#### January 2019 Volume 16, Issue 1



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TO DONATE, GO TO WWW.YOUTHHOPE.ORG OR SEND DONATIONS **TO P.O. BOX 7803** REDLANDS, CA 92375

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Founder's Note

#### SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR **DONORS WHO HAVE** CONTRIBUTED \$10,000 OR MORE IN 2018

- **Bill and Marty Knipps**
- **Edison International** 
  - EDISON
  - David and Robin Maupin
- **Rita Shaw Broker and** Associates



# The YouthHope Post

## **Christmas Party**

Our youth's eyes lit up when



they walked in and saw all of the things that were for them.

We also had a delicious meal provided by Plymouth Village. This meal had all the holiday fixings and included some delicious pies.

Last but not least, we had our

Christmas shoes to hand out. We ended up with 337 pairs of shoes for our youth! That's the most pairs of shoes that we have bought for and we wouldn't be able to do it without you! So thank you for making sure our youth had a great Christmas! They all felt the love from the community and had smiles on their faces as they realized the support that they have!

A special thank you to The Loma Linda Filipino Seventh Day Adventist church for wrapping all of the shoes! We are so thankful!



We had another successful

we do with our youth.

things for them.

Tilly's clothing donated brand

new clothes for our youth to

take. We also had several gen-

erous people make blankets,

donate jackets, make beautiful

beanies, scarfs, and mittens,

and put together hygiene kits.

We are so excited for our Walk in Their Shoes benefit dinner happening Friday, February 22, 2019, with an awareness hour at 6 pm and

#### A Walk in Their Shoes

dinner at 7 pm.

This is a great opportunity to see why YouthHope exists. You will hear stories from our youth, see alarming statistics of youth homelessness. You will have the opportunity to support YouthHope through a silent auction, opportunity baskets, and through donation cards.

The dinner will take place at

the Mitten Building located at 345 N. 5th Street.

Please RSVP by February 2, 2019.

Questions? Or to RSVP, visit

youthhope.org/awalkintheirshoes

Or email

fundraiser@youthhope.org

# A Yes After I Said No

YouthHope is not a new place to me. I've been coming here for a few years. I come for the meals, a place to hang out, and for the help I get. I've been able to get a job because of the help I've received putting together my resume and getting my Foods Handlers Certificate.

I've had regular medical appointments and dental appointments because of the partnerships with local businesses. I also rely on their clothing donations to keep me clothed throughout the year.

I thought I was in a good place until my best friend who lives in Oregon contacted me. She wanted me to move up there with the promise of a great job and a great place to live.

I immediately told YouthHope goodbye and hopped on a bus taking me straight to Oregon. Everyone at YouthHope told me to stay and was worried, but I needed to do this for my future. After a few weeks up there, I realized that this "job" was not a job at all. It was a trafficking ring that I now was stuck in. I was being pushed from man to man and forced to do work for them. I thought I would be able to escape on my own, but I quickly learned that I needed help.

I was able to find a cellphone that I used to call Heidi. I didn't have anyone else to call and I knew she would help. She immediately called the police and with the location of the cell phone, they were able to track where I was. Within a few hours, the police showed up, rescued me, and put me on a bus back to California that YouthHope had bought me a ticket for.

Seeing that bus pull up to a familiar station and see a familiar face from YouthHope felt like the biggest relief.

I now am back at YouthHope, getting the help I need. I'm so thankful that YouthHope helped me even after I left them. They love without limits and say yes even when we say no.

## Did You Know?

Over 900 different youth walked through our doors in 2018, more than any other year. Some came for a hot meal, some came for help with a job, and all came looking for HOPE!

### **A Note From the Founder**



Happy New Year! 2019 is going to be an exciting year for Youth-Hope! We are celebrating our 10 year anniversary. I cant believe YouthHope has been around for 10 years. We have seen so many youth in the 10 years.

What started out as handing out peanut butter sandwiches from backpacks, has turned into a full service drop in center where we help hundreds of youth.

One thing that stands out when I think back on the past decade, is how much we rely on volunteers.

Without your support we would still be handing out sandwiches We can't even put into words how thankful we are for each and every one of you. You have played a huge part in Youth-Hope. From donating clothes, supporting financially, helping making our drop in center functional, to attending our fundraisers, and volunteering regularly. We exist because of YOU!

We hope you will join us this year as we celebrate this big milestone. We have an exciting year ahead and we need your help more than ever as we continue to help more and more youth in the Inland Empire.

We are looking forward to kicking off our 10 years with our Open House this month. Be on the lookout for an invitation in your email.

Thank you for caring for our youth and for being a part of YouthHope.

We are forever thankful!

Happy 2019!