



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

CHANGE

God has been gracious. Jobs of Hope is pleased to announce the hiring of Ernest Cienfuegos-Baca, to serve and lead as our new Executive Director. Ernest has faithfully served JOH as a board member for the past two years and will transition into his new role on May 18th. We will tell you more about him in next month's newsletter. This month we take this opportunity to highlight and thank our fearless leader, Pres Montoya. He will not be leaving JOH, as he will remain an active member of our Board of Directors.

~ Moses asked God to appoint a leader to follow him, and God told him that Joshua was that man. Then after Moses' death, the Lord says to Joshua, "Just as I have been with Moses, I will be with you; I will not fail you or forsake you" ~

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

What an amazing ride.

As I prepare to hand over the role of Executive Director to another, I started to think through the journey that brought me here. 20 years ago I was a Partner at Sears Real Estate when I sold a house to a new pastor coming to start a church in Greeley, his name: Shane Sunn. Shane shared with me what a relationship with Jesus is about and what being a servant meant. At that time the third Colorado Governor had appointed me to a prestigious higher education board after I had served eight years on the Greeley Evans school board. I have been a community servant since the 70's advocating for equal rights for all and that continued in my adult life sitting on school boards, nonprofits, etc.; always advocating for the underserved while believing that if I could change POLICY our world would be better.

When Shane shared the Gospel "the good news", he point out that unfortunately sitting on all those "important" boards was not going to make the world change, definitely not in the way I had planned in my lifetime. He said changing a person's heart was how change could come to the underserved and the only person that could do that is Jesus Christ. WOW! That encounter changed my life and my focus. Vanna In, Greg Elhert, and Jobs of Hope stepped into my life around 2015 and suddenly I found myself acting as a JOH board member. This meant working with gang, incarcerated, down and out men in Greeley in order to, "Chang[e] a Man's family tree through a job and Jesus Christ"; I was getting to practice the practical work of loving and sharing God's love in order to lead these men to break the generational hold of incarceration.

Over the next two years, I fell in love with the mission and work of JOH, something that would sustain me through the difficult times that started in 2017. That year Vanna and Greg returned to California, by 2018 JOH was in a very tough situation and to try and keep the organization going I stepped in as a 6 month interim Executive Director. Two and half years later we have been blessed with new board members, staff, and now an incredible fulltime Executive Director. I tell my friends, "I was fired by the Board and voted to return to Jobs of Hope Board to continue being that servant." It is an honor to work with the men we have worked with and the support from you all to make it happen. I like numbers to tell stories today we have had 7 men either in program or graduated who have served over 52 years in prison at a cost of \$2 million to Colorado and they are now working. Unfortunately we have 6 men who started and were taken away by the virus we call methamphetamines. We have our doors open to them and continue to encourage sobriety. A fight I will never quit.

Signing off,

LETTER FROM GENO:

I have known Pres for about 6 months now. I met Pres when I moved in to the transition home for parolees. After serving fourteen years in prison and not knowing anybody here in Greeley, Pres welcomed me with open arms. Pres told me about "Jobs of Hope", and how he and the other team members, would like to help guys like me. I've been out of prison for about a year now, but before I met Pres and got involved with Jobs of Hope, I had no idea what I was going to do with myself. Well, I knew that I wanted to open up a business, but I didn't know how. Pres sat down, talked with me and shared his story about his failures and success of owning his own business. The wisdom he has shared with me was invaluable. I know that, after hearing Pres's testimony and accepting his mentorship, I feel more confident in myself and starting my own business. I have never seen someone more passionate about helping those who deserve a second chance at life. Not only is Pres a great mentor, but I consider him a good friend, and I feel blessed to have him in my life. I would like to thank Pres and the "Jobs of Hope" for believing in me. I look forward to being your champion of 2nd chances. Thank you Pres!

Sincerely Geno Duran



Prayer Points

- A smooth and clear transition from Pres to Ernest
- Favor for a large grant that we hope to hear about this month
- Freedom from addiction

Jobs of Hope

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Phil Grizzle, Chair • Ernest Cienfuegos-Baca, Director • Ben Fusco, Director
Jodi Hartmann, Director • Nicolas Moeller, Director • Roger Ramirez, Director

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Pres Montoya, Executive Director • Rejeana Martin, Case Manager
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