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YouthHope



HOPE FOR THE FUTURE STARTS WITH TODAY

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New Stats Show Growth

Everyone at YouthHope has felt that the work load has been steadily increasing over the last year, but it wasn't until we collected statistics that we realized how busy we have been.

From the time period between August 2011 and April 2012, YouthHope has made and attended 109 different medical appointments. That number has risen drastically from 2010 when YouthHope made and attended 37 different medical appointments. These medical appointments include eye exams, dental work, and a visit to a general practitioner. YouthHope will schedule appointments for the youth, and act as a representative for the youth. This ensures that youth understand all pre-

scription instructions and diagnoses.

In the last eight months YouthHope has helped 34 youth into job training and education programs. This is on top of the 53 youth that YouthHope helped into programs last year, and that we continue to support. YouthHope will schedule any entrance interviews, and provide a representative to go with youth to these interviews. YouthHope will also help youth pay any fees, and help youth find grants to pay for the cost of education. Education is key to the success of the homeless and underserved youth. When they obtain an education they are equipped with the skills needed to enter the work-

force. The chances of a youth exiting street life and becoming a self-sufficient adult are greatly increased when youth obtain a career. It is our goal to instill confidence and offer encouragement, so youth will believe in their abilities and go after their dreams.

As the school year draws to end, we know YouthHope will be busy spending quality time with the youth. If we can keep them focused on their goals throughout the summer, they will continue on towards graduation and finding a career. These new numbers show that YouthHope is making a difference in the lives of homeless youth. You are making the difference in their lives when you support YouthHope. Thank you for helping us to grow!



The putting contest in full swing



Starting the tournament



The Winning Team

First Golf Tournament a Success

Thank you to all of you who participated in the first ever YouthHope, Slice of Hope Benefit Golf Scramble on May 19. It was a beautiful sunny day, perfect for a game of golf. All golfers were treated to a breakfast of pastries and fresh Starbucks coffee. The putting contest was held, and Mario Saucedo was the winner. The tournament began with a shotgun start promptly at 8 am. The tournament concluded with a delicious carne asada and chicken lunch. Players got to relax under the patio and had the opportunity to hear Heidi Mayer speak about YouthHope. An opportunity drawing was held which included such prizes as a Callaway golf bag, and four park hopper passes to Disneyland.

During the day, players competed in the longest drive, closest to the pin, and hole in one contests. Although no player was lucky enough to win a new Chevrolet at the hole in one, several players won great prizes from the longest drive and closest to the pin contests. The San Bernardino Public Employees Association (SBPEA) was the overall best team. The overall team score for this team was a 64 with the course being a par 72. Neal Waner took home the prize for closest to the pin, while Jen Williams and Ryan Bonds took home prizes for Longest Drive. YouthHope would also like to say thank you to the Yucaipa Valley Golf Club for working so closely

with YouthHope to make this event a success. Thank you also to all of those who sponsored a tee sign and to our Silver and Gold sponsors. Our Gold sponsor was Dave and Robin Maupin with Maupin Financial Services. Our Silver sponsors were Dr. Duncan Miles, SBPEA, Inland Empire United Way, The Wallace Family, and Huntington Beach Ford. Every one of you made this event a success through your sponsorship. We hope to see you all again next year! Tell your friends what a great time you had, and lets see if we can get them to play in our second golf benefit!

A light in the darkness

Some days at YouthHope our hopes are low. We see so much sorrow, and pain that it becomes difficult to see the light. Somehow though, we are always reminded of the reasons why we work with the homeless and hurting youth. One young man, Joey, called Heidi Mayer a couple of weeks ago. We had first met Joey in 2009 when he rode up to us on his motor scooter. He was never too open with us about his life story, but we knew he was into some trouble. We also knew that Joey was homeless, and sleeping on the rooftops of buildings in Redlands. One day, Joey disappeared. We had heard from the other kids that he had been arrested. Heidi knew this must have been true because she would see his motor scooter tied up to the same building every time she was in Redlands.

When Joey called Heidi the other day, it was a wonderful and welcome surprise. He began to share his story, but what he really wanted

to say was "thank you." He had lied to Heidi in 2009 about using drugs. Joey was addicted to heroin and even when he was put in jail, he continued to use heroin. He used for a year of the time he was in jail before he came to his senses. One day he realized that his life was going nowhere, and he was only making it worse by abusing his body with drugs. Joey weaned himself off the heroin, and he said what got him through were Heidi's words that she had spoken to him a year earlier. He said she had always been so encouraging and she was the only person who believed in him. Her words were what got him through the withdrawals and the darkness.

When he was released from jail Joey made an immediate connection with his family, who had long ago given up hope for their son. His family provided the means for Joey to enter into a wonderful sober living program, where he continues to have success. The main goal he wanted to achieve with his phone call to Heidi

was to have her forgive him. Joey wanted her to forgive him for lying to her about his situation. Her words were the only thing that had gotten through to him, and he had lied to her. It was his goal to make it right with the one person who saw something more in him.

Joey has been clean one year and seven months. He is working hard and he hopes to purchase a vehicle within the next few months. Heidi was a little taken aback when he asked if they could meet for coffee and just visit. It was such a grown up thing to request. Joey had finally grown up, and realized his potential. This young man is the reason why we continue to see the light when it seems so dark. The youth we work with are capable of making great changes, it just might take them a little while to get there.

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!](#)

Note From the Founder

I want to sincerely thank all of you who came to our first Golf Benefit. I had so much fun at this event, and I had the opportunity to meet some wonderful new people. What a fun way to show your support for YouthHope by participating in the Golf Benefit. I hope you all had as good of time as I did. This event would not

have been a success without all of the volunteers who helped, and especially Rachel Benedict who organized the entire event. I want to also thank Jen Williams for getting this event started for YouthHope.

Rachel is already beginning to work on our next event. For those of you who may not like to golf, you will love to participate in the next event;

YouthHope's second Benefit Dinner! We have new and exciting ideas for this year's dinner, so we hope that you will begin to think of attending. Rachel also needs help putting the event together, so if you would like to be part of the planning committee I encourage you to email Rachel at rachel@youthhop.org

I feel so blessed to have such a wonderful staff, so that I can focus my energy on working directly with the youth. The need for someone to come alongside and encourage the youth is great. I sometimes wish I could just hug them and make all of the pain, and hurt disappear. It takes months to break down some of the walls that these youth have built up. We have to work brick by brick, tearing them down, before youth even begin to ask

for help. When I share about the events with our youth, they are so amazed that people help in such a profound way. They are excited to know that YouthHope has a team of supporters who believe in the work that is being done.

I have a new favor to ask of all of you. YouthHope is looking for people to donate bricks. You may wonder why we need such a thing, but we have an idea in mind. You can even sign your name on the bricks that you donate. If I can get enough bricks in the months to come I will let you all in on the surprise! Contact us at info@youthhope.org or 909-693-0801 if you can donate bricks to YouthHope. I hope you have a safe and fun summer! - Heidi Mayer, E.D.



Founder Heidi Mayer and her husband Bernie at the Slice of Hope Golf