

# Bringing opportunity back

► 38TH AND SHERIDAN PROJECT  
ISSUE 6 | SEPTEMBER 2021



▲ Workers at the 38th & Sheridan Project job site in early September. The pace of construction is rapidly increasing, and all of the subcontractors are still hiring. For more information about jobs, see the story below and check out pages 6-7.

## A shining example of supplier diversity

**HG Metals** looking to raise the bar and be pioneers within their market.

**F**or nearly 35 years, **Gene Gardner** was a key employee of the Indiana Convention Center in Indianapolis. As an operations manager, he experienced firsthand the struggle to find diverse suppliers. There were few in the industries that support sports and entertainment and very few in the construction space. This was the impetus for founding **Holmes Gardner Management Company (HGMC) Supply, Inc.**

Gene's wife, **Cynthia Gardner**, and their children moved on this mission, and by mid-2005, HGMC Supply, Inc. was born. The founders set about landing the appropriate XBE certifications—which means at least 51% of a business's owners are minority, women, veteran, or individual with a disability—to boost their marketing efforts. Today, Gene is semi-retired, Cynthia continues as chief executive officer, son **Sean** is an anesthesiologist who supports the company through strategy and networking, and Gene's daughter **Ashley (Gardner) Collins**, serves as vice president and chief operating officer (COO) of HG Metals.

The company remains headquartered in Indianapolis. And its fabrication operations are housed on more than two acres in the **Martindale-Brightwood area**, located



▲ Seated, from left: Cynthia Gardner and Ashley (Gardner) Collins. Standing, from left: Sean Gardner and Gene Gardner.

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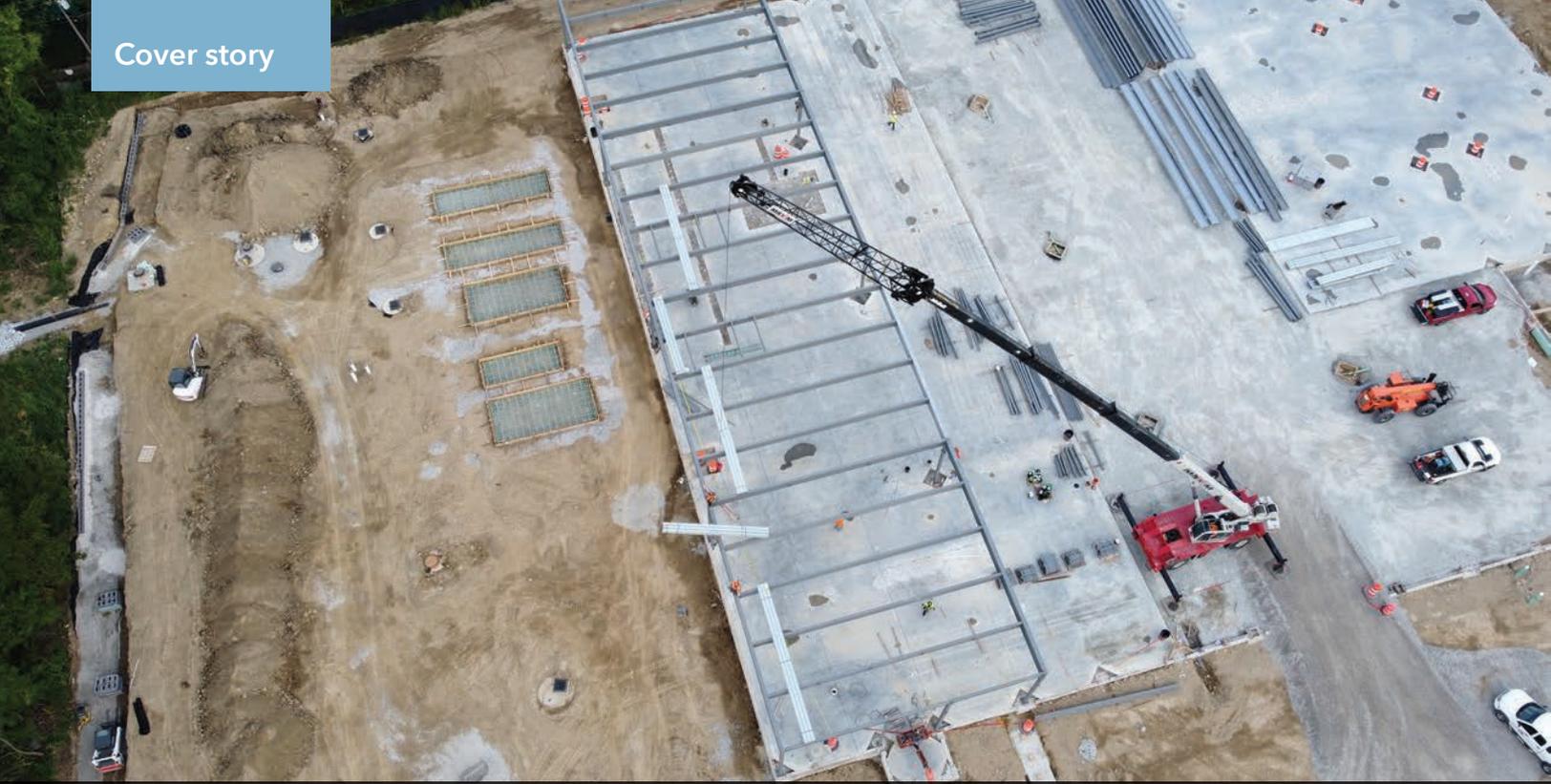
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Just the facts



