

## LOCAL HIRE SPOTLIGHT: GABRIEL MARTINEZ

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LOCAL 433 IRONWORKER WITH SOUTHWEST STEEL

START DATE: JANUARY 15, 2018

After working as a medical assistant for 13 years, Gabriel Martinez was ready for a career change. Driven by his desire to provide more for his family, he decided to pursue a more specialized trade: welding. He signed up for classes, studied hard to earn his certification, and began an apprenticeship program.

Gabriel put his new skills to use at a job where he built storage containers for schools and eventually landed a job at the LA Stadium through his union. Now in the third period of his apprenticeship, he couldn't be happier with his new career.

On site, Gabriel has a variety of duties: building iron stairs for the bleachers,

constructing pillars, and installing metal trash chutes, just to name a few. To prepare for long days with lots of heavy lifting, he and his team have daily safety meetings and stretch together every morning.

In Gabriel's words: "While the training process has been incredibly challenging, everyday I remember how lucky I am to be here and to say that I genuinely enjoy my job." Despite the hard work, Gabriel is immensely proud to be involved with the historic LA Stadium project and looks forward to the day he can bring his kids to see the finished product—and enjoy a game firsthand with their dad!



## LOCAL HIRE SPOTLIGHT: JANET MADRID

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LOCAL 433 IRONWORKER WITH SOUTHWEST STEEL

START DATE: APRIL 23, 2018

This April, Janet Madrid will celebrate one year since she first began working as an ironworker on the LA Stadium project. A former plumber, she was introduced to the world of ironworking through Reignite Hope, an organization that offers job training courses to ex-offenders and underserved populations. After completing her coursework and earning certification, Janet attended an LA Stadium Job and Information Resource Fair hoping it would lead to an opportunity to kick-start her new career. At the job fair, she connected with the local hire team who was immediately impressed by her hardworking attitude and dedication to the trade. Soon after, she went through a series of interviews and was offered sponsorship by her current union, Local 433.

Janet continues to impress those around

her with her incredible work ethic. When asked to describe a typical day on the job, Janet says she is involved in "a little bit of everything," from working with blueprints to building layout plans and learning how to construct things from scratch. Often, she finds that she must be willing to go to extremes to get the job done. While she admits there's a lot to be learned in her profession, she considers her current job to be an incredible opportunity and a major milestone in her life.

Janet has expressed immense gratitude toward Reignite Hope, Local 433, and LA Stadium for helping to steer her life in the right direction, saying "they helped me build a career after nine years in prison and I was able to create a new, better life for myself." The excitement and hype surrounding the LA Stadium



project motivates Janet to excel at her job and makes her proud to be where she is today.