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# YouthHope



**HOPE FOR THE FUTURE STARTS WITH TODAY**

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## YouthHope Drop-In Center Fundraising



Picture donated  
courtesy of  
**Matt KJ Photography**  
626-394-3980 or  
[matt@mattkj-  
photography.com](mailto:matt@mattkj-photography.com)

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Slice of Hope**  
BENEFIT GOLF SCRAMBLE

**Slice of Hope  
Benefit Golf Scramble  
Golf Tournament  
October 12, 2013  
At the  
Yucaipa Valley  
Golf Club**

Register on-line at:  
[www.youthhope.org](http://www.youthhope.org)  
Or

Contact Heidi at:  
[Heidi@Youthhope.org](mailto:Heidi@Youthhope.org)  
909 663-4543

For more information

In the past 9 months, Youth-Hope Foundation has served 785 individual homeless\*, runaway, and at-risk youth. Youth-Hope has regularly scheduled gatherings three days per week where youth can come and receive a hot nutritious meal, have access to our clothing closet and a chance to meet with case managers and YouthHope volunteers. Case managers and volunteers are also working with the youth providing addi-

tional services five days per week at various locations. As an example, case managers and volunteers often provide GED tutoring at the local McDonalds or the library, or may be assisting a youth trying to obtain a food handlers card on-line at a coffee shop. With the number of youth we are serving growing at a steady rate, it is imperative that we obtain a Permanent Drop-In Center where we can consolidate all of the ser-

vice offered in one central location. In addition to consolidating services, it is imperative that YouthHope provide a safe, warm haven for the youth. On many occasions this past winter, Youth-Hope case managers and volunteers fed hungry and cold youth in the rain at a local park. Our goal is to provide services to the youth five days per week at a central, warm, and safe location.

\*Homeless youth criteria as defined by McKinney-Vento according to section 725(2) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11434a (2))

### Three Easy Ways To Donate to the Drop-In Center Fund:

**Send a check made payable to YouthHope Foundation**

**P.O. Box 7803, Redlands, Ca. 92375**

**Visit [www.Youthhope.org](http://www.Youthhope.org) and use our PayPal link**

**Visit [www.gofundme.com/3rdgsk](http://www.gofundme.com/3rdgsk) and click on the Donate Button**

Send donations to  
YouthHope Foundation  
at  
P.O. Box 7803  
Redlands CA 92375 or  
donate online via our  
website  
[www.youthhope.org](http://www.youthhope.org)

### 3 Easy Ways To Help YouthHope...

1. Donate \$5.00 Gift Cards from Mc Donalds, Del Taco, Or Bakers
2. Donate items like Granola Bars, Packaged Snacks, or Water Bottles
3. Share this Newsletter with 5 friends and introduce them to YouthHope.



## Brandy Sells Her Blood To Help Pay For School....

Brandy grew up in a very poor family. Her father left when she was just 4 years old. Brandy's mother worked at odd jobs to pay the rent and provide some food, but there was never enough to feed Brandy and her brother. Not long after Brandy's father left, her mother began dating another man. Initially, things were a little better because her mother's boyfriend helped pay some of the rent and buy some food. Brandy and her brother were happy that they had enough to eat again. One day after school, Brandy's mother told her that her boyfriend was gone. He had been arrested and was in jail.

Once again, Brandy's life changed. There was never enough to eat and paying the rent was always a struggle. Brandy grew up with extremely low self-esteem, and didn't make good choices in relationships and often dated young men who used her. It was through one of these boyfriends that Brandy started attending YouthHope gatherings. Brandy

didn't feel comfortable asking YouthHope for help, but eventually YouthHope case managers were able to find out that Brandy and her brother needed food, clothing, and lots of moral support and hugs. YouthHope provided Brandy's family with food and clothing when they needed it most.

Brandy graduated from high school and wasn't sure what her future would hold. She knew she wanted to have a better life, and didn't want to continue to live as she had been. In speaking with YouthHope case managers, Brandy indicated that she had always wanted to be a math teacher, but didn't think that she could go to college. YouthHope case managers were adamant that if Brandy really wanted to pursue a career in education, that she could do it. Brandy's low self-esteem and lack of financial resources posed huge stumbling blocks for her. YouthHope case managers continued to encourage and mentor Brandy, and she finally chose to apply to California State San Bernardino

College and was accepted. Brandy applied for financial aid for school and received some assistance, but it wasn't enough. YouthHope provided Brandy with bus passes to get back and forth from school, with clothes, school supplies, and also helped pay for some of her text books. Unfortunately Brandy still didn't have quite enough funds and wanted to get an education so badly that she began to sell her blood and plasma every week to have enough money to continue to take classes.

On several occasions, Brandy contemplated giving up her dream, but YouthHope mentors were always there to encourage her and help her when possible. Brandy has two more years of studying to complete before she graduates and still sells her plasma once a week to help finance her education.

YouthHope will continue to provide Brandy with moral support, lots of hugs and love, and any other necessities when required.

## Note From the Founder....

This summer has been filled with joy at YouthHope. So many of the youth are moving forward in positive ways. We have a record number of youth that graduated from high school, received their GED, and many that are moving on to junior colleges and trade schools. It is so rewarding to see the youth we serve making such positive choices. Unfortunately, YouthHope is feeding, clothing, and providing services to a rapidly growing number of youth each day. In 2012

YouthHope provided services to 483 different youth. In the past nine months alone, YouthHope has provided services to 785 individual youth. The number of youth we serve keeps growing. Even though we are still in the middle of summer and we are all enjoying the warm weather, YouthHope is concerned about the onset of colder weather and rain. Last year we fed and served our youth in a local park. With the record number of youth we are presently serving, we desper-

ately need a permanent Drop-In Center where we can provide services away from the elements while providing a safe haven for our youth.

We have established a fund toward the purchase of a permanent Drop-In Center. Please visit our web site at [www.YouthHope.org](http://www.YouthHope.org) for more information about our goals and progress or to donate toward our Drop-In Center.