An aerial view of a crane lowering steel onto the frame of the manufacturing facility at the 38th & Sheridan Project job site in early September.

*Continued from the front cover*

## A shining example of supplier diversity

near northeast downtown. It's an area, like the neighborhood around the **38th & Sheridan Project**, that has seen a loss of employment and investment in recent years.

No job is too small for the growing company. HG Metals prepares (fabricates) the structural steel framework for multi-story buildings. It also fabricates custom and standard "miscellaneous steel" components like mezzanine framework, steel stairs, railings, balconies, and canopies. It furnishes and installs a variety of needed construction products for commercial and industrial customers in the continental United States.

### "In the market with the big guys"

The family-owned company's first big break came in 2008 when they landed a contract for work on the new Indianapolis International Airport construction. HG Metals fabricated and installed one-quarter mile of railing along the concourse of the main terminal; a very small slice of this billion dollar project, but an immense opportunity for a budding business enterprise.

"Ever since then, the rest is history, and here we are today," said Ashley. "I don't know of any other woman-owned, steel business. Both Cynthia and I have business degrees. We are out here in the market with the guys, and kickin' butt!"

There are some unique challenges to being a woman-owned, minority business within the steel industry.



**HG Metals**

**Hiring Fork Lift Drivers, Yardman, Welders, & Drivers**

Contact: Lawrence Casey

[businessoffice@hgmets.com](mailto:businessoffice@hgmets.com)

317.351.9500

"As a diverse supplier, there are the misconceptions that you are awarded or favored with undue opportunity because you are minority and because you are women," Ashley explained. "This couldn't be further from the truth as we find we have to fight twice as hard and prove twice as much that we are competent, capable, and excel in the self-performance of our trade.

"We maintain a high standard of quality and expertise in our organization," she continued. "We strive to consistently raise the bar and pioneer within this market by implementing new technologies, a highly trained and stellar workforce, and being consistently open to new ideas and strategies."

Ashley joined the company in 2013, starting from the ground up. She learned processes from start to finish



Workers at the 38th & Sheridan Project job site work on the steel frame of the manufacturing facility on a picture perfect morning in September.

from administration to what the shop guys do on a daily basis. Today, she handles all of the day-to-day operations, executive leadership, and strategy and growth. Several years ago, the company purchased its current facility, and managing that growth is part of Ashley's role. Additionally, the company has purchased new equipment and better software to stay competitive in the market.

"My job is to maintain the best jobs and skilled labor we can find," she said. "We are always investing in training. It's important for me to make sure our employees are cared for. The better they are, the better we will all be. Long term, we will continue to grow in our capacity in the market."

#### A vital piece of the puzzle . . .

HG Metals is serving as the contractor for the steel structure of the **Goodwill Commercial Services** manufacturing facility on the **38th and Sheridan Project**. When completed, the facility will begin making products for Bloomington-based **Cook Medical**. The steel installation process will take about four to six weeks. HG Metals has dedicated about half of their staff of 22 to this project. Ashley compared her company's role in the project as being like the bones of the project. Their role is to provide and install the structure. What they do in general is compose steel structures like a giant jigsaw puzzle.

"When we get the steel for a project, it's all raw, big, huge pieces sourced through metal distributors that obtain steel from the steel mills," she said. "We cut it and

shape it and form it to get it into place to put the 'jigsaw puzzle' together."

At least five sequences—plus stairs and miscellaneous items—had been planned for this project. As of mid-September they had completed delivery of sequence 5, and were planning to begin the stairs and miscellaneous items within the next few weeks. The planning is extensive as the steel beams are maneuvered into the site safely with the use of cranes.

