



*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*

## GROWING TOGETHER

Every other Saturday at the Jobs of Hope office is a time of community and growth. Current apprentices, alumni and interested parties come together to study a life value and encourage each other in this hard walk of transformation. At one of the recent meetings (pictured below), seven of the men who attend had recently been released from the Colorado Prison System. We have also been greatly blessed to have Shannon Hawley and Cisco Davila join the Jobs of Hope family. These two men are volunteering their time to help lead the Saturday meeting as well as providing peer support for the men in the program. Both Shannon and Cisco have similar life stories to the men we work with daily. Shannon started the organization Hope4Tomorrow which is dedicated to suicide prevention, where Cisco also helps. Our men need any positive input they can get and we are so excited to have this partnership.



## DIRECTOR'S CORNER

*Happy Valentine's Day*

I hope you are giving your family and friends lots of love. I remember the Beatles singing "All We Need Is Love". Valentine's Day is the reminder for all of us that we need to live a life of LOVE. Sadness runs deep in our community today especially for those who don't know what real love is. Through the life of Jesus, we learn to see that love is more than just words. Love is taking action.

We want to thank you our supporters for taking action by partnering with us. We are so blessed to have the community support we have. We are also thankful to the businesses like Front Range Roofing and Weld County Garage for hiring our men.

We are also thankful to the many churches we talked to who support us prayerfully and financially. Thank you to Cornerstone, Fellowship, La Salle, 1st Congregational, Fusion, Christ Community, Family of Christ Presbyterian, Journey, and Grace Reformed Church for your financial partnership. This year we hope to further build our church partnerships, if you would like to have us visit your church regarding our program please contact us.

*Ros Montoya*

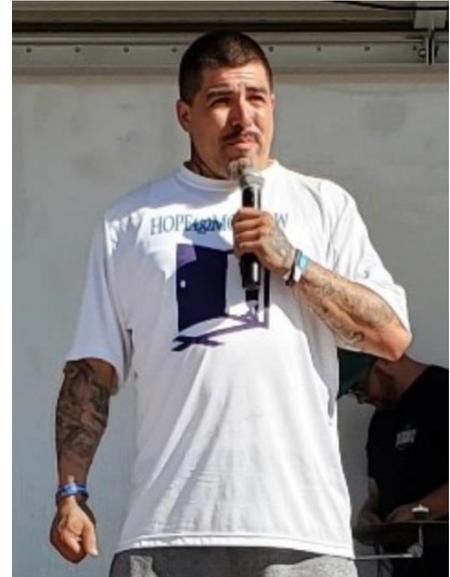
## SPOTLIGHT: SHANNON

Shannon was born in Greeley and spent most of his life here as well. At the age of 10 he was placed in an institution for behavioral problems thus starting a life "in the system with little or no LOVE". As he grew into his teens and 20's, the gang life was the place to hang out and find some semblance of community. Unfortunately this community was one of violence, of being hurt and hurting others. Often times, Shannon's mother would clean up blood while hoping he would leave the gang world.

For so many men in gangs, drugs are an inseparable part of the life. Selling drugs provides income, using drugs provides escape and community. For Shannon, the drug of choice to sell and use was Meth. After being incarcerated several times, Shannon committed to sobriety and managed to stay clean, until one Saturday where he felt drinking would be ok.

This led to a violent confrontation at his home and the police were called asking Shannon to drop what they thought was a gun. Shannon purposely acted like he had a gun finally lunging at the police when they shot him knocking him back 10 feet. As Shannon tells us “through the grace of God they shot me with a non-lethal bullet”. He was charged with assault and kidnapping, he decided to fight the charges and spent many months in the Weld County Jail. During that time, he thought a lot about what he would do when he got out. He settled on giving back to the community and changing his life.

He is now 10 years sober, a hardworking husband, and the father of eight children. He talks about being committed to **LOVING HIS FAMILY AND COMMUNITY**. He gives back through his organization’s dedication to ending the scourge of suicide. We are proud to have Shannon lead our Saturday group and to be available as a friend to our men. We also see men walking through our door with a smile as they some served jail time with Shannon and have hope as they see what Shannon has done with his life



## Prayer Points

- PRAISE: We found our case manager and she will be starting soon
- Wisdom to identify the best ways to correctly empower the guys in this process
- Freedom from addiction

## Jobs of Hope

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