First Choice Pre-Apprenticeship Training

Fuller Stories of Program Participants







Anna Fell

Carlos Mateo

Ricardo

- 1. Anna Fell is a Safety Professional at the moment working on various jobs in the Midwest. Anna enrolled in the program in 2009, got hired during the I-94 reconstruction project by Walsh Construction, and Hoffman Construction. She completed her apprenticeship becoming a journeyman in the industry. Due to our continued mentoring program with graduates, we have encouraged continued education in the craft industry for further upward mobility. Anna returned to take a 3 month course in Professional Safety Development in 2020 which allowed her to oversee job projects by major contractors. She is currently employed with Siteguard Safety. I would always tell Anna "I need to clone you." She takes it to heart and excels in all aspects of life. She came to us without a high school diploma and the program enroll her for HSED at Milwaukee Technical College in Oak Creek. Anna had minor children when she enrolled in this initiative, and we have seen her children grow up to be engaged citizens in the community. One recently graduated from Carthage College having attended this institution on a full ride. The other just completed Train the Trainer with Kroger. First Choice Pre-Apprenticeship has been instrumental in the human capital of this family. We see them as part of our family.
- 2. Carlos Mateo followed his passion to become a carpenter apprentice. He is currently 2 years in his indenture as an apprentice with CG Schmidt. He is a face the city promotes as a model apprentice. He is on the Horlick District project and Verdant Hotel on Monument Square. We expect great things for him with his employer. Carlos also completed the 3 month Professional Safety Development in 2021. His employer calls him the model apprentice, willing to learn, asks questions and vary productive.
- 3. Ricardo, another model pre-apprentice electrician. He completed the 3 month Professional Safety Development in addition to our 6 weeks pre-apprenticeship program. He was named a valuable employee for many months at Westphal & Co, an electrical construction outfit during the construction of Advocate Aurora Medical Center on Highway 20 and I-94. Ricardo worked for the period of that development from groundbreaking to completion. He is currently with Roman Electric.