#### Pioneering steps

Ashley discovered through **Akilah Darden** of the **Darden Group LLC** the community efforts regarding the construction of the 38th and Sheridan facility.

"When I found out they were chasing 100% minority contractors, I just about fell through the floor!" Ashley said. "I was so excited to hear that and wanted to make sure if it was at all possible that we could be a part of this project."

She attended a preconstruction meeting with Cook Medical and reached out to the Darden Group again.

"A project like this is so impactful to so many people. It's like taking pioneering steps, and we are so happy to be a part of that. From a diverse standpoint, things like this just don't usually happen. But to show that diverse companies can come together and be successful on a project—I hope it's the beginning of many projects like this."

*"We strive to consistently raise the bar and pioneer within this market by implementing new technologies, a highly-trained and stellar workforce, and being consistently open to new ideas and strategies."*

– Ashley (Gardner) Collins, vice president of HG Metals



# Scenes from the 38th & Sheridan job site



# Fighting food insecurity

Local programs helping ensure Indianapolis residents have enough to eat

Several organizations in Marion County are running programs to assist people who are facing a food shortage. For more information about a couple of those programs, see the information below and to the right.



## HELP US FEED THE COMMUNITY MOBILE FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEER

We are in need of assistance during our weekly mobile food pantry. You may volunteer one event or the entire season.

Multiple volunteer positions are available. We can never have too much help!

Wednesdays  
11:30 a.m. to  
2:30 p.m.

Get started today by contacting Jami Weirich at 317.549.9622 or [jweirich@indymca.org](mailto:jweirich@indymca.org)



## Indy Parks Meal Service

Presented by Indy Parks & Recreation

- Open to ALL children 18 and under!
- No registration necessary- and completely FREE!
- Second Helpings Grab & Go meals distributed at mobile sites!

### MEAL SERVING SITES

Monday - Friday

<b>BROAD RIPPLE PARK</b> 4:00- 4:30 PM 1550 BROAD RIPPLE AVE.	<b>GARFIELD PARK</b> 4:00- 4:30 PM 2345 PAGODA DR.	<b>WASHINGTON PARK</b> 3:30- 4:00 PM 3130 E. 30TH ST.
<b>CHRISTIAN PARK</b> 4:00- 5:00 PM 4200 E. ENGLISH AVE.	<b>MUNICIPAL GARDENS</b> 3:30- 4:30 PM 1831 LAFAYETTE RD.	<b>WATKINS PARK</b> 5:00- 6:00 PM 2360 MARTIN LUTHER KING ST.
<b>FREDERICK DOUGLASS PARK</b> 3:00- 3:30 PM 1616 E. 25TH ST.	<b>RIVERSIDE PARK</b> 4:30- 5:30 PM 2420 E. RIVERSIDE DR.	<b>WINDSOR VILLAGE PARK</b> 5:00- 5:30 PM 6510 E. 25TH ST.

### MOBILE SERVING SITES

Monday - Thursday

MOBILE UNIT 1

3:30- 4:00 East 38th Street Library- 5420 E. 38th St.  
4:30- 5:00 Brightwood Library- 2434 N. Sherman Dr.

MOBILE UNIT 2

2:30- 3:00 Spades Library- 1801 Nowland Ave.  
3:30- 4:00 West Branch Library- 1216 Kappes St.  
4:30- 5:00 Haughville Library- 2121 W. Michigan Rd.



Times are subject to change. Please call Indy Parks Customer Service Center for more information at (317) 327-PARK, or go online at [parks.indy.gov](http://parks.indy.gov). This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

12/3/20



## Servicio de Comidas de Indy Parks

Presentado por Indy Parks & Recreation

- ¡Abierto a TODOS los niños menores de 18 años!
- No es necesario registrarse, ¡y completamente GRATIS!
- ¡Second Helpings Comidas para llevar distribuidas en sitios móviles!

### SITIOS DE SERVICIO DE COMIDAS

lunes - viernes

<b>BROAD RIPPLE PARK</b> 4:00- 4:30 PM 1550 BROAD RIPPLE AVE.	<b>GARFIELD PARK</b> 4:00- 4:30 PM 2345 PAGODA DR.	<b>WASHINGTON PARK</b> 3:30- 4:00 PM 3130 E. 30TH ST.
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### SITIOS DE SERVICIO MÓVIL

lunes - jueves

UNIDAD MÓVIL 1

3:30- 4:00 East 38th Street Library- 5420 E. 38th St.  
4:30- 5:00 Brightwood Library- 2434 N. Sherman Dr.

