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TO DONATE, GO TO
WWW.YOUTHHOPE.ORG
OR SEND DONATIONS
TO P.O. BOX 7803
REDLANDS, CA 92375

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR
DONORS WHO HAVE
CONTRIBUTED \$10,000
OR MORE IN 2015

- Loma Linda University
Health, Community Health
Development Office



- Rita Shaw Broker and
Associates



- Weingart Foundation



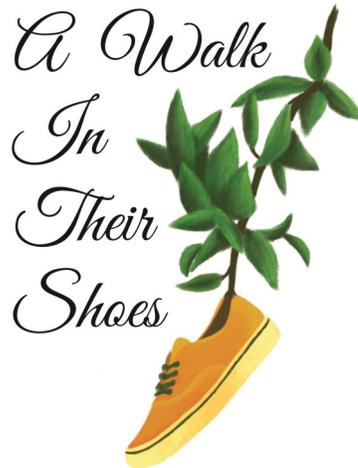
- Edison International



- Ann Whitlock

The YouthHope Post

YouthHope's 5th Annual "A Walk in Their Shoes"



YouthHope cordially invites you to attend its 5th Annual Benefit Dinner

A Walk in Their Shoes

Friday February 19, 2016.

Awareness Hour: 6pm

Diner and Program: 7 pm

\$75 per individual registration

\$500 per table reservation of 8 individuals

This event will take place at **The Mitten Building-Summerbell Room** located at **345 N. 5th Street in Redlands.**

Please **RSVP by February 5th, 2016.**

To ensure your spot, please go to:

www.youthhope.org/awalkintheirshoes

fill out the form and submit your payment through the PayPal link on the page.

We are so excited to share this powerful evening with you.

If you have any questions, please email

info@youthhope.org

Or call

(909) 663-4543

Drop In Center Update



We are getting closer and closer to being completely finished with our drop in center. We have received so much support from various organizations which has enabled us to continue to move forward with construction.

Edison International generously provided funds for us to purchase computers for our computer lab, Loma Linda University Health, Community Health Development Office donated funds for us to complete our classroom, and East Valley Realty provided funds so we could build desks for our computer lab. Without the support that we receive from organizations and donors, we would still be feeding and helping our youth in a parking lot.

Even with all of the funds in the

world, we would not be able to have all of this without the weekly support from our hard workers who come out and use their skills to physically build our building. A huge thanks to Robert Cole, Glen Shelley, Ed Jennings-Skeen, Bruce Bouslough, Rick Ferguson, Chris Martin, Lonny Young, Carlos Liclican, Michael Cuesta, and many more.

Thank you to those who continually give! YouthHope would not exist without your continued support!

My Dreams Are Bigger Than My Circumstances

"What do you want to be when you grow up?" I get asked that question a lot. From teachers, to old ladies at the store, people always want to know my dreams. I tell them that I'm going to be a doctor or an astronaut. Even for your "average" teen, these are big dreams, but where I come from, these are pretty much impossible dreams. My dad has been in jail most of my life, I've watched my mom do drugs, we've lived on the street for months at a time, and I've been beat by my uncle.

I think if you would of asked me my future plans 5 years ago, I would of answered "just live to see my 18th birthday". Those nights living on the streets,

those days of my mom taking so many drugs that she passes out, I didn't think I would survive let alone thrive by chasing my dreams.

But then I found YouthHope. YouthHope has become my family. They are the people I go to when I get good grades on my report card or when I'm having a bad day and I need a hug. They are the people I go to when I need help with school. I know that they will be there for me. They will never turn their back on me or give up on me. They will help me.

Since I started going to YouthHope, I feel like I have become a kid again. I've gotten back into sports at my school, I re-

ceive bus passes monthly so I don't have to miss school, and my dreams have come alive. YouthHope is helping me get ready for college by finding grants so I don't have to worry about finances when I start. They also helped me get out of my house to live with someone who will help me. I live with my friends grandma who treats me like her son and loves and takes care of me.

Heidi always tells me "When I go to the doctor in 10 years, I hope you're the one saving my life". YouthHope believes in me and is cheering me on from the sidelines. Now I just have to choose do I want to go to space or save people's lives? Mmmm.....

YouthHope Housing Update

Our youth from the housing program finished this semester at Crafton with flying colors for grades and attendance. As a reward and skills class, we had an enrichment house outing to the Griffith Observatory with breakfast in Hollywood. The shows on the Solar System and Northern Lights were amazing. Our second outing was a snow hike above Big Bear Lake and playing at the Big Bear village. Enrichment outings and fun times are meant to build the house culture and follow YouthHope's vision for building dreams and teaching youth self-care after hard work is invested in work and school.

Success at YH

We had 28 youth earn their Food Handlers Certificate in 2015 so they can get a job!

#movingforward

A Note From the Founder



I'm so excited to announce that we have officially moved into the Drop In Center! Our offices are open and we are getting settled in.

We will be announcing our new hours in a few weeks which will mean new drop off hours for donations, new volunteer opportunities, and new hours for our youth to come see us.

Even though we aren't completely done with the building, it is nice to be able to function at

the Drop In Center. None of this would be possible without the endless help and support from our community. We continually stand in awe of the people that bless us and our youth. Thank you for believing in our mission and helping us fulfill it.

If you would like to volunteer at our drop in center, please email Deb at deb@youthhope.org.

Please do not miss out on our upcoming fundraiser "A Walk In Their Shoes". This is the per-

fect fundraiser to come to if you want to know more about YouthHope and why we do what we do. Also bring a friend who does not know about YouthHope or has questions about our programs. Every year we see people leave the event with an entire new outlook on our city and nation's problem with youth homelessness. It will be a powerful night and you will leave the evening knowing that you can help make a difference in the lives of our youth.