

RISE



Newsletter for StandUp For Kids - Orange County



CALENDAR WORTHY EVENTS!

April 27th

Help Them Home 2022 | A virtual giving day StandUp For Kids will be partnering with 23 nonprofits for one purpose: ending homelessness in Orange County.



June 18th

Join us for our Annual Car Show in Costa Mesa! A family-friendly event with live music, show cars, food, and prizes!



September 30th

Don't miss our 5th Annual Gala, hosted by 24 Carrots Catering & Events, Southern California's premier catering, and events company. This year's Gala will be held at The Colony House in Anaheim, CA.

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GET SOCIAL!



YOUTH STORIES

Their stories of strength and resilience, made possible by you.

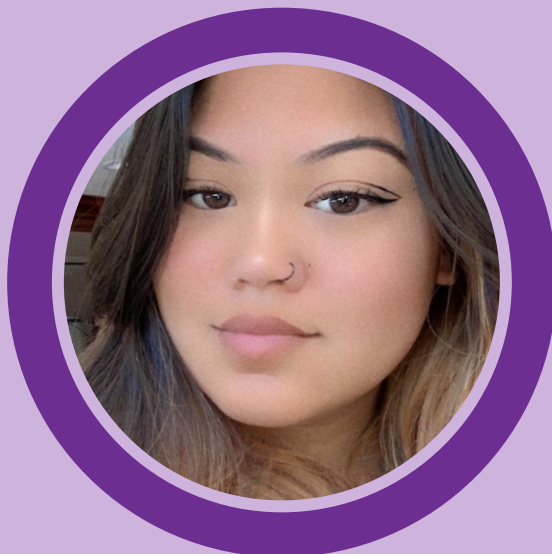
MEET ANDY



Now 19 years old, Andy grew up in Santa Ana, where he remembers facing most of his struggles alongside his mom. Sharing the same living space as two other families was the norm and the only way they could afford a place to live. Their housing situation was short-lived, as one day, they were unexpectedly told to leave. In the face of this new adversity, Andy not only lost the place he called home, but he also lost his mom. She left him to fend for himself, leading him to sleep in friends' cars or couch surfing from one place to the next.

Andy says "StandUp for Kids has helped him become a more responsible version of himself". He started an internship with Imperial Sprinkler Supply (ISS) and later secured a full-time job. Andy's life has changed for the better. He is now in StandUp for Kids Rapid Rehousing Program, which helped him find an apartment that he shares with two roommates. Finally, he has a place he can call his own.

MEET HONEY



Honey, a 17-year-old high school graduate, who recently acquired housing through StandUp for Kids, has only been with the program for three weeks. In just a short time, she said that she has gained a new outlook on life, with her mentors guiding her to stay true to her commitments, budgeting and planning.

Before StandUp for Kids, Honey lacked support in every aspect of her life. From the age of 12, basic necessities became scarce in the home. The hot water, AC and WiFi would often get shut off and she became responsible for preparing her own meals, even though there was little food in the home.

Honey looks forward to becoming self-sufficient and has goals for the future. She has found a job as a swim instructor beginning mid-April, is looking for a room to rent for when she turns 18, and plans on joining cosmetology school.

Thanks to your support, Honey is in a safe and stable place now with a bright future ahead of her.

SPRING INTO ACTION

Rent due, 3 day quit notice

Dear Friends;

What if something like this happened to you or a friend? As I share this story with you, think about how you might feel if you were in Zoey's shoes.

Zoey worked two part-time jobs. Neither was very good, and they didn't pay much. But she believed that would change. Her goal was to gain experience and apply to better jobs, earn enough money, and go back to school to get a degree. She would become a therapist so that she could help people.

Then one day out of the blue her life was shattered. Due to the pandemic, Zoey lost both her jobs. She couldn't pay her rent, buy food or keep the lights on. Then what she feared most, she was evicted from her apartment.

Zoey was homeless, alone and terrified.

You are a vital part of the solution. Here's how you can help;

- Imagine how hard it is to get a new job while sleeping in the streets. Your gift of \$250 takes a youth off the streets for the weekend while we find stable, long term housing for them.
- Your gift of \$100 means youth experiencing homelessness can benefit from a physical, mental or dental health appointment.
- Your gift of \$50, helps cover groceries for a week for a youth.
- Your gift of \$25, buys 3 youth the hygiene items they need.

Would you consider giving a gift today? We promise to use your gift wisely and with care.

If you'd like to put your donation to work immediately, you can give online by scanning the QR code below OR, you can use the enclosed envelope and mail it in.

Thank you for your continued support! Together we can end youth homelessness.

With warmth and gratitude,



Justine Palmore
Executive Director

Open the
camera on your
phone to scan
the QR code &
donate online
today.



P.S. If a loved one or friend of yours is experiencing homelessness, please call 714-356-5437. Because of your financial support, we're here to offer help and support to youth in need.

ED SPOTLIGHT

Recognizing 16 years of service to StandUp For Kids

"THIS HAS BY FAR BEEN THE MOST CHALLENGING AND MOST REWARDING THING I'VE EVER DONE."



Scan QR code with your phone to read Justine's full story on our blog!

DYSFUNCTION THAT LED TO A CALLING

One of 13, as a child in New York, Justine recalls living in a dysfunctional household, witnessing the consequences of alcoholism, and having to take on adult roles while her mother worked.

When she left home at 16, she never expected to end up in an unhealthy marriage. She later adopted her son's brother, sparking an underlying interest in helping youth.

THE INTERNSHIP THAT STARTED IT ALL

After getting divorced, Justine returned to school for what she thought would be an Associate degree but earned her Bachelor's in Human Services and became a certified recovery coach.

Knowing that she wanted to help youth experiencing homelessness, Justine sought out a nonprofit for her internship and discovered StandUp For Kids.

Once the internship was over, Justine realized she had found her purpose and decided to stay on as a volunteer.

UNWAVERING COMMITMENT

Over the last 16 years, Justine has grown a small team of 3 conducting street outreach to over 100 volunteers and 9 staff members.

A volunteer for 11 of those years, her compassion, commitment, and genuine concern for youth experiencing homelessness and at-risk youth shines through.

With her leadership in 2021, StandUp For Kids provided more than 4,500 meals, 1,559 nights of shelter, and 474 youth were supported.

