2018-2019

# A N N U A L P O R T



# A FRIEND

We talk a lot about homelessness at the office, dinner table and on the news but what you don't hear much about the over 29,000 children and youth experiencing homelessness in Orange County's public schools.

Project Hope Alliance is reducing the likelihood that youth experiencing homelessness will become homeless adults by 346%, seeing them not only to high school graduation but a future that includes a college degree or specialized skills that equip them to be self-sufficient and emotionally healthy adults. Students who are homeless are 87% more likely to drop out of high school than their housed peers. This single data point makes them 4.5 times as likely to experience homelessness as a young adult. Since



our program's inception, we have seen 81% on time graduation rates, versus the national average graduation rate for homeless students of 64%.

As you will see throughout the pages of our Annual Report our whole-child approach is yielding transformational results. We are grateful for you, our community, who through your investment in Team Kid, have joined our belief that with hope all things are possible for our youth. Together, we are ending the cycle of homelessness, one child at a time.

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# OUR MISSION

The mission of Project Hope Alliance (PHA) is to end the cycle of homelessness, one child at a time. Homelessness negatively affects a child's performance in school, their health, their self-confidence, and their emotional and behavioral health and well-being- leading today's homeless children to become tomorrow's homeless adults. Our interventions break this progression by addressing the root cause of the inequity. We provide children and youth intensive holistic support throughout their education that meets their individual academic and psychosocial needs. We create permanent, sustainable and generational change.

# OUR PROGRAMS



#### **BRIGHT START**

(KINDERGARTEN –  $6^{TH}$  GRADE)

Our elementary school education program provides our children an online, structured assessment and researched-based learning curriculum; and the educational support needed to reverse the impacts of homelessness on their educational development.



#### PROMOTOR PATHWAY

 $(7^{TH} GRADE - AGE 24)$ 

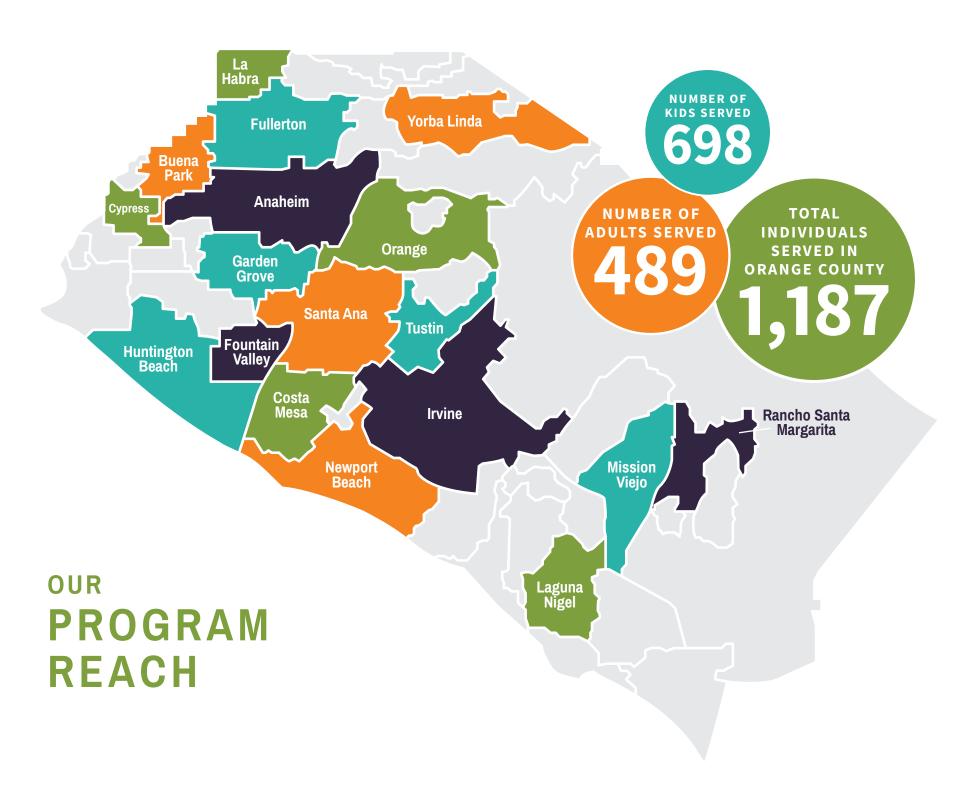
The Promotor Pathway program places case managers on public school campuses. Case managers provide intensive holistic support seeing our youth past high school graduation onto and through college or technical training that provides them the foundation they need to be financially independent and thriving adults.



