

S&D WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION

Shapiro & Duncan is strongly committed to growing women personally and professionally in the HVAC and plumbing industries. Whether it's a welder, plumber, or project management role, we provide women with the training and tools they need to succeed in this industry. Below are some of Shapiro & Duncan's most successful female employees. Learn about their path and why they choose construction.



Project Manager, Mary Beth Kingsley

Mary Beth Kingsley has been with S&D and in the construction industry for over 20 years. Unlike many high school students, she was introduced to the industry at a young age. Her first opportunity brought her to work for a commercial landscaping contractor. It was through this experience in which she learned the fundamentals of planning, specification reviews, the submittal process, change orders, material and equipment procurement. In addition, she also learned how to coordinate and communicate with other specialty/ general contractors.

At this time, however, she still never considered a career in construction. In fact, she enrolled in Montgomery College and had every intention in pursuing a nursing career. As she anxiously waited for the acceptance letter, she saw an ad in the local paper for a receptionist position. Shapiro & Duncan made her an offer and she worked part-time while she attended nursing school. Ultimately she changed her mind after learning about the wide range of opportunities in the industry. Another factor in pursuing this industry largely contributed to the support she had from co-workers. That mentorship allowed her to feel comfortable and confident to stay with construction.

Mary Beth quickly climbed up the ladder assuming roles in the estimating department, and then the construction department as Project Coordinator, Assistant Project Manager and now Project Manager. From her first \$50k job to finishing her largest project to date, \$24M StoneSprings Hospital in 2015, Mary Beth has proven to excel in the construction industry.



Irma Santos, Fabrication Support

Irma learned about the industry through a job fair and took a chance. Nine years later she has no regrets and continues to be one of the key members of our Fabrication Team. Irma has learned everything required of her position with the help of her co-workers and training provided by S&D. Working at our Fab Shop, her main tasks include leading a team in the hanger assembly cell, and ensuring production goals are met.

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Over the years she has become familiar and knowledgeable with all of the materials relating to the plumbing trade. She helps pull materials for field requests and stocks material when they return from the job sites.

"Irma is a natural leader. She leads our team ensuring that production is met to the highest standard. She has a wealth of knowledge and is always happy to help out anywhere we need it."

- Gladys Espejo, Supervisor

Ruth Lewis, Field Welder



Ruth started working in construction at an early age side-by-side with her father and step father as a pipefitter. This experience gave her an edge and she was later employed by the Warren County Power Station in Front Royal, VA. She would work at the Plant and during the Plant Shutdowns (maintenance times) as a general Millwright, making sure the machinery was good to run during the shut downs.

She is a well-rounded individual with a variety of skills, having the knowledge of a pipefitter and millwright. She now works as a field welder, but was also once an EMT, and firefighter.

"Ruth is currently practicing her ASME 31.1 Pipe Welding Test and we are confident she will pass this month. She has absolutely been a major asset to the team since she has been on board."

- Chris Lacasse, Supervisor