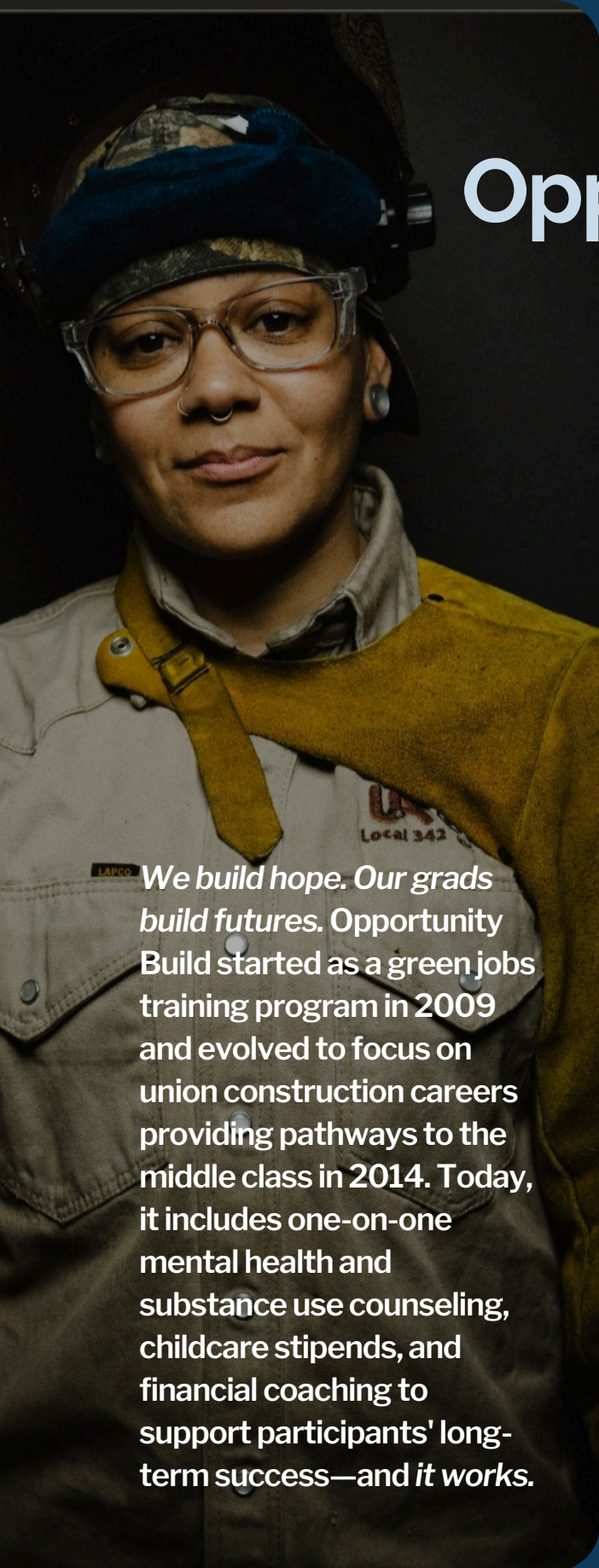




Opportunity Build

Data from the California Employment Development Department shows that average graduate earnings increase after program completion and continue to increase over time, growing 50% in the first year after graduation and doubling in the third year. “I now have an opportunity to reposition my family back into a better financial situation so I can continue building generational wealth,” shared 2024 graduate Michael Reed, who spent 16 months submitting hundreds of job applications prior to finding the program.

In 2016, Rising Sun launched Women Building the Bay, one of the first all-women pre-apprenticeship trainings in the nation, to create an inclusive space where women and non-binary individuals can access high quality jobs in the building trades. This was followed in 2025 by a dedicated high school cohort for young Californians pursuing nontraditional career pathways. **Following up to 325 hours of Multi-Craft Core Curriculum instruction and training, Opportunity Build graduates of all four annual cohorts receive a full year of job placement and retention support from Rising Sun, addressing each person’s individual needs and journey.**

“Opportunity Build is a life changer,” noted 2023 graduate Asia Siv. “It took me 25 years to find something I could engage in, to do something better in my life. Who knows what would have happened if I kept doing what I was doing. Look at me now, I’m going to be a welder. I’ve got a family here—I built something so strong here.”

Opportunity Build takes a holistic approach to breaking barriers to employment and creating meaningful pathways for those most in need of opportunity. **Our graduates are building our region’s climate infrastructure and diversifying the construction sector in union jobs with family-sustaining wages, stability, and benefits. When we can imagine a better future, we can build it.**

We build hope. Our grads build futures. Opportunity Build started as a green jobs training program in 2009 and evolved to focus on union construction careers providing pathways to the middle class in 2014. Today, it includes one-on-one mental health and substance use counseling, childcare stipends, and financial coaching to support participants' long-term success—and it works.



RISING SUN
CENTER FOR OPPORTUNITY

📍 **Oakland**
1116 36th St.
(510) 665-1501

📍 **Stockton**
343 E. Main St. #506
(209) 890-4341

🌐 risingsunopp.org
✉ info@risingsunopp.org