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**KIM BAXTER**

Carpentry Program
BuildStrong Academy Sacramento

Kim joined HBI's BuildStrong Academy in Sacramento looking for a career change – and she found her passion in carpentry! While working full-time as a night auditor, Kim dedicated herself to hands-on learning, gaining the skills she needed to thrive in the trades.

With no prior experience beyond helping her dad with projects, Kim embraced every opportunity. Now, she's landed a role with Beazer Homes as a Customer Service Rep – proof that hard work and a willingness to learn can open new doors!

Thinking of switching careers? Kim says, "This program is a great way to gain the skills needed for a stable and promising career!"



**Building Careers.
Changing Lives.**





LA'SONDRYA WILLIAMS
Electrical Program
West Palm Beach Job Corps

**"IN THE END,
IT'S ALL
WORTH IT."**

La'sondrya joined HBI's Electrical Program in West Palm Beach after a referral from her probation officer. With experience as a machine operator and solar electrician, she was eager to sharpen her skills and take the next step in her career. Her favorite part? Hands-on work with electrical components in the classroom!

Before graduation, La'sondrya had already secured a full-time position as an Electrician Helper at Kasper Electrical.





**PAY ATTENTION
TO WHAT YOUR
INSTRUCTOR
IS SAYING
AND ASK
QUESTIONS.**



ZION TURPIN

**Plumbing and HVAC
New Haven Job Corps**

Zion Turpin, a September 2023 graduate from New Haven Job Corps, completed his training in Plumbing and HVAC. Before joining the program, Zion was not working and seeking a career path. He heard about Job Corps through his family and was drawn to the hands-on training that the program offers. Zion's favorite part was engaging with his instructors and learning as much as possible.

After graduation, Zion landed a job with Big City Plumbing and Heating, earning \$25/hr. He previously worked at Stamina Heating and Cooling on Long Island, where he gained real-world experience while completing his training.



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FELTON SMITH

Electrical Program
Phoenix Academy

**"THIS PROGRAM IS
SOMETHING TO BE
EXCITED ABOUT."**

Felton Smith, a recent graduate from HBI's Home Building Academy in Phoenix, has found a fresh start in the electrical trade. After years working in concrete and overcoming challenges, including a recent rehab journey, Felton joined HBI's program with renewed hope. He recalls the relief of acceptance and how overcoming struggles with math boosted his confidence, helping him stay focused and inspired by a new goal.

Felton credits HBI with offering "something to be excited about," and says the support of his classmates kept him going. His favorite part of the experience was the camaraderie and shared stories that reminded him he wasn't alone. Now sober for five months, Felton looks forward to working in the trades full-time and giving back by teaching others.

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**TAKE PRIDE IN
YOURSELF, INVEST
IN YOURSELF, SO
YOU CAN MAKE
SOMETHING OF
YOURSELF.**

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MARK CHAPPELL

Masonry Program
Sheridan Career Center

Meet Mark Chappell, a graduate of HBI's Masonry Program at the Sheridan Career Center in Illinois. Mark, with over 20 years of construction experience, joined HBI during his time at Sheridan Correctional Facility. Drawn by the program's stellar reputation for empowering individuals to rebuild their lives through skilled trades, he embraced the opportunity wholeheartedly.

Mark's favorite part is working on historic building restoration projects and seeing the tangible impact of his work. "It made me feel good about the work we did and learning the trade," he shared.

Mark has secured a union laborer position with Local 338 in Wood River, IL, earning a good salary and building a bright future for himself.



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