#### **FAMILY STABILITY**

(FAMILIES WITH SCHOOL AGE STUDENTS)

We rapidly re-house working poor homeless families into safe, stable, permanent homes and equip them with the support and resources needed to become financially self-sufficient.





## WHAT IS THE DEFINITION OF HOMELESSNESS?

Lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. Homeless living situations for our kids include:

- Sharing the housing of others due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason
- Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations
- Staying in emergency or transitional shelters
- Sleeping in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings



## GRADES K-6

OVER THE PAST TEN YEARS, the number of homeless students has

70%

Experiences of homelessness and housing instability in early childhood are associated with

delays in children's language, literacy, and social-emotional development<sup>2</sup>

Homelessness in early childhood is correlated with

poor classroom engagement and social skills

in early elementary school<sup>3</sup>

# 1/18 STUDENTS

experience homelessness<sup>5</sup>

National rate of HS graduation for homeless youth

64%

All Students 84%

A youth with a high school diploma is

346%

less likely to be homeless as an adult<sup>4</sup>

GRADES **7-12** 

Students experiencing homelessness are

87%
MORE LIKELY

to drop out of school than their housed peers6

AGES 18-24

In 2015/2016 Cost of OC Homeless Adults

\$60,093,851

High School dropouts are nearly

#### **3X MORE LIKELY**

to be unemployed than college graduates

1 National Center for Homeless Education, Identifying Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness. 2 Fantuzzo, J., LeBoeuf, W., Brumley, B., Perlman, S. (2013). "A population-based inquiry of homeless episode characteristics and early educational well-being". Children and Youth Services Review, 35(6), 966-972. 3 Ziol Guest, K. M., & McKenna, C. C. (2014). "Early childhood housing instability and school readiness". Child Development, 85(1), 103-113.

4 Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago, (2017). Missed opportunities: Youth homelessness in America. Chicago, IL: Author

5 National Center for Homeless Education, Identifying Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness. 6 National Center for Homeless Ed., Feb. 2019

7 United Way of Orange County and Jamboree. (2017). Homelessness in Orange County the costs to our community. Irvine, CA: Snow, D.A. and Goldberg, R.E.

# **ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

 $(K - 6^{TH} GRADE)$ 

The 3 highest needs that PHA students identified were:

1 Sense of Positive Identity

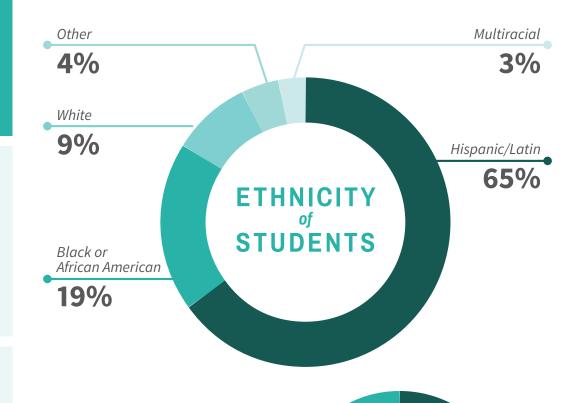
2 Sense of Community

3 How to Constructively Use Their Time

THIS FISCAL YEAR PROJECT HOPE ALLIANCE YOUTH SPENT

#### **OVER 470 HOURS**

WITH A MENTOR THAT SUPPORTS THEIR SOCIAL EMOTIONAL GROWTH.



### DEVELOPMENTAL ASSETS PROFILE POST PROJECT HOPE ALLIANCE INVOLVEMENT

**75%** 

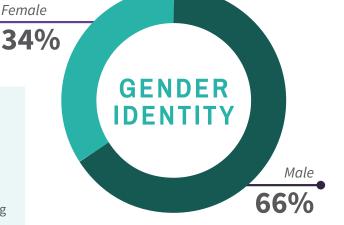
of kids report that they care about school

87%

of students report that they are eager to do well in school and other activities 89%

of students report that they have parent(s) who try to help them succeed 97%

of youth report having a family that gives them love and support



## ZACK LAWSON AND ERIC NUMMEDAL,

two outstanding mentors who participate in our Bright Start Mentor Program, help provide support for the social-emotional needs and well-being of our kids. Zack and Eric are roommates and good friends that mentor twin boys together. Both mentors have been positively impacted in their own lives due to the mentoring they received when growing up and they believe it has made them the people they are today. Zack and Eric have a passion to give back the great gift of mentoring to others and they believe Project Hope Alliance's unique style of care and emotional investment to end the cycle of homelessness one child at a time has helped them in doing so. One of the great accomplishments that resulted from Zack and Eric's mentorship was improving their mentees' skill and joy for reading with each session. The memories and friendships created in their special bond with their mentees have also gone above and beyond to support the twin boys' mom with great positive male role models for her kids. Being there to witness and be an active part of both of their mentees' academic and social-emotional growth has been the greatest reward for them.







# MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL

 $(7^{TH} - 12^{TH} GRADE)$ 

## DEVELOPMENTAL ASSETS PROFILE POST PROJECT HOPE ALLIANCE INVOLVEMENT

89%

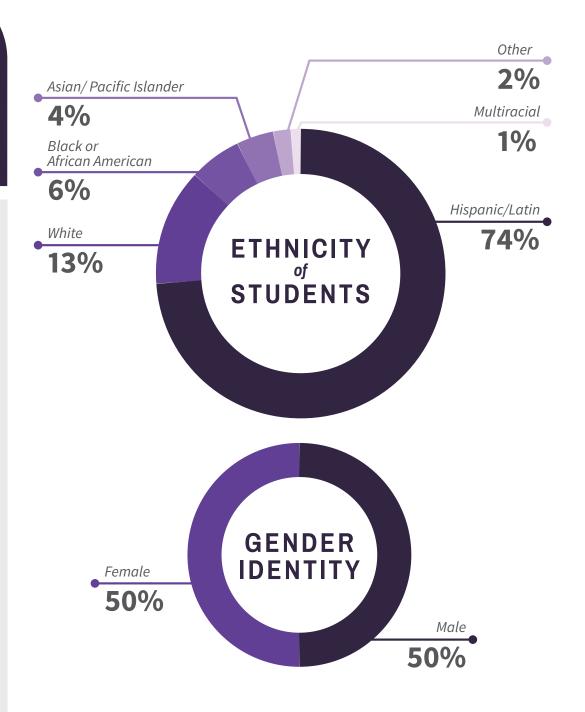
of students report that they have a school that cares about students and encourages them

85%

of youth report having support from adults other than their parent(s)

88%

of students report having parent(s) who urge them to do well in school





PHA STUDENTS GRADUATION RATE



HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATED STUDENTS ENROLLED IN COLLEGE





### NOAH'S STORY

20-year-old Noah grew up in a two-parent household in Newport Beach with two older siblings and a love for school. Noah was a bright student and always did well in school until his junior year of high school when he and his family became homeless. Noah and his family were forced to couch-surf, sleep in their car, and live out of motels. In his senior year of high school, Noah enrolled in PHA's Promotor Pathway Program and gained access to several resources that helped him give more time to school. He reported finding support from the mentorship, basic needs support, and individualized goal setting through his site-based case manager. With PHA's help, he graduated high school in 2017 with over a 3.0 grade point average. Noah is currently in his third year at California State University, Fullerton with a double major in finance and astrophysics. He will be the first person in his family to graduate college. He recently began a paid internship with North Western Mutual, where he will earn a financial advising license. With a support system of his girlfriend, friends, and Project Hope Alliance, Noah is working toward his dream of working for the Aerospace Corporation.

### **YOUNG ADULT**

(AGES 18 - 24)

**COLLEGES OUR STUDENTS ARE ATTENDING:** ORANGE COAST COLLEGE, CAL STATE FULLERTON, SANTA ANA COLLEGE AND SADDLEBACK COLLEGE.

ATTENDING 4-YEAR OR 2-YEAR COLLEGE



are enrolled in college (4 yr or 2 yr)

