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# YouthHope



**HOPE FOR THE FUTURE STARTS WITH TODAY**

VOLUME 4

FEBRUARY 1,



## Drop-In Center Construction News....

Many of the YouthHope staff, youth participants, and community volunteers all joined forces to help with the demolition of the new Drop-In Center. What a joy it was to have our youth work side-by-side with our staff and community volunteers! We had over 73 youth and community volunteers help with the demolition of the building.

It was so gratifying to see the youth take ownership of the building by helping in any way possible. All of the volunteers were hauling debris, knocking down walls, pulling up old carpet, tearing out old fixtures, removing old insulation, and generally



removing all of the interior. Once the demolition was complete, all of the old items then needed to be hauled to the dumpsters.



Construction is now underway on key areas of the building. Many, many thanks to CA Construction and all of the wonderful companies and individuals that donated their time and materials to this project. The CA Construction



Director Of Operations, Aaron has been wonderful to work with and has been such a wonderful role



model to the youth! We are so grateful to him and CA Construction for all of the help they have provided to us. Although we have made great strides and are moving along with the construction, the building still needs quite a lot of work prior to opening for services. Should you be interested in donating to any of our construction needs, please visit our website to donate: [www.youthhope.org](http://www.youthhope.org) or email [info@youthhope.org](mailto:info@youthhope.org) for more information.



## Consider Hosting a Fundraiser for YouthHope....

Are you involved in a local sports activity such as baseball, softball, or football, or maybe a community or church group, or do you know a local business or restaurant owner? If so, please consider hosting a fundraiser for YouthHope! Its fun and easy, and all of the funds generated go directly toward programs and services for the homeless, run-away, and underserved youth that YouthHope serves. We have had some great fundraisers in the past at: Rubios Mexican Restaurant, Barnes &

Noble Book Store, Dairy Queen and Queen Bean Café, as well as many others. To find out how you or your organization can host a fundraiser for YouthHope, just contact Cherise at: 909 810-3848 or via e-mail at: [www.cherise@youthhope.org](mailto:www.cherise@youthhope.org).



If you aren't able to host a fundraiser for YouthHope, please plan to attend one of our upcoming fundraisers.

Our next fundraiser, a Chili Cook-Off will be held at Brew Rebellion, on April 5th, at 3:00p.m., located at: 13444 California St., Yucaipa, Ca. 92399. We are looking for great chili recipes! If you would like to enter one, please contact Cherise at: [www.cherise@youthhope.org](mailto:www.cherise@youthhope.org).



### YouthHope Construction Needs

- Landscaping
- Commercial Kitchen Equipment
- Parking Lot Surfacing
- Contact Us For Specific Information on Our Needs and Requirements

Or

Donate Now  
By Visiting

[www.YouthHope.org](http://www.YouthHope.org)

Or

Send a Check to:  
P.O. Box 7803

Redlands, Ca. 92375



### 3 Ways You Can Help YouthHope in 2014

- Host a Fundraiser for YouthHope
- Become a monthly donor - just \$10 a month will help feed hungry youth
- Volunteer to spend time with the youth. - We need volunteers that can help with meals, tutoring, & mentoring

### Youth Story....

Lisa lives in a world filled with many challenges. Her mother is a drug addict that is homeless and lives on the streets. Lisa's father lives in another state and is a former convict. Lisa is fortunate to live with her Grandparents, but unfortunately, they have very limited resources and there is often little or no food in the house. Lisa's story is one that most of us would find unfathomable. With so many challenges in her young life, Lisa could easily have chosen the wrong path and ended up like her mother or father. Instead, Lisa's story is one of hard work, and a strong spirit. Lisa refuses to give up. She has vowed to stay away from drugs, and she works hard at school to keep up her grades and she regularly attends YouthHope meetings to receive the love and support that she so desperately needs.

Even though Lisa's life presents many challenges, she still volunteers her time at YouthHope to help whenever she can. This past month when YouthHope was doing all of the demolition work at our new facility, Lisa was the first one to arrive in the morning and the last

one to leave. Lisa worked hard all three days helping to get the new building ready for construction. In addition to her school studies and regularly attending YouthHope gatherings, Lisa's goal in life is to become an author. She loves to read and write and hopes to someday author her own novel.

YouthHope has provided Lisa with many services to help her through the rough times that she has had to face. On several occasions Lisa's mother would come to her grandparents home and be physically abusive to Lisa. After one of these incidents, YouthHope case managers found a 'safe house' for Lisa to stay in until her Mother was back on the streets and it was safe for Lisa to return to her Grandparent's home.

YouthHope case managers have also taken Lisa grocery shopping so that she would have food to eat when her Grandparents didn't have money to provide it. YouthHope also frequently provides the family with food items

from the YouthHope food pantry or gatherings to augment the family's grocery items.

Lisa has also been the recipient of new shoes from the 'Shoes for Christmas, Hope for a Life Time' shoe program. In addition, on several occasions, Lisa has been able to receive clothes from the YouthHope clothing closet.

YouthHope case managers have also spent many hours mentoring Lisa and providing her with moral support as well as lots of love and hugs. Case managers have provided Lisa with many \$5.00 gift cards to local fast food restaurants when meeting with Lisa and providing her with Case Management services. YouthHope has also provided Lisa with a backpack and school supplies to make sure that she has the necessary items to be successful in school.

YouthHope Case Managers have high expectations for Lisa. We just know that she is going to excel and achieve her dreams!



### Note From the Founder....

This year has brought many blessings to YouthHope! The construction on our new facility is underway and we are making great progress. CA Construction and Aaron, the Director of Operations, have been wonderful to YouthHope and we are so thankful for all of their help. In the midst of all of the construction, we are still providing services to the homeless, runaway, and underserved youth in the area. We are providing hot, nutritious meals three times a week, access to our food pantry and clothing closet and a host of case management offerings and programs. We are especially focused on our Continued

Education and Job Training Programs. The one-on-one GED tutoring program is being revamped due to the state-wide changes made to the GED program. Our volunteer coordinator of the tutoring program is hard at work deciphering the changes and learning about the new testing requirements. We are also augmenting our Job Training Program to include an on-site opportunity for the youth to engage in a YouthHope job training program with an emphasis on the arts. This program is funded, in part, from a grant from the Redlands Art Institute. In addition, we are still focused on assisting the youth with returning to school when possible

and providing tutoring help to those who have fallen behind in their studies. All of the programs and services offered by YouthHope are essential, but in particular, I am very focused on the educational programs that we offer. It is critical that the youth we serve either graduate from high school or attain their GED. The volunteers, staff, and I are eager to assist the youth in their educational and job training pursuits this coming year! We are all excited about the new program offerings and look forward to helping as many youth as possible move forward in their educational



and job training pursuits.  
-Heidi Mayer,  
Executive Director