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YouthHope



HOPE FOR THE FUTURE STARTS WITH TODAY

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How You Can Help in 2013:

- Become a monthly donor. Just \$5 a month will feed a hungry youth.
- Volunteer to spend time with the youth. We need these volunteers so that we can better get to know the kids.
- Get together with friends or family and make a meal for YouthHope. You will feed 80 hungry youth with one meal!
- Share the news about YouthHope with your friends. The more people who know, the more people that can help.

“Christmas Shoes” Was a Great Success

The YouthHope “Shoes for Christmas, Hope for a Lifetime” turned out to be a wonderful event for the youth. The community made it possible for YouthHope to give over 200 youth a new pair of shoes for Christmas. We also received donations of new socks, hygiene items, handmade scarves and hats, and delicious food. We always make sure to tell the youth how loved they are by the community and it is apparent through their donations. Each year Heidi begins the Christmas Party with a speech about where the donations come from, and each year the youth are amazed that the community cares for them in such a profound way.

For the majority of the youth who received shoes, this will be the only pair of shoes they will receive until next Christmas.

We know it may seem like a small gesture when so many are in such great need but this gesture literally helps them to get back on their feet. When their shoes have holes in them, and held together by duct tape they do not appear well at interviews. When they have to go to school wearing shoes that the soles are wearing off it is hard for them to be confident in their abilities. When you give a homeless or at-risk youth a new pair of shoes they are able to go to school and job interviews with a new found confidence. They are able to hold their head high and know that someone cares for them and that they can become successful, self-sufficient adults.

The YouthHope Foundation would like to thank each and every one of you who partici-

pated in this event. Even though you did not get to see the kids' faces when they opened their new shoes, you gave generously. Even though you did not receive a thank you from the particular youth who received a pair of shoes from you, gave with a willing heart. But know that when each youth opened their shoes, their faces lit up because they understood that someone cared enough to purchase them a new pair of shoes. They could not say thank you enough and they were genuinely surprised that so many people in the community wanted to give them a special Christmas. A special thank you to all of you who gave food, socks, hygiene items, scarves, and hats. All of these made the Christmas celebration even more special for the youth. Thank you for caring for the homeless and at-risk youth!

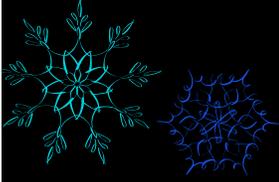
“Choose Hope” A Special Fundraiser

YouthHope is joining forces with Yucaipa First Baptist, Yucaipa Christian Church, and Crystal Peaks Youth Ranch for a special fundraiser. On January 26, Yucaipa Christian Church will host a one day event where participants will have the opportunity to hear from Heidi Mayer and Crystal Peaks' Founders' Troy and Kim Meeder. Ticket prices are \$15 for one adult and \$25 for two adults. There will be a light continental breakfast followed by a special music presentation. All partici-

pants will then have the chance to hear Heidi speak about YouthHope and the youth that we serve. A BBQ style lunch will be served and participants will be able to view all items for silent auction, purchase the Meeder's books, and visit various booths. After the lunch break, male participants will listen to Troy Meeder speak about his experiences at the Crystal Peaks Youth Ranch, and women will listen to Kim Meeder present her experiences. All funds raised through

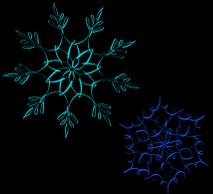
the silent auction will be donated to the YouthHope Foundation to support our various programs. To purchase your tickets your tickets you can visit YouthHope on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 3pm-6pm at the First Presbyterian Church in Redlands. The church is located at 100 Cajon Street, and we can be found in the basement. You may also visit our website, www.youthhope.org, for more information about this event.





Contact Us!
We would love to hear from you. You can call us at (909)663-4543 or email us at info@youthhope.org

You can also find us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter!](#)



Many Accomplishments in 2012

As the new year is upon us, we look forward to the future with immense hope. This is because the year 2012 was filled with numerous accomplishments and growing experiences. Not only did we see the youth growing and changing, but we see ourselves learning and growing because of them.

One particular youth that received services from YouthHope in 2012 is well on his way to becoming a self-sufficient adult. We were able to assist him into an education program that enabled him to obtain a degree in welding. He is now permanently off the streets, and has been drug free for over a year. This young man came out of the depths of despair that was causing him to consider ending his life. He is now working hard in his field and growing into a responsible man.

Another young man that had been in and out of foster care his entire life, has finally found a place he can call home. Over the course of 2012, YouthHope has seen this young man struggle with drug addiction while trying to find a place to belong. After a failed

attempt at a rehabilitation program we were able to get him on the right track. He is in a wonderful home, attending school full time, and working. When asked how he liked his new home he could not contain his excitement when describing how wonderful it was.

A young family that has been receiving services from YouthHope for a number of years, has fought their way off the streets in 2012. The young couple began attending YouthHope when they were just street kids who were not ready to be free from drug addiction and street life. When the young girl found out she was pregnant, the two stuck together to try and create a healthy family. When the clenches of drug addiction took hold, and they lost custody of their child, they were forced to make a change. Both young parents successfully completed drug rehabilitation programs and are now the proud parents of two beautiful children. They are living on their own, and working hard to give their children the very best life possible.

All of these accomplishments have taken countless hours, many tears, and just as many laughs. YouthHope has had to purchase food, clothing, and school supplies for each of these youths. Over the course of the year, YouthHope has been able to purchase an average of 15 youth bus passes each month. This amounts to a total of 180 month long bus passes for youth enrolled in education and job training programs. At each meal time, YouthHope has been able to serve an average of 80 youth. This means that 80 different homeless or at-risk youth are receiving a warm meal three times a week. \$2062 was spent on education costs for youth to purchase books, enroll in classes, and receive new clothing for school. Overall, YouthHope has been able to invest time and money into each youth who came to us for services in 2012. This was because of the generous support through many generous donors and through grants directed at youth programs. We hope you will continue to stay informed with all that YouthHope is doing for the homeless and at-risk youth and that you will continue to make a difference in their young lives in 2013.

Note From the Founder

Happy New Year! I hope that all of you had a wonderful holiday season. It is always the busiest time of year for YouthHope as we gather shoes for the youth. I want to thank all of you who participated in this special event. I am touched at the response from the community as all of you are excited to help purchase new shoes for the youth. All of you give so generously and YouthHope would not be able to give youth a special Christmas without your help. I look forward to what the New Year will bring for YouthHope and the youth we serve. We continue to serve more youth, and we continue to see lives changed. I am sure we

will see YouthHope grow and change in the year, just like the kids are growing.

It is still the main goal of the organization to secure a permanent building to open a YouthHope drop-in center. We get closer each year to realizing this dream and we could even hope to accomplish this feat without the support of those who support YouthHope. I will continue to keep you informed of any updates to our goal of opening a drop-in center in the 2013 year. The reason that this center is necessary is because it will enable YouthHope to serve more youth who are in need of services. The center would be available to the youth five

days a week which would allow for more quality time with each youth. It would also provide the space for more youth to receive help obtaining their GEDs, updating resumes, and job searching. It is my hope that a drop-in center will be added to the list of accomplishments for the 2013 year. If you are not already, please consider becoming a financial supporter of YouthHope. Every bit counts so even if you only have \$5 to give every month, it will be put to good use feeding youth. I thank you all for helping YouthHope to get to this point of being able to look forward to a new year with hope.