



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

Spring in Colorado is such a wonderful experience, the way the vibrancy of color and life appears, almost overnight, to wash away the dull grays and browns of the winter months. Watching the trees bud, the green hue that begins to cover the city and then suddenly it is no longer a hue but true beautiful rich shades of green everywhere you look. But sometimes that switch is fraught with danger, the sudden unexpected freezes that halt new life in the making, the snows that break branches and bury flowers, these events could break the new world, but the trees, bushes, and flowers all seem to find a way to defy the odds, they are a testament to the power of transformation and the inevitability of new life.

These same concepts are beautifully reflected in the lives of the men we work with. And in the same way that unexpected storms can rock the fledgling changes in our guys, the transforming power of Jesus steps in and walks them through those difficult times. They do not always emerge unscathed, but just like that scar on a tree from that one storm has a story, so to do the scars and wounds of our guys. We rejoice with them, when the storm does not break them, and pray for them when the storm appears to win, but we know that when the transforming power of Jesus takes hold, no storm can ever truly win. Rejoice with us as yet another young man has walked into new life?

GRADUATE SPOTLIGHT: Mark

Mark came to Jobs of Hope after he saw postings on Facebook by other trainees talking about staying clean (off drugs) and credited Jobs of Hope for supporting them in their sobriety.

Mark was raised in California by a very abusive mother, in his teen years he was convicted and sentenced to lock up in the California Juvenile System. As an adult

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

One year later

As I reflect on 2018, I am feeling so blessed to be a part of Jobs of Hope. I have served on many policy boards thinking that my policies would save the “underserved from all wrongs society has dealt them” until my friend Pastor Shane Sunn said “until you can change someone’s heart, I am afraid all those fancy boards you’re on is not going to do the trick”. Jobs of Hope comes into my life where I started as a board member and in 2018, I became the Director.

As I think about our men, I think about Gabe Gonzales, our life coach. Gabe not only experienced 18 years of incarceration he has also been unemployed and homeless with his family. Today he is a role model to our men and their families of the transformative work of Christ, with a very bright future.



Thank you again for your supporting our 15 graduates in 2018. We are very excited to announce in our next newsletter some great things that are happening in 2019.

he left his mother to move in with his father in California only to find out his father was a Meth addict and manufactured the drug to sell. Mark worked here in Greeley and eventually fell into the world of drugs. He also had a child who is now 14 years old being raised by the mother's relatives as she is still a drug addict. Mark's lifestyle landed him in the Colorado Prison System and many days in the Weld County Jail.



Mark has been out of prison for many years now, however, his drug addiction has kept him from keeping long term employment. He is now married with a newborn and working hard in the program. He acknowledges that Jobs of Hope gave him the skills to persevere, which was a barrier for him throughout his years prior. He will be employed within the next week and looking for Christ to give him the strength to endure.

ORGANIZATION UPDATES

We also wanted to share with you a behind the scenes peak at some internal transformation work and changes that have

Jobs of Hope

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been happening recently. We have been making concerted efforts in the last few months to reorganize and strengthen this organization.

We are happy to announce the recent addition of nonprofit consultant Jodi Hartmann to our team. Jodi has worked in the Greeley nonprofit sector for many years, having recently served as Executive Director at the Greeley Transitional House. Jodi will be advising the board and staff in its strategic planning process and administrative practices. We are very pleased to be able to work with Jodi in strengthening the organization and furthering our mission! Welcome Jodi to the Jobs of Hope family!



Scooter Steve a retired painter is joining JOH to teach and pray for our men. Gabe and Steve have served over 40 years in prison, today they are working with our newest trainee Carlos