"I was a bad kid who loved to fight." At the age of 11, Tony began getting in trouble at school. His fighting and disobedience led to suspension and eventual expulsion from Fresno Unified Schools.

When he was 12 years old, he didn't care what happened to him. Without a dad to guide him, Tony continued to fight, get drunk and high, steal, and even sell drugs.

He became a member of the Bulldogs gang because he wanted to feel a part of something. The gang gave him purpose in his life, even though it was misguided. He followed the gang for six more years.

When he was 18, he became a father. The idea of raising a daughter changed his thinking. Remembering what it was like for him to grow up without a father, Tony wanted more for his child. He decided he needed change.

He was introduced to Hope Now For Youth by his brother-in-law, and Tony decided to give it a try. Now 22 years old, he has graduated from our program, cleaned up his life of drug abuse, is controlling his anger, and attends Hope Now Bible Church on a regular basis.

None of the young men we help are perfect. Like Tony, they still struggle. But they are making progress, and change is evident.

Thank you for supporting Hope Now For Youth and young men like Tony. He is one of hundreds we help each year.

Kindest regards,

Roger Feenstra
Executive Director
Thank You To Our Employers

Employers are the key to the success of young men who have graduated. Without a job, the temptation is greater for a young man to return to his old habits. Our Hope Now mottos states: Two-Steps and You’re Up: A caring relationship, plus a job, lifts a gang member from the street to a life of hope and success. Thank you to many of our recent employers. You may want to contact them to thank them for helping restore our community.

Vineyard Pools
Red Carpet Car Wash
JD Food Service
Busseto Foods
City of Fresno

Local Conservation Corps
Fresno Produce
Alorica
Dan D Pak

Cambodia Corner

A report from our staff member Chantha Kong
Phnom Penh, Cambodia

"Ricky Seng has been in Cambodia since 2004, when he was deported from America. Most of the returnees who were sent in the early 2000's didn't have much support. Hope Now Cambodia was not here then.

I met Ricky back in 2012 when visiting an organization that helped drug addicts. That's where Ricky worked along with other returnees. I used to go there to meet with guys and pray for them.

Three years have gone by and I never heard or saw him again until today. Ricky had moved to Siem Reap, which is 6 to 7 hours away from Phnom Penh. Thanks, Pastor Roger, for reconnecting me with him.

Ricky texted me earlier in the morning and said he was in Phnom Penh. Mout, one of our volunteer staff team members, and I met with Ricky and prayed for him. Currently, Ricky is working 7 days a week, from 6:00 am to 5:00 pm, making charcoal in the intense Cambodian heat. He earns $100 a month which goes to supporting his three sons and other expenses. Please pray for a better opportunity for him and that he will grow stronger in his faith."