



LEFT TO RIGHT: Kaitlyn Gabuat, Administrative Assistant; Audrey Crimmins, President; Kayla Luuloa, Driver & Warehouse Associate; Jessica Russell, Operations & Sales

## Rinell Wood Systems, Inc.

### A TEAM OF STRENGTH AND LEGACY

#### **Advancing a Family Enterprise**

Operations manager Jessica Russell highlights the company's milestones.

**What inspired your *ohana* to get into the construction industry?** Rinell Wood Systems was started in 1979 by my grandfather, Dave Rinell. Audrey (my mom) began working for him in 1983, a time when the industry was male-dominated and there were many obstacles for women. Audrey took over leadership in 2015 after her father retired and she has grown the company tremendously, adapting to market changes and overcoming challenges from fires to floods.

**How does your company provide resources or outreach to empower women in construction?** We support many of our local trade organizations because they support us and provide benefits to our small business. The National Association of Women in Construction (NAWIC) has provided our women with mentorship, networking and camaraderie for over 10 years.

**How has the construction industry changed for women since you first started?** Women are not just in the office anymore — the number of women in the field has grown exponentially over the past two decades. The women working in the trades are paving the way for the next generation of girls to enter careers where they are respected and have advancement opportunities equal to their male counterparts.