SUCCESS STORY

GENERATIONS OF HOPE

Definition of Homelessness:
Children and youth who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. Children and youth sharing housing due to loss of housing, economic hardship or a similar reason.

Hope is hard to find when life is difficult…such is the case of these 7 children.

When terminal illness struck the Martins, it caused a massive shift in housing and emotional stability for three generations of the family. While their mother fought for her life, Amanda, 24; Jeffery, 16; Martha, 15; and Matthew, 7; found themselves engulfed in chaos. Amanda and her husband Jim made the tough decision to move their family of six to Orange County to be closer to her mother, and with that haul came their struggle with homelessness.

With all seven children crammed into a house in a new city, stress, shame, and a lack of support took their toll. Grades began to slip, and Martha threatened to run away from "home."

Realizing that her family needed immediate assistance, Amanda reached out to Project Hope Alliance. Shortly thereafter, her mother passed away, leaving Amanda as the head of the now nine-person household. We met weekly with the family to discuss their goals and develop a plan to steer each of the children back onto a bright academic path, along with a plan to help the family regain stable housing and work toward financial stability. Through our innovative Family Stability Program, we were able to rapidly rehouse the family in Santa Ana and provide comprehensive support services.

Once stabilized in their own home, PHA enrolled three of the young learners in our Bright Start Program. Before the program, most of the children were performing below grade level. Today, they are thriving with their mentors and nearing completion of their second year. Moving high schools would have piled notable stress on top of Jeffery, but PHA connected the family with our McKinney-Vento liaison to ensure that he could finish high school at Los Amigos High School in Fountain Valley.

PHA also provided several enrichment opportunities for the engaged family, including linking the children to Kids Konnected, a camp for children with terminally ill parents; introducing Martha to Global G.L.O.W. (Girls Leading Our World), a transformative after-school program; Shakespeare in the Park at UCI; and more.

Like 72.5% of the families we serve, the family has maintained financial stability and stable housing for at least 12 months. In fact, they have remained stably housed and gainfully employed for more than two years! The children's grades, social skills, and emotional wellbeing continue to soar thanks to consistent mentoring.

You have helped these children in their journey to self-sufficiency, offering support, guidance, and especially hope! We are endlessly grateful for your partnership in breaking the cycle of homelessness, one child at a time.

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

REVENUE BREAKDOWN

INDIVIDUAL	32 %
GRANT	22%
EVENT	34%
CORPORATION	7%
IN KIND & OTHER	5%

EXPENSE BREAKDOWN

PROGRAM	77%
FUNDRAISING	12%
ADMINISTRATION	11%

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Alisha Ballard, *The Legacy Foundation*
Pete Deutschman, *The Buddy Group*
Lynn Hemans, *Taco Bell*
Kelly Lam, *The Whole Purpose*
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Eric J. Rans, *Michelman & Robinson, LLP*
Ray Weston, *Taco Bell*

2017 ANNUAL REPORT

PROJECT HOPE ALLIANCE

THANK YOU FOR BEING ON TEAM KID

We at Project Hope Alliance refer to ourselves as *Team Kid*.

We organically came up with that designation out of our shared belief that the homeless children and youth that we serve must be at the center of everything we do and all of the decisions that we make.

Quite simply, our deeply held belief is that the homeless child that we are serving is a tremendous asset to our community and our future. That it's our job to be on their team – to make sure that they have a place to call home and to equip them with educational interventions, programming, support and opportunities to make sure that they not only graduate from high school, but have the skills and foundation necessary to end the cycle of homelessness with them.

Being a parent, I see lots of books on how to impart "grit" into the core of our children. Grit has been defined as "Courage and resolve; strength of character." We associate the word grit with words like pluck and resilience.

Homeless children demonstrate grit every day - every time they refuse to quit trying in class despite being two school years behind, each day that they choose to go to school instead of dropping out, when they try out for the varsity football team knowing they can't afford a letterman's jacket (much less knowing where they are sleeping that night). This is a gritty team of kids. Kids with a strength of will. Who wouldn't want to be on their team? The team of the determined, the hopeful, the future.

I mean really, isn't this exactly whose team we should all be on? We at Project Hope Alliance think so, and we are eternally grateful that you do too.

Thank you. Thank you for investing in our kids – their dreams and their futures. Without you, none of the transformative impact you will read about in our Annual Report would ever have been possible. Because of you, we are ending the cycle of homelessness, one child at a time.

