

Hope Highlights

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

JOBS OF HOPE

November 2021



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Participant Spotlight: Anthony

I was born in Brighton but spent most of my childhood in Fort Lupton. My biological father wasn't around much, so I grew up with my mom, stepfather, a brother, a sister and two stepbrothers. My stepfather was a migrant farmer, so we moved around a lot. We didn't have a stable home, and when you're going to different schools it's hard to make friends or get a good education.

I was exposed to gangs via my biological father. I was a follower, so it made it very easy for me to get into the gangs because I just wanted to fit in. During my teenage years, I began struggling with anxiety and depression and I just didn't really care about school or anything. All I wanted to do was hang out with my friends. I was about 16 when I picked up my first charge, minor in possession, and like most gang members, I started getting into fights and committing crimes. When I turned 18, my mom pretty much said I was an adult and needed to decide what I wanted to do with my life. She basically abandoned me. That's when I started to have trust issues. I didn't trust anyone, the system or anything. I went to live with my grandmother. I was in and out of jail, but this last time really impacted my life to where it scared me straight. I knew it was time for a change.

My probation officer referred me to Jobs of Hope, and it has gotten me on a better path. When I first came here, I was intimidated, afraid to open up, but once I did, it brought out the best in me. Today, I am working on getting my GED, and it's going well. I'm surprised how much I've been able to accomplish. After I get me GED, I'd like to get into auto body work and learn how to spray paint cars. It's something I always wanted to do.

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Director's Corner

When the leaves start falling and the shelves are stocked with pumpkin items that's when you know Thanksgiving is right around the corner! Unlike other holiday that are more about giving a gift, Thanksgiving is centered on giving thanks for what we have and the special people in our lives. I would say, more importantly this year than any other, it a time to catch up with loved ones, sit around the table and share one of the most delicious meals with those you care about. Who doesn't love endless stuffing and slices of pie? Whether you are near or far from your loved ones this Thanksgiving, there are so many ways to share just how much you care.

Here at Jobs of Hope we have been blessed by the outpouring of support from so many of you. The opening of our new service, "House of Hope" was a vision from the days of Vanna and for it to become a reality during a pandemic is truly a gift from God.

In this edition of "Hope Highlights" we share with you Anthony's journey and how he shares his beautiful God given talents with all of us.

Wishing you hope, joy, peace, good health, favor and love this Thanksgiving season! Your friendship and support are indeed a great blessing to me, the staff and men of our program.

Sincerely in Christ,



Ernest Cienfuegos-Baca
Executive Director



Anthony's story continued:

I want to bring my artistic side into my career. If I could go back in time, I would tell my younger self to be a better person and not a follower. Keep working hard, keep moving forward and you will learn something if you give it your best.

Ever since I was a little kid, I loved art, from just scribbling on paper to writing on the walls. During 2020, I taught myself to paint for the first time. Before that I did portraits, charcoal, and graphite. I use paint as a tool to help me with my anxiety and depression. Putting it on canvas helps me let go, and for the first time in my life I feel like I can do what I want and be who I want to be.

Save The Date! Giving Tuesday

Giving Tuesday is November 30th, and Jobs of Hope would like your support!

Giving Tuesday is a global movement that inspires hundreds of millions of people to give, collaborate and celebrate generosity.

If you would like to donate to Jobs of Hope, go to https://paybee.io/@jobs_of_hope@3 or scan the QR code on the last page of this newsletter. Thank you for your ongoing support!



Prayer Points

- We pray for the participants of JOH that you would make them strong and courageous for the road ahead.
- We pray for the "House of Hope" project and its success.
- We ask that you provide for our needs and help us prosper.

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)



Volunteer Opportunities

Jobs of Hope is looking for passionate volunteers to help in the following areas:

- Clothing closet organizer

If you would like to volunteer, please don't hesitate to reach out!

Visit our website at www.jobsofhope.org, or we can be reached by phone at (970)451-5007

House of Hope Open House Huge Success!!!

Jobs of Hope welcomed 60+ people to the open house for its newest service, "House of Hope". Thank you for coming out and making the event a success! We look forward to seeing the impact it makes on the community. Thank you for your ongoing support!



Welcome New Team Members



Micaiah will be joining Jobs of Hope as the resident lead in our House of Hope program. Micaiah is a past participant, so he understands what it is like to go through hard times. Earlier in his life, Miciaha battled alcohol addiction resulting in multiple DUIs. Since coming to Jobs of Hope, Miciaha has remained sober and looks forward to helping others going through struggles similar to what he faced.

Given his struggle with sobriety, Micaiah brings experience to the position of resident lead. He will be able to empathize with the participants in the house and will help to guide them on their paths to transformation. We know Micaiah's lived experiences will be a valuable asset to Jobs of Hope, and we look forward to seeing what he brings to our ministry.



Billy will be joining us as our house manager for our House of Hope Program. Billy is a long time volunteer for Jobs of Hope and cares deeply about our mission. He struggled with substance abuse but through the help of a sober living program in the Denver area, Billy has remained sober. Billy says that becoming sober was the best thing that has ever happened to him and calls it the first day of the rest of his life. With this experience, Billy brings a wealth of understanding to his role as house manager. We are excited to see what Billy brings to the table!

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- Billy Morones, House of Hope House Manager
- Micaiah Schneider, House of Hope Resident Lead

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