



*To find, train and equip at-risk young men in order that they may become positive influences of our community through a job and caring relationships*

## SPOTLIGHT: ALBERT

I was born and raised in Denver, Colorado. My mother struggled with alcohol and my father was addicted to drugs. At the age of five my brother, sister and I went to live with our grandparents. My older brother was like a father figure to me and I pretty much did whatever he did. By the age of 12, I was already starting to get in trouble with the law and sentenced to juvenile detention and by the age of 13, I was alone as my older brother had ended up in jail or at least that is how I felt. Not knowing what to do and in his absence, I was

looking for a fatherly figure and found the gangs. They made me feel like I was a part of a family, a brotherhood of friends. Throughout my youth I was in and out of foster care homes and continued to get in trouble. The gang life led me to do things I would have never done and between breaking the law and my addiction to meth, heroin, crack and weed, by the age of 24 I was in prison. I estimate that between jail and prison I have been incarcerated for a little over 20 years.

Today is a big day for me. After eight years of being on and off parole I am free. No more ankle monitor, I can live where I want and can be me. What I realized is how tired I was of the old life and I it was definitely time for a change. There are no word to express my gratitude to Jobs of Hope and the staff. I really don't think I could have done it without them. Just having the support of someone to talk to and someone who believes in you, meant the world to me. Jobs of Hope is truly a blessing.

Last week, I had a small reunion with my mom and brother. They are doing better and their love and support meant a lot to me. It felt really good to be with my family. I am not certain what am going to do next, maybe I will work on my high school diploma or get a certificate. Whatever I decide, I know Jobs of Hope will always have my back.

## IN MEMORIAM: ROSADO

It is with great sadness we announce the loss of one of our Jobs of Hope brothers. Rosado graduated Jobs of Hope in early 2019. During the summer of 2019 moved back to California to be with his family. Pictured here with his son Joshua, Rosado worked very hard to re-build his relationship with his family and couldn't wait to return home. Unfortunately we do not have many details surrounding his death; we ask that you keep Rosado and his family in your thoughts and prayers.



**ALBERT AND VOLUNTEER BILLY**



**Rosado and his son, Joshua**

# DIRECTOR'S CORNER

## *Food Pantry*

Communities large and small are feeling the impact of the coronavirus and Greeley is no exception. Weld Food Bank indicates that where hunger wasn't common experience for certain individuals before the pandemic; now many food pantries have seen a significant uptick in the number of people in need.

Many of our clients and neighbors who were employed before the pandemic now find themselves laid off or having reduced hours. Often that means hard working people who never walked into a food bank/pantry are in need of a little extra help to feed themselves and their families.

Jobs of Hope is pleased do our part with our little food pantry. Current and past participants are welcome to come and partake of what we have to offer. Thanks to our collaboration with our faith based partners, Weld Food Bank and Cornerstone Community Church, we have been able to offer meat, eggs, milk, canned vegetables, fruit and much more. Often I find myself going out the front door to our homeless neighbors to provide them with bottled water and any foods that will conveniently fit in their back pack.

Now more than ever, we need to rely on those unique human qualities that are even more contagious than the virus itself: kindness, patience and compassion. During this time we see so many people going out of their way to support those in most need. In some cases they are called heroes and in others our neighbors. We take this moment to send a note of thanks to all.

If you would like to provide financial support for the good works for Jobs of Hope. Please send your generous gifts by using the enclosed envelope or give online at <https://www.continuetogive.com/JOH>. On behalf of the staff and the Board of Directors, we thank you in advance as we couldn't do it without you!

Sincerely in Christ



## Prayer Points

- Continued Financial support for the good works of Jobs of Hope
- Those at JOH and the community impacted by COVID-19
- Wisdom for our Board of Directors concerning the future work of JOH

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