For the Kids,

Jennifer Friend, CEO

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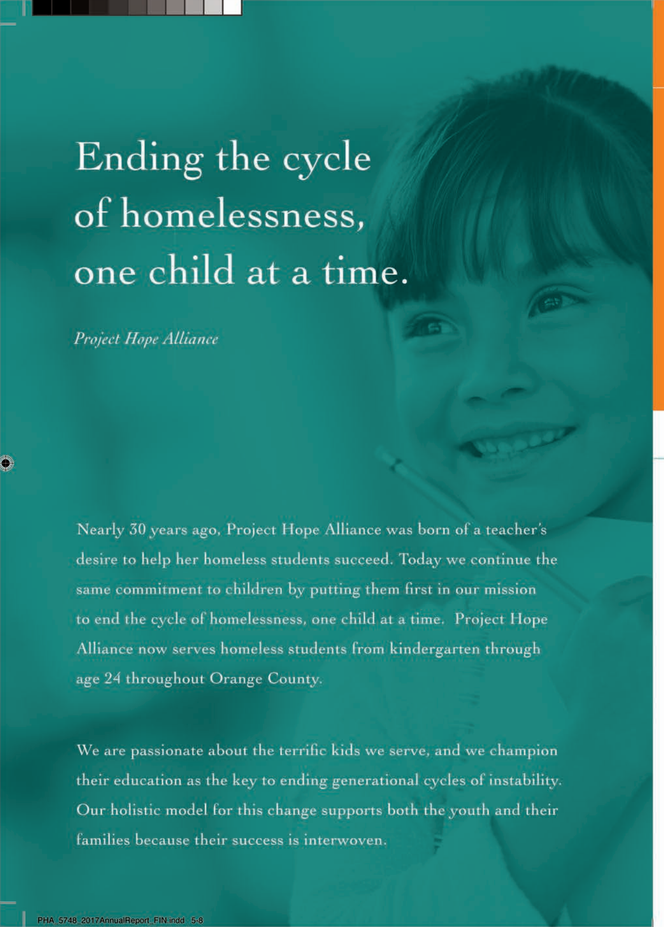

Ending the cycle of homelessness, one child at a time.

Project Hope Alliance

Nearly 30 years ago, Project Hope Alliance was born of a teacher's desire to help her homeless students succeed. Today we continue the same commitment to children by putting them first in our mission to end the cycle of homelessness, one child at a time. Project Hope Alliance now serves homeless students from kindergarten through age 24 throughout Orange County.

We are passionate about the terrific kids we serve, and we champion their education as the key to ending generational cycles of instability. Our holistic model for this change supports both the youth and their families because their success is interwoven.

FISCAL YEAR REVIEW

TOTAL SERVED AT YEAR-END

466 INDIVIDUALS SERVED ACROSS ALL PROGRAMS

415 INDIVIDUALS SERVED *(UNDUPLICATED)*

264 CHILDREN SERVED *(UNDUPLICATED)*

151 ADULTS SERVED *(UNDUPLICATED)*

FAMILY STABILITY PROGRAM

381 INDIVIDUALS SERVED ACROSS PHASE 1 & PHASE 2

92 TOTAL OF FAMILIES SERVED

151 ADULTS

230 CHILDREN

58% SINGLE PARENT HOUSEHOLDS

93% of the families served were both: financially and stably housed upon the one year mark

48 families (52%) entered in under doubled/tripled up circumstances

21 families (23%) were moving from motel/hotel prior to program entry

9 families (10%) came from transitional shelters

5 families (5%) entered while living in their cars

9 families (10%) were imminently losing housing within a week's notice

PROMOTOR PATHWAY PROGRAM

33 STUDENTS ENROLLED WITHIN FY17

7 STUDENTS GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL

125 REFERRALS

17 STUDENTS CURRENTLY EMPLOYED *(47% OF ACTIVE STUDENTS)*

From the launch of the Promotor Pathway Program, case managers have spent approximately **24,202 minutes (403.4 hrs)** in session with students.

10,891 minutes (181.5 hrs) on improving behavior and communication

2,190 minutes (36.5 hrs) advising students' academic progress

2,002 minutes (33.4 hrs) on school engagement & behavior

1,463 minutes (24.4 hrs) on improving school attendance (absences, tardies, truancies)

1,299 minutes (21.7 hrs) on students' housing status
1,248 minutes (20.8 hrs) on employment readiness

1,054 minutes (17.6 hrs) covering mental health

1,015 minutes (16.9 hrs) on post-secondary enrollment/college readiness

7 students (19%) were housed; **2 students (6%)** were moving from motel to motel; **2 were couch-surfing (6%)** upon entry; **1 student** was living out of their car **(3%)**; **1 student** was living in a park **(3%)**; **1 student** was imminently losing housing **(3%)**

BRIGHT START & SOARING TO SUCCESS

OUR MODEL: WHAT WE DO AND HOW WE'RE DIFFERENT

32 STUDENTS SERVED WITHIN BRIGHT START IN FY17

2 STUDENTS GRADUATED TO SOARING TO SUCCESS

From the launch of the new curriculum, Imagine Learning, **36,531 total minutes** were logged across both online learning platforms *(math and reading combined)*

Students have completed and mastered **5997 activities; 500 books; 702 vocabulary words; and 824 sight words**

Literacy growth of 22 students *(measured by performance on letter & word recognition as well as reading comprehension)* from the launch of program curriculum to end of fiscal year in June, was **an average of 20%**

OUR THEORY OF CHANGE

OUR MODEL: WHAT WE DO AND HOW WE'RE DIFFERENT

HOMELESS CHILDREN IN THE CONTEXT OF THEIR FAMILIES

Research shows homeless children often become homeless adults

ACCESSIBILITY *(REMOVING BARRIERS)*

INDIVIDUALIZED SUPPORT *(NOT PRESCRIPTIVE)* FAMILY STABILITY & HOUSING

POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL SUPPORT

FOCUS ON HOLISTIC NEEDS OF CHILD EDUCATION SUPPORT

LONG-TERM COMMITMENT (0-24) ACCESS TO OPPORTUNITIES

ENDING THE CYCLE OF HOMELESSNESS

Eradicating barriers brought on by childhood homelessness

Equipping homeless children with tools to unlock their potential

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