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## A Walk in Their Shoes 2021



Thank you so much to all of you who watched our virtual Walk in Their Shoes. It means so much to have the support and the feedback. We had a great night with our board members and staff and were able to have great conversations about our youth and how we are helping them.

You can still watch the Walk in Their Shoes on our youtube channel. You can find the link at [www.youthhope.org](http://www.youthhope.org).

## Our Drop-in Center is OPEN!

Our Drop-in Center has been open for a month now and we have loved seeing our youth. Some of the things that we have been able to help with include:

- Bus passes to get to school
- Building resumes in our computer lab
- Setting up therapy appointments
- Finding emergency safe houses for youth in abusive situations
- Sitting and listening to the horrific year some of our youth have experienced.

We know that our youth need a lot of support right now and we are so glad we are able to provide that and help them in any way they need.

## A New Job

I need a job. My parents told me that if I can't help with the rent and utilities, then I can't stay there anymore. I just turned 18 and my parents are already pressuring me to be the breadwinner in the family.

Maybe it's because we've been poor my whole life. Although my parents work hard, they just don't have the skills or education to get a better job.

Most of my days are spent at the skatepark. It makes me feel normal and I have made some really good friends.

YouthHope has been at the park every day for about a year now. I've come to rely on their food and know they have many services to offer.

After having the conversation with my parents about finding a job, I went to the park and went straight to talk to the Case Managers from YouthHope.

They offered to help me write a resume and help with interview questions.

I went to the Drop-in Center the next day and someone was there to sit by me and help me with my resume. Then they helped me apply for jobs and even sent me home with interview clothes.

I felt so prepared for my job interview.

A week later I landed my first job at KFC.

I'm so happy that I am now able to help support my family.

When I got the job and I went to tell everyone at YouthHope they started cheering for me and jumping up and down. I've never felt so proud of myself!

Thank you YouthHope for helping me step by step and for believing in me! I couldn't do it without you!

## Did You Know?

81% of our youth have attended a school in the Redlands School District. The youth in our community that need help were born and raised in Redlands!

## A Note From the Founder



What a great night The Walk in Their Shoes was. Although it was very different than in years past, it was still a powerful night that highlighted a little portion of what our youth experience.

Thank you to everyone who watched, donated, invited people to watch, and continue to support us.

I have high hopes that next year we will be able to meet in person again and I am so looking forward to that night.

We are busier than ever at

YouthHope. We are officially serving youth at 2 locations, our drop-in center, and the local park. During COVID, we found a need for support at our local parks and we know that these relationships are lasting beyond COVID and YouthHope will be a constant source of support for the youth there.

We have started to see a constant return of many of our youth at our Drop-in Center. It's been so hard hearing how much our youth have struggled this past year. They are so happy to be

back and we are glad we are able to check in with them regularly now and provide them with whatever they need!

We are looking forward to a full summer of helping with drop appointments, catching youth up at school, job resumes, interviews, and filling up their pantries and stomachs with food.

Thank you for getting us through a tough year. We wouldn't have been able to stay open without you!