UNIDAD MÓVIL 2

2:30- 3:00 Spades Library- 1801 Nowland Ave.  
3:30- 4:00 West Branch Library- 1216 Kappes St.  
4:30- 5:00 Haughville Library- 2121 W. Michigan Rd.



Los horarios están sujetos a cambios. Llame al Centro de Atención al Cliente de Indy Parks para obtener más información al (317) 327-PARK, o ingrese en línea en [parks.indy.gov](http://parks.indy.gov). Esta institución es un proveedor de igualdad de oportunidades.

12/3/20

# Who's hiring?

A closer look at the companies **hiring construction and manufacturing employees** for the **38th and Sheridan Project**.

The general contractor, **Harmon Construction**, and all of the subcontractors are currently hiring diverse talent for construction jobs for the **38th and Sheridan Project**. **Goodwill Commercial Services** is also hiring **manufacturing employees** to work in the facility once it is completed. Residents from 38th and Sheridan area are strongly encouraged to apply!

If you see a job you are interested in, you can reach out directly to that company, visit [www.38thandSheridan.com](http://www.38thandSheridan.com), or you can contact **Akilah Darden** from the **Darden Group LLC** at [jobs@38thandSheridan.com](mailto:jobs@38thandSheridan.com) or 317.385.8954.

## Construction jobs and training available





Harmon Construction is a general contractor based in North Vernon, IN. Harmon Construction was established in 1955. Harmon Construction specializes in healthcare, restaurants, education, gaming, and more.



Harmon Steel is a steel erection company based in Indianapolis, IN. Harmon Steel has been serving Indiana and beyond for over 30 years. Harmon Steel specializes in steel erection.



Taylor Bros. Construction is a general contractor based out of Columbus, IN. Established in 1933, We work in over half of the states in the USA. Taylor Bros. specializes in carpentry, fixture work, retail, and more.

**Harmon Construction - Hiring**  
also hiring for Taylor Brothers and Harmon Steel

Steel erectors, carpenters  
Apprenticeship Program Available  
[Hailee.Harmon@harmongroup.com](mailto:Hailee.Harmon@harmongroup.com)

**Bobbitt Electrical**  
Hiring electricians  
[bernard@bobbitelectrical.com](mailto:bernard@bobbitelectrical.com)  
317.797.6064



**PCI Performance Contracting**  
Hiring Indianapolis Insulators  
Local 18 Apprenticeship Program Available  
[insulators18.org](http://insulators18.org)  
317.786.3216



**City Wide Paving**  
Hiring Laborers, Foreman-Asphalt & Concrete, Drivers  
[cwpaving.com](http://cwpaving.com)  
317.244.2000



**Sheet Metal Workers**  
Hiring  
S.M.A.R.T. Local 20–Apprenticeship Program  
(S.M.A.R.T.=Sheet Metal Air Rail Transportation)  
Metal & Copper Roofs, Metal Siding, Gutters  
2828 E. 45th Street, Indianapolis  
317.549.6013



**Multicraft Fire Protection**  
Hiring Union 669–Sprinkler Fitter Apprenticeship Program Available  
[bfunk@multicraftdec.com](mailto:bfunk@multicraftdec.com)  
812.336.5005



**Fox Contracting**  
Hiring Equipment Operators & Laborers  
[bkochersperger@foxcontractors.com](mailto:bkochersperger@foxcontractors.com)  
317.281.8963



**Apogee Construction**  
Hiring Local 19 Roofers & Waterproofers Apprenticeship Program Available  
[www.indyroofers.com](http://www.indyroofers.com)  
317.484.8990



**Indiana Laborers' Training Institute**  
Hiring Local 120–Laborers' Union Apprenticeship Program  
[IndyRoofers.com](http://IndyRoofers.com)  
317.484.8990

## Construction jobs and training available (continued)



### Sexson Mechanical

Hiring Plumbers, Steamfitters, & HVACR Service Technician

Apprenticeship Program—Local 440 (ualocal440.org)

Contact: Corey Stein  
cstein@sexsonmechanical.com  
317.989.5486



### Ironworkers Local 22

Hiring Ironworks Apprenticeship Program Union Membership & Pension Program  
(Will work onsite with **HG Metals** and **Harmon Steel** fabricating/erecting on the project)

Ironworkers22.com  
5600 Dividend Road, Indianapolis



### Price Construction Group, LLC

Now hiring!

https://priceconstructiongroup.com/  
info@priceconstructiongroup.com  
317.723.3201

## Manufacturing jobs



COMMERCIAL SERVICES

### Goodwill Commercial Services

Hiring 100 jobs in manufacturing  
goodwillindy.org/careers

## Community Development



### United Northeast Community Development Corporation

Localized Support Programming

www.anuimpact.org  
@anuimpactindy  
ashley.gurvitz@anuimpact.org  
317.546.6240

## How are we doing?

One of the goals of the 38th and Sheridan Project is to engage **100% local and minority owned contractors** to build the facilities. In an effort to ensure accountability to that goal, we will provide updates in every issue of this newsletter.

