



Inside this Issue:

Christmas Shoes	1
How to Buy	1
Youth Story	2
Did you Know?	2
Founder's Note	2

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR
DONORS WHO HAVE
CONTRIBUTED \$10,000
OR MORE IN 2021

- 226 Collective



- Bill and Marty Knipps
- The Brett Wheeler Safety Net
- First Baptist Church Redlands
- LAMAR Advertising



- Lossett Family Foundation
- Chris & Pam Martin
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- Toyota of Redlands



- Vans Shoes



Shoes for Christmas, Hope for a Lifetime



It's approaching Christmas and we are starting our annual Christmas Shoe Drive.

Our goal every year is to bring hope and a new pair of shoes to each of our youth. For the majority of our youth, this is the only present they will receive all year!

They treasure these shoes and look forward to our Christmas party all year.

These shoes fulfill more than just a clothing need.

The shoes remind our youth that they are loved, supported, and have their

community cheering them on. It gives them the courage to continue fighting the cycle of homelessness and addiction.

Our youth hold onto these shoes all year long. They don't care that the soles are wearing thin and that holes are forming where their toes are, they continue to wear them for necessity, but also as an encouragement.

There is no way we can accomplish this without your help.

Please help and purchase some shoes.

Shoes can be purchased from Active Ride Shop. We are so excited to partner with Active again and we're so thankful for their help.

They are located at 27514 W. Lugonia Ave. Ste. A, Redlands, CA 92374. They are across from Chick-Fil-A in Citrus Plaza.

Their hours are Monday-Saturday 10am-8pm

Sunday 11am-7pm

Each pair costs \$55.

For more information and updates, please visit www.youthhope.org.



How to Purchase Shoes for our Shoe Drive

There are several ways to support our Christmas Shoe Drive:

- You can donate money towards the shoe drive by visiting www.youthhope.org/hope-for-a-lifetime and click the Paypal link. We will go and purchase shoes with the money we receive.
- Pick up a shoe card(s) from YouthHope that has a specific youth on it, take the card to Active Ride Shop and they will have the specific shoes for that youth.
- If you don't have a card, you can still go to Active, tell them you want to participate in the YouthHope Shoe Drive and they will have a pair of shoes for you to purchase.

The First YouthHope Christmas by Heidi Mayer

When I first started YouthHope, I never imagined some of the things I would experience. From overwhelming sadness learning about our youths past, to ecstatic joy seeing a youth who has struggled so long, finally receive their high school diploma. I wasn't expecting such a range of emotions on our first YouthHope Christmas, but I did. Our goal was to provide every youth with ANY shoe that they wanted. It could be any style, any brand, any color. We had 38 youth sign up for shoes that year. The staff and volunteers at YouthHope started searching high and low for these shoes. We went to every store in the Inland Empire to ensure that each youth would have their dream shoe. Somehow we were able to find every shoe. On the day of the party, we had incredible volunteers that came and decorated the entire room. Each table was set beautifully, there was delicious food, and each of those 38 shoes were wrapped, waiting to be opened. As the youth started to come, I felt so much joy seeing the look on their faces. They were

amazed at what the community had done for them. They felt loved and cared for. One youth came walking in, but she didn't have the same look as the others. She looked upset and I asked her if she was ok. She said "I hate Christmas and I only came because you asked me to." My heart broke. The rest of the night was amazing. I got to share my favorite Christmas story, we ate food, we laughed, and they got to open their shoes. The youth loved it. They all sat there and took off the shoes they were wearing and put on their new pair. They were shocked that they fit and that they were exactly what they asked

for. As everyone was leaving, I saw that youth standing in the corner. I went over to her worried that we had messed up her shoes. I asked her if everything was ok and she gave me the biggest smile, hugged me, and said "Thank you! This is the FIRST gift I've ever received in my entire life". I was shocked! She had never received a Christmas gift. Even though the shoes are expensive, we will continue to give shoes because for many of our youth, it's the only gift they receive ALL year. Maybe the only gift EVER! Thank you for helping us give our youth HOPE!

Did You Know?

The chronic absenteeism in schools among homeless youth is 22%. This is a 9% increase from non-homeless youth. Without basic necessities and support, homeless youth struggle to make it to school.

<https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/california.research.bureau/viz/CHYPYouCountDashboard/Dashboard>

A Note From the Founder



I can't believe we are now in the holiday season! This year has flown by. We are getting so excited for our annual Christmas Party. I say this every year, but this is one of my favorite things that we do every year.

We are still experiencing shipping delays with the shoes so once we know that the shoes are at Active, we will send another email to let everyone know.

We will need all the help we can get to ensure all of our shoes are purchased before our Christmas Party.

If you are able to donate now, head to www.youthhope.org and then when the shoes are ready, we can go buy a big batch of them.

It's also National Homeless Youth Awareness Month. At YouthHope we are doing 30 Days of Impact. Our goal is to raise \$20,000 in 30 days.

Make sure you are following our social media accounts so you can follow along and help us reach our goal.

Instagram: @youthhope

Facebook:
@youthhoperedlands

Thank you so much for all the support you show to YouthHope. We wouldn't be able to help the youth we do without your constant support!