**EMPLOYMENT** 



OF OUR OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTH

### FAMILY STABILITY

HOUSING & FINANCIAL STABILITY

@ 2 YEARS POST PROGRAM ENTRY

88%

**AVERAGE FAMILY INCOME AT INTAKE** 

\$38,000 Annually

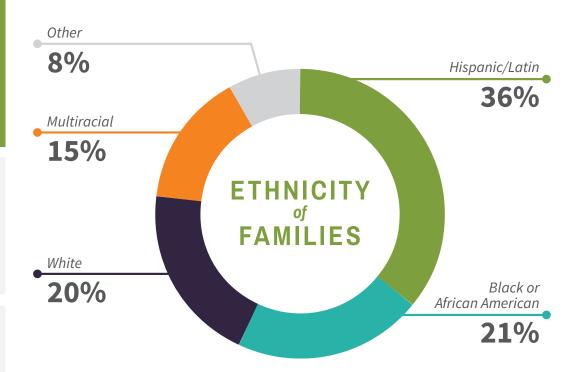
Average family size is 4 people

#### **NUMBER OF FAMILIES HOUSED IN 2019**

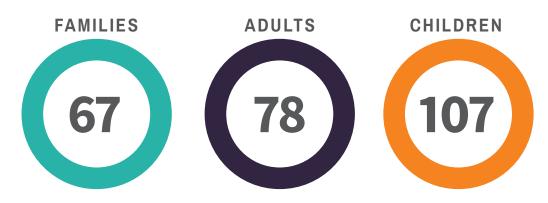


52%

of families report food insecurity at time of program entry (new enrollments)



#### **NUMBER SERVED**





# SPOTLIGHT

Edwards Lifesciences, the leader in the field of replacement heart valves, has been a partner with Project Hope Alliance (PHA) since 2013. Over the last 9 years, Edwards has provided PHA with \$46,000 in grants, and has engaged their team members in volunteer events like service days spent organizing our warehouse, sorting food, school items and other donated supplies.

Most recently in our Project Backpack Campaign, Edwards Lifesciences provided PHA's kids with over a hundred backpacks, filled with crucial school supplies and retail gift cards.

Edwards Lifesciences Corporation and Foundation are exemplary partners in our fight to end the cycle of homelessness.









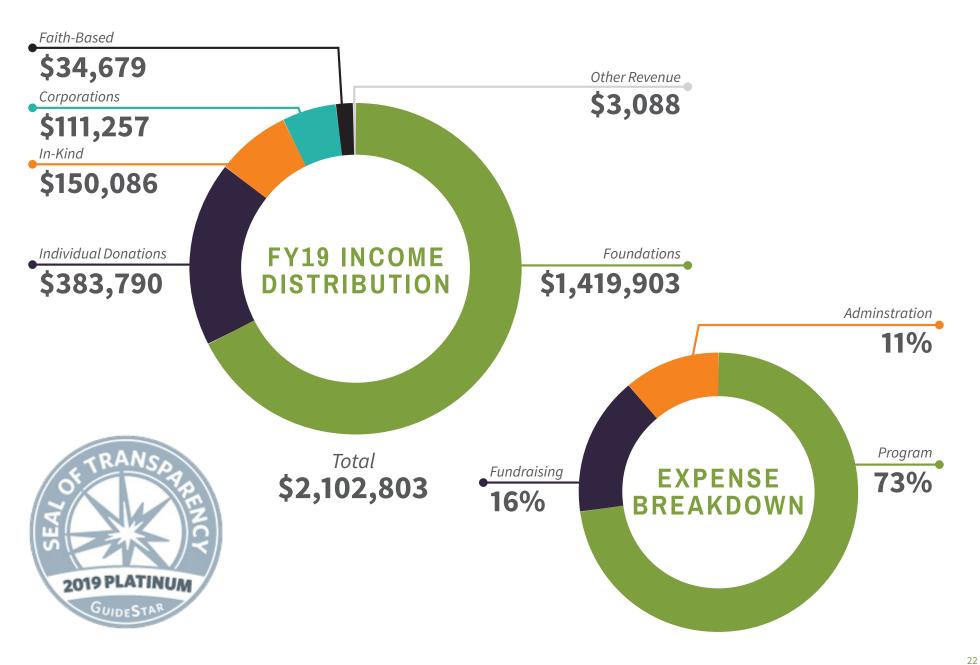
## KIDS HELPING KIDS

Meet Sydnie. Sydnie is a 12-year-old girl making a huge impact on the lives of the youth served by Project Hope Alliance. When Sydnie first learned that there were thousands of youth experiencing homelessness living right in her community, she felt compelled to help. Syndie has since organized and lead multiple donation drives and volunteer projects for Project Hope Alliance. Her compassion and commitment to making a difference have resulted in over 5000 hygiene kits, snack bags, and food items collected, assembled, and donated to PHA. Sydnie's leadership has also spread awareness about the needs of youth experiencing homelessness and PHA's mission throughout her entire school district and the neighboring community.





#### **FINANCIALS**





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projecthopealliance.org