

## **Press Release**

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### **Associated Builders & Contractors, Inc., Heart of America Chapter Student Meets President Trump in Celebration of Pledge to America's Workers**

**Kansas City, Missouri** – Associated Builders & Contractors, Inc. (ABC), Heart of America Chapter is proud to announce that Jeff Hawk, a second-year electrical student enrolled in the ABC Heart of America apprenticeship program, will be one of 60 students meeting with President Trump and Advisor to the President, Ivanka Trump, at the White House to share their experiences. The meeting will celebrate the one year anniversary of President Trump's Pledge to America's Workers.

Pledge to America's Workers was launched on July 19, 2018, with the signing of an Executive Order establishing the President's National Council for the American Worker. The initiative was formed to encourage companies and associations to invest in workforce development and provide educational opportunities and industry training. ABC joined more than a dozen leading industry companies and trade associations to sign the pledge, and committed to skill and upskill 500,000 Americans over the next five years. Combined pledge commitments now total over 10 million enhanced career and training opportunities to be created across the board.

"It's wonderful to have this platform to celebrate individuals like Jeff who are investing in their future and showcase the possibilities that exist within the construction industry to transform your talents and passions into a rewarding career.", said ABC Heart of America President, Michele Roberts-Bauer. "In partnership with committed employers and dedicated students, we are proud to currently offer educational opportunities in eight construction trades here in the Heart of America."

Now an employee of FSG Electric, Hawk will begin level two of his apprenticeship journey in the fall. As Hawk's sponsoring employer, FSG helped support his trip to the White House. "FSG is committed to building and growing, not just a company, but an entire industry focused on providing more opportunities for professional and personal growth for our team members and customers," said FSG Kansas City Division Manager, Steve Frank. "Jeff is representative of what we see in the industry everyday across this country-- men and women who are skilled, dedicated, and driven to make this country better one project at a time."

ABC Heart of America has elevated our digital footprint and expanded our reach to grow apprenticeship and training programs. As a direct result of those efforts, Hawk was one of the first individuals who found our electrical program and decided to enter as a self-sponsored student. Hawk is looking forward to visiting the White House, remarking, "it is an honor to be chosen for this opportunity."

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*Associated Builders & Contractors, Inc. (ABC) is a national trade association representing more than 21,000 merit shop contractors, subcontractors, material suppliers and related firms across the United States. ABC membership represents all specialties within the U.S. construction industry and is comprised primarily of firms that perform work in the industrial and commercial sectors of the industry. The ABC Heart of America Chapter serves Missouri and Kansas. For further information, visit [www.abcksmo.org](http://www.abcksmo.org) or contact (816) 994-5990.*