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# YouthHope



**HOPE FOR THE FUTURE STARTS WITH TODAY**

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 9

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**YouthHope is  
recruiting a  
part-time  
Fundraiser!  
This is a Paid  
Position.**

**For more  
information or to  
schedule an  
interview, please  
e-mail:  
[info@youthhope.org](mailto:info@youthhope.org)**



## **YouthHope Has A New Address ....**

**P.O. Box 7803, Redlands, Ca. 92375. Please use this  
New address for all correspondence and donations!**

## **Meet James—A YouthHope Success Story ....**

When James was two years old, friends. James and his family moved once again.

His father fell ill and subsequently died due to cirrhosis of the liver caused by being an alcoholic and cocaine addict. Young James and his little sister were left with his mother, also a drug addict. Living conditions for James and his little sister steadily grew worse. Thankfully, James' grandmother came to the rescue.

James and his little sister went to live with their grandmother. A short time later, James' mother became pregnant again, and soon James' baby brother also came to live with their grandmother. James, his sister and baby brother were all grateful to their grandmother for taking them in and taking good care of them. Unfortunately, the family was forced to move constantly.

During all of these transitions James noticed that it was difficult to sit still. He always had to keep himself busy and he always had a lot of thoughts running through his head. James was diagnosed with ADD/ADHD. During this time James was attending a local junior high-school but socializing with youth that were attending high-school. These high-school youth became James' good

friends. James had moved so many times, it was hard for him to acclimate to another new place and he missed his old high-school friends. He was bored and frustrated. He decided to run-away and visit his old friends. Once James started to run-away often and his grandmother couldn't control him any longer. Unfortunately, James was sent to a group foster home.

Initially James did well at the group homes, but eventually his ADD/ADHD symptoms became an issue. When it was time to relax and watch tv, James wanted to go outside and play football. He couldn't stay still. Eventually, James ran-away from the group homes as well because he couldn't seem to find a good fit. James ended up living on the streets.

For months, James lived in a laundry room in an apartment complex. He would sleep against the dryer to keep warm. James needed to make some money and thought it would be easy to sell drugs. It didn't take long before he was caught and sent to jail. While in jail, James thought long and hard about where he

was in life and decided that he wanted to change paths. When he was released, he heard about YouthHope.

James sought out YouthHope and felt welcomed. Initially, he didn't feel comfortable discussing his past, but eventually he did and he realized that the people at YouthHope really did care about him and were willing to help. YouthHope provided James with food, school supplies and even helped him get into college. James struggled several times, but with the love and support of YouthHope, he has continued to move forward with his life. YouthHope helped James attend the Center for Employment Training (CET) where James was trained as a welder.

To stay off the streets, YouthHope helped James get into a program called Inspired. James has a place to live and has done well there. He has mentors to help him get his life together.

James credits YouthHope with helping him through the toughest times of his young life. Although he doesn't attend YouthHope any longer, he still texts Heidi Good Morning each day!

Based on a self reported survey in 2012, 37% of YouthHope attendees have parents with drug or alcohol problems.

## YouthHope Camping—A Great Time Had By All....

### To Donate:

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

### Contact Us!

We would love to hear from you. You can call us at (909)663-4543 or email us at [info@youthhope.org](mailto:info@youthhope.org) You can also find us on Facebook



YouthHope volunteers Evan and RC organized a fantastic spring camping trip for the male youth. Evan, RC and the staff of YouthHope were busy pulling out sleeping bags, tents, hiking boots and loading up on groceries for the 3 day camping trip to Heart Lake in Inyo National Forest. For many of the youth, this was their first camping experience. The guys hiked, fished and had an opportunity to enjoy the beautiful mountain surroundings. One of the youth had fished before, but this was his first experience catching a fish. He and the rest of the group were so excited!



The weather was a bit cold, and there was still snow on the ground, so the guys bundled up. They were all grateful to have warm clothes and boots, some of which were provided by the YouthHope clothing closet. Our camping volunteers Evan and RC are already busy planning the next camping trip. The guys have

spread the word that they would love to have some back-packing gear, especially back-packs. We would greatly appreciate any monetary or back-pack donations for the next trip. The YouthHope female volunteers and youth are also busy planning their own hiking and camping trip. Stay tuned to hear more about the girls upcoming plans.



## Note From the Founder....

Our Third Annual Benefit Dinner and Awareness Event, 'A Walk In Their Shoes', was held this year on May 10th. All of those who attended had a wonderful time and YouthHope was able to raise much needed funds. The funds raised at this event will be used to continue to support on-going programs including;

- Hot Meal & Non-Perishable Food Pantry Program
- Continued Education & Job Training Program
- Medical, Dental & Optometric Care Program
- Clothing Closet Program
- Rehabilitation Referrals Program

Unfortunately, the number of youth requiring assistance and attending YouthHope continues to grow each year. Last year, YouthHope provided services to

483 youth. In 2013, our attendance has already reached 691 youth requiring a hot meal, a hug and any other assistance we can provide. Just this past week we have had record attendance of 103 youth during one meeting. During one week YouthHope served meals and provided services to 267 youth! Case Managers at YouthHope recently surveyed 276 youth. Of these;

- 34% were abused as young children.
- 19% were in the foster care system
- 37% have parents with drug or alcohol substance abuse problems.
- 76% were classified as low-income.

1,414 7th-12th graders were considered homeless (RUSD 2010-2011). I hope you agree that these statistics are appalling. YouthHope and our many wonderful volunteers work tirelessly with these most

deserving youth so that they may grow to be healthy, educated, successful adults that exit street life. With summer right around the corner and family vacation plans set, please keep in mind that YouthHope will still be busy providing services to the youth all summer long. We will be feeding and clothing the youth, providing them with necessary medical treatment and helping them finalize their upcoming educational plans. Please consider providing YouthHope with a donation this summer so that we may continue to fund the many necessary programs that we provide to our YouthHope attendees. With your generous support, we can continue to fund the many necessary programs that we provide our youth all summer long.