Church

Hoshiko Farms

Pres Montoya Real
Estate LLC

Lezama Insurance and
Financial Services, Inc.

Thomas and Tyler
LLC

Grace Reformed
Church

Smith Family
Trust

The Garnsey
Trust

Larson Insurance
Agency, Inc.

Wittnam Family
Foundation

Contact Jobs of Hope

Email: Info@jobsofhope.org

Phone: 970 451-5007

Mailing Address:

P.O Box 1017

Greeley, CO 80632

Donate to Jobs of Hope

Scan the QR code or visit:

<https://paybee.io/>

[@jobs_of_hope@3](https://twitter.com/jobs_of_hope)

Scan. Donate. Done.



Powered by
PayBee



paybee.io/@jobs_of_hope@3