



Inside this Issue:

WITS	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 2024

- In Memory of Sue Angell
- Tom & Caroline Bell Family Foundation
- The Brett Wheeler Safety Net
- Doug & Margo Hartzheim
 - Help for Life
- Tom and Karen Kaney
- LAMAR Advertising
- The James & Rebecca Malachowski Charitable Fund at Inland Empire Community Foundation, Where Giving Grows
- Chris & Pam Martin
- In Memory of John Mirau
 - Terry Mock
- National Family Legacy Inc.
- Jim & Valarie Peterson

In memory of Alice Peterson & Marjorie Craft

- Dave & Cindy Raff
- San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
 - Vans Shoes



The YouthHope Post

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

From the Streets to Success

I was born into poverty.

As a young kid, we barely made it each month. I didn't get to live like normal kids, because we didn't have any money. My parents tried their best, but their jobs just didn't pay like others.

Living with parents who worked a lot, meant that I was home alone and would wander the streets most of the day. This meant that I started getting in trouble early on in my life.

By the time I was a teenager, I was a drug addict. This continued into my early adult years. My parents kicked me out because of my drug use and I became homeless. I don't blame anyone for the choices I made.

I started coming to YouthHope when I was homeless. They would help me with food and clothes and new socks when mine would get destroyed living on the streets.

They would encourage me to get off drugs and choose a healthier lifestyle. They helped me finish

high school and they were there when I graduated.

One day I woke up wet from the rain, hungry from being on the streets and decided I was done.

That day I signed up to go UTI to become a welder. I started couch surfing while I was in school. It wasn't easy, but I am now a full time welder.

I have been able to save enough money that I just got my first apartment and I move in next week.

None of this would have happened without the continuous support from YouthHope. They are my family and have been there for me at my lowest and at my highest.

I'm so proud of myself and know that I can do anything that I set my mind to!



FUNDRAISER



Youth Hope

*PLEASE MENTION THE FUNDRAISER AT THE TIME OF PURCHASE!
IN-STORE ORDERS AND MOBILE APP ONLY. EXCLUDES THIRD-PARTY DELIVERY ORDERS.

JANUARY 20th - 29th | 11AM to 9PM

A Note From the Founder

Happy New Year! I hope your holidays were filled with lots of love and joy.

We had two great Christmas parties at our Redlands Drop in Center and our Colton location.

We handed out close to 300 pairs of shoes that were wrapped for our youth. They were overjoyed.

Because of your generosity, we also got to hand out clothes, scarfs, blankets, toys, and socks.

We had people who spent hours making blankets and scarfs for us. We had people go out and buy toys and sports equipment, and other people who had food and hygiene drives and collected items for our youth.

It takes a village and this village made Christmas very special for our youth. I am so thankful for each and every one of you. Thank you!

I am walking into 2026 with so much gratitude. We had so

many youth that we helped in 2025 and I know we will continue that this year. I am very excited to see all the ways we will continue to see youth exit street life and become self-sufficient.

Make sure you sign up for our "Walk in Their Shoes" dinner coming up in February. It is always a very powerful night where we get to hear our youth's stories and also our youth's accomplishments.

It will be a great night!

