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Inside this Issue:

Walk in Their Shoes	1
YH Programs	1
Youth Story	2
Did you Know?	2
Founder's Note	2

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YouthHope's 8th Annual "A Walk in Their Shoes"



Thank you so much to everyone who came to our benefit dinner "A Walk in Their Shoes". It was the first time that we sold out of tickets! We are so thankful for such a supportive community who comes together to help our youth.

It was a great night and we are so thankful for all of you who came out and supported YouthHope. Some highlights of the night included

hearing from some great supporters of YouthHope. Thank you to Neal Waner for being the MC, for Dr. Sherrie Yhip for sharing about her medical life and how she helps our youth, for Marisol Lara for sharing about our new suicide prevention class, and of course our youth who came up and spoke about the successes that they have achieved!

These positive outcomes that our youth has achieved are the reasons that we continue to help our youth. They are capable of so much and we love seeing them do the impossible! None of this would be possible without your constant support! Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

Continued Education and Job Training



Over the next couple of months, we are going to share about our core programs here at YouthHope. This month we are covering our Continued Education and Job Training Program.

This program was developed to provide youth with the opportunity of completing their high school education, receiving a GED, or pursuing a college education and then provide youth with the opportunity to pursue a variety of job training programs.

An important aspect of the Continued Education and Job Training program is to provide youth with transpor-

tation to and from school and work. In 2018, we handed out over 600 bus passes to youth who showed proof of attendance every month.

Transportation is one of YouthHope's biggest expenses. Could you donate \$41 to buy a youth a bus pass for a month?

Visit www.youthhope.org/donate to help a youth today!

It Won't Be Easy, But It Will Be Worth It.

I've lived on the streets for majority of the last 5 years. I've made mistake after mistake and have had to learn to live with the consequences. I have a son that I barely get to see, I'm on drugs, couldn't stay in school because of my choices and now I'm just stuck.

I have been going to YouthHope for a few years now. I would go for the free food and free clothes. Heidi was always wanting to help me, but I didn't have the drive in me to get out of my current circumstances so I just stayed.

I heard about the new program that they were starting about suicide prevention. I was interested because I have struggled with depression and anger my whole life. I have thought about taking my life more times than I care to admit. Its hard living on the street and having no hope.

So I decided to go and attend the class. I didn't expect to like it as much as I did. Hearing from other youth who have struggled like me

and have also had these same thoughts made me feel less alone. It gave me hope that if other people feel this way and can make positive changes in their lives, then maybe I can too.

I've now been through the whole program and have learned and used the coping skills when I become depressed. When I started to feel those coping skills working, it set a fire in me to start changing other areas of my life.

I started to get serious about the future and about getting my son back. I've taken baby steps to start

the process. YouthHope has helped me get my ID, my birth certificate, my social security card, and also helped me get to my first job fair. I used the Walmart gift card that was given to me at the end of the class to buy interview clothes so I could look good when I go to my first interview.

The next big and necessary step for me is a sober living house. It won't be easy, but it will be worth it.

Thank you YouthHope for providing real opportunities to get back on my feet!

Did You Know?

31% of our youth have attended or are attending some type of higher education. They are moving forward and we are so proud of them!

A Note From the Founder



Thank you so much to everyone who participated in making our "Walk in Their Shoes" benefit dinner a success! We could not have pulled it off without all of the support.

My favorite part of the night was remembering how far we had come in the past 10 years and hearing from the youth that have been directly impacted because of YouthHope. I'm continually in awe of all that has been accomplished. We wouldn't have been able to do any of it without the generous support that we con-

stantly receive from all of you!

Thank you for believing in our mission and for being a vital part in helping over 3,400 youth in the past decade!

If you were unable to make it to our "Walk in Their Shoes", but would still like to donate, please visit

www.youthhope.org/donate

and you can make a tax deductible donation. YouthHope is run off of donations, fundraisers, and grants with the majority of our

funding coming from individual donations.

There are still many people who do not understand the seriousness of youth homelessness or even know that this problem exists in our city, so please continue to share about YouthHope. Awareness is the first step to ending this epidemic.

Thank you again for a great night!