### Project Diversity Facts

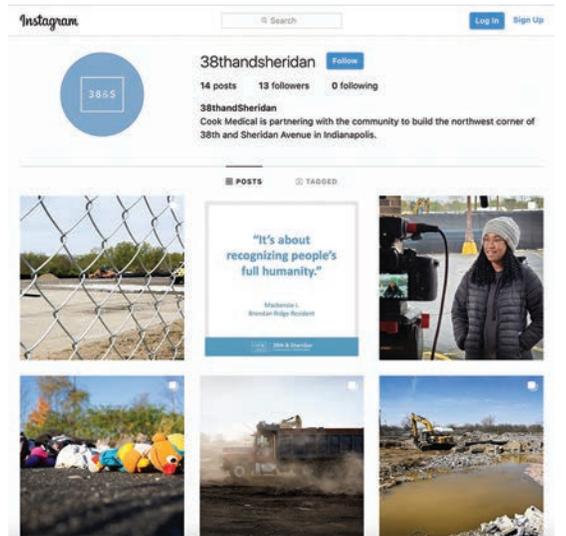
In August:

- ▶ On two days there was **70% diversity** working onsite.
- ▶ **Hiring Hoosiers** segment on **WRTV** provided us with over **91** construction job inquiries from diverse people.
- ▶ **52%** of the total work hours performed on the project were by **diverse professionals**. That is **6,511 hours!**

These statistics were compiled by **Akilah Darden**, president of **The Darden Group LLC**.

## Follow us on Instagram!

Get regular updates and see the progress of the 38th and Sheridan Project at [www.instagram.com/38thandsheridan](https://www.instagram.com/38thandsheridan)



# Learn more about the 38th and Sheridan Project—including job openings

There are a few different ways to do so.

Visit [www.38thandsheridan.com](http://www.38thandsheridan.com) (see graphic to the right)

Or

38TH STREET AND SHERIDAN AVENUE

## Apply for a job Making medical devices



We're proud to announce that Cook Medical, Goodwill of Central & Southern Indiana, The Indianapolis Foundation, IMPACT Central Indiana, and the United Northeast Community Development Corporation have partnered on a unique project to bring opportunity back to an underserved Northeast Indy community. The 38th and Sheridan Avenue project includes a medical device manufacturing facility that will bring over 100 jobs to residents in the neighborhood.

Interested in applying for a job? See below!

- ▶ Contact **Akilah Darden** from the **Darden Group LLC** by email at [jobs@38thandSheridan.com](mailto:jobs@38thandSheridan.com) or by phone at **317.385.8954**
- ▶ Contact **Mr. James Campbell** from the **SHANE NHA** by email at [Campbellmc1140@gmail.com](mailto:Campbellmc1140@gmail.com) or by phone at **317.223.5109**

**All subcontractors are currently hiring diverse talent.**

**Over 75 percent of the positions are still open.**

**Residents from 38th and Sheridan area are strongly encouraged to apply!**

### ▶ Construction jobs

To apply for construction jobs, visit:

[38thandSheridan.com](http://38thandSheridan.com)

Select the "Construction Job Seekers" button at the bottom of the page to see current listings.

Complete the simple online form to see what construction job opportunities are available and get connected to a wide range of local sub-contractors.

Employees have access to comprehensive benefits programs and options for pension with the union contractors.

### ▶ Medical device manufacturing jobs

To apply for jobs in manufacturing, visit:

[38thandSheridan.com](http://38thandSheridan.com)

Select the "Manufacturing Job Seekers" button at the bottom of the page to see current listings.

No degree or credential requirements are needed to apply.

Full-time employees have access to a comprehensive benefits program that includes:

- Health, life, dental, and vision insurance
- Paid time off (PTO)
- Continuing education and leadership development



### Questions?

Email [Jobs@38thandSheridan.com](mailto:Jobs@38thandSheridan.com)

## We want to hear from you!

We want to hear your feedback about this project! Please send your questions, concerns, or thoughts to [community@cookmedical.com](mailto:community@cookmedical.com).