

## At-risk youth. The power to change our community is in your hands..



### ICAN!

**Stands for Independence, Competence, and Aptitudes, Now!**

Youth develop skills to enroll in career-training programs that offer hands-on experience and certifications that lead to well-paying professions with long-term growth and viability.



### DONATE

We commonly encounter young people dealing with psychological trauma, depression, stress and despair. Often they have exposure to gangs, drugs, crime and live with financial instability. Some struggle with learning disabilities, developmental disorders and more. Youth find a safe space in our building connecting with experienced professionals. *Your gifts to the ICAN! program will help these teen and young people.*



ELEVATE EDUCATE EMPOWER

### Johnny's Story

A few years ago when Johnny was 15, a police officer pulled him over as he didn't stop at a stop sign. He was driving with a permit only and under the influence with open containers of alcohol in the vehicle. Johnny was in trouble. The alcohol test showed 2 times over the limit.

After appearing in court, he was mandated to complete the STOP SHORT of Addiction program at PY OCBF. Johnny confided with his case manager Daniel that since middle school he was exposed to street gangs and was feeling pressured by the recruitment methods gangs use. He had witnessed crimes and at times it appealed to him to show off how daring and brave he could be. Life at home was also difficult, his parents would argue constantly and there was no privacy in an overcrowded apartment.

Johnny completed STOP SHORT of Addiction and realized he needed to change in order to turn his life around. He wanted to learn how to manage stress through coping mechanisms when the urge of using drugs attacked, and find new ways to invest his time like cooking, video games and hiking.

Daniel pointed out to Johnny that he had strengths in science, language and arts and he could see him pursuing construction technology.

Johnny joined our program, ICAN! in June 2021 and was excited to explore his career options with Daniel. He knew this program would keep him on track with deadlines and offer him a career path after high school.

Sadly, *[read more](#)*

## ICAN!

Embodies the critical value in giving chances to OC at-risk youth to change their lives. ICAN! Is helping to provide skilled laborers to strengthen our workforce. 70% of construction companies nationwide are having trouble finding qualified workers. Construction, along with health care and personal care, will account for one-third of all new jobs through 2022 (Bureau of Labor Statistics). There will also be a need for new plumbers and new electricians. As politicians debate a massive overhaul of the nation's roads, bridges and airports, the U.S. Department of Education reports that there will be 68% more job openings in infrastructure-related fields in the next five years than there are people training to fill them.

**You can transform the lives of hundreds like Johnny with this special opportunity. Help secure the steps for the future of disadvantaged young individuals. We believe in creating equality in opportunities so we can change lives.**

*Join our ELEVATE EDUCATE EMPOWER Campaign and help make a difference with your contribution of any amount!*

Please contact Marisol Parand at [mparand@pyocbf.org](mailto:mparand@pyocbf.org) or call 714.480.1925 ext. 104



# THANK YOU to our Community Partners

Special thanks to our community partners - Reborn Cabinets, Orange Coast College, MC3 Readiness Program, Youth Employment Program Orange County, Therapy Art Center, Volunteers of America in LA County Construction, Construction Counsel of CA, Norco College, and Hope Builders.

## Thanksgiving Food Drive

Ready to Volunteer?

The holiday season is here and we need your help to collect and assemble meal bundles containing all of the traditional Thanksgiving food items for the families we serve. *Please see our **THANKSGIVING NON-PERISHABLE FOOD WISH LIST***, location and deadline.



## UPCOMING EVENTS



**Saturday, November 6 - 5K**  
**Sunday, November 7 - Half Marathon**  
[projectyouthocbf.org/news/2021-oc-marathon/](http://projectyouthocbf.org/news/2021-oc-marathon/)

**Make Your Miles Matter!!**  
Register to walk or run select PY OCBF as your designated charity. For more information [please click here](#)



**TOY DRIVE!**  
December '21  
  
New unwrapped toys and gift cards needed by Friday, December 3rd. More info coming up.

GIVE NOW

Project Youth OCBF  
1605 E. 17th Street, Santa Ana CA 92705|



Project Youth OCBF | 1605 E. 17th Street, Santa Ana, CA 92701

[Unsubscribe ngarcia@ocbarfoundation.org](mailto:ngarcia@ocbarfoundation.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [About Constant Contact](#)

Sent byngarcia@pyocbf.orgin collaboration with

