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## YouthHope's 15th Annual A Walk in Their Shoes



YouthHope Foundation graciously requests the pleasure of your company for an evening of dining, celebration, and resilience to:

**YouthHope's 15th annual "A Walk in Their Shoes"**

**Thursday, February 26, 2026**

**Awareness Hour: 5:30pm**

**Dinner & Program: 6:30pm**

**The Mitten Building**

**345 5th St.**

**Redlands, CA 92373**

**\$95 Individual Reservation**

**\$700 Table Reservation for 8**

**Sign up at [www.youthhope.org/walk-in-their-shoes](http://www.youthhope.org/walk-in-their-shoes)**

## Respect

At YouthHope, we have youth of every background. We have a diverse group of youth. We have youth who go to school, and youth who don't. We have youth who have parents at home, and we have youth with parents in jail. We have youth that have experienced death and trauma, and other youth who still have their innocence.

When you put all of those youth in a building every day, there are bound to be situations that happen. People get offended and hurt because of something that was done or said. Some youth don't understand common courtesy and will say offensive things either on purpose or on accident.

This is one of the reasons we started our Skills Class to teach youth about how to respect other people's cultures, backgrounds, and sensitive information, but sometimes our youth are really good at teaching each other through mutual respect.

John came into YouthHope talking loud with his friends about

things that would bother most people

Another youth, Steve, who heard what John was saying got offended and let YouthHope staff know. Heidi took this opportunity to see if they could learn from one another instead of turning into enemies.

Heidi asked Steve if he would be willing to sit down with John and have a conversation and let John know why it was hateful and very hurtful.

John and Steve sat down and Steve got to explain why he got offended and John listened with

open ears and an open heart to Steve.

At the end of the day, each youth got to tell their side of the story and got to share their lived experiences with each other. It opened their eyes to how different people react to different things. How the way we were raised changes our outlook on life. They left the meeting with handshakes and smiles.

It made us realize that if everyone took the time to understand the people that offend them, sit with them, and have open conversation, the world would be a much brighter place. Take some time to understand people this week.

## Did You Know?

**YouthHope served 1,030 different youth last year!**

## A Note From the Founder

Our Walk in Their Shoes Dinner is this month! We are so excited for this event. This year, our dinner will be a celebration of all that our youth have accomplished. It will feel like a big party while also learning about YouthHope and all that we do.

If you haven't signed up, make sure to do it today! You can find out more info at:

[www.youthhope.org/walk-in-their-shoes](http://www.youthhope.org/walk-in-their-shoes)

You can also email our Fundraiser at [fundraiser@youthhope.org](mailto:fundraiser@youthhope.org) if you have any questions.

In 2025, we served 1,030 different youth. Of those youth, 500 were completely new to YouthHope. These youth are coming to get help and because they want a better future for themselves.

These stats also tell me that youth homelessness isn't going away. We are needed now more than ever!

Our Colton location is also growing at a fast pace. This past week, we saw 90 different youth one day in Colton.

The youth we see in Colton are younger, primarily in middle school. They are craving support and stability.

As you can see we are very busy and working hard on moving youth to self-sufficiency.

I hope you will continue to partner with us as we help the future generation.

