



IMPACT! newsletter



September
2019

September is National Suicide Prevention Month

How your investment is changing the future for individuals and leading the way to life in recovery!



Daniel's Place Program Managers: Passing the Baton

Daniel's Place has a wonderful history of staff members who have worked tirelessly to support Step Up's Transitional Age Youth (TAY) members between the ages of 16 to 28. Maria Jeffery (middle) is the current Program Manager at Daniel's Place. She started two and a half years ago. "I experienced homelessness as a youth, so Daniel's Place is so personal to me," says Maria. Youth homelessness has increased 24% this year, so Maria is hiring more staff to try and to keep up with demand.

Two of the former managers of Daniel's Place remain at Step Up in new roles and say that it holds a very special place in their hearts. Emily James (right) was the first Program Manager for Daniel's Place and is currently the Director of Clinical Programs in Hollywood. Emily says, "Daniel's Place was my home for eight years at Step Up. Leaving for work in Hollywood was bittersweet, but seeing how Rachael, and now Maria, have grown the program makes me glad I had such wonderful leaders to take charge." Rachael Radis (left) was hired by Emily to become the Program Manager at Daniel's Place. Rachael went on to become the Director of Clinical Development. Rachael considers Emily to be an incredible mentor and leader in the agency. Kudos to all three of these women for their contributions to Step Up programs and members.

PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING



One of Step Up's strategies for long-term viable solutions to ending homelessness is to pursue private/public partnership models that would create a significant number of units through motel conversions. Step Up is currently working with investors using the motel conversion model because motels convert into permanent housing more quickly, efficiently, and at half the cost of apartment buildings.

The Bronco Motel (pictured) is the first of Step Up's three motel conversion projects funded under HHH. Located at 55th and Western, the 40-unit rehab project for veterans experiencing homelessness is the first project to start construction. Step Up has 11 projects that have started or will start construction in 2019, totaling over 600 new units.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT



Simeon T. (pictured) is a peer advocate at Step Up and was homeless for 10 years when he heard about Step Up through the Blessed Sacrament Church in Hollywood. Simeon went to Step Up on Vine and saw a help wanted sign on the door of the Conscious Cup. He filled out an application and was hired as a dishwasher, and then

advanced to line staff. When the Conscious Cup café closed, Simeon became a peer job coach at Step Up on Second in Santa Monica and now oversees janitorial and supervises the Second Street kitchen.

"Simeon is an excellent employee. He is compassionate with the clients and I hope he works at Step Up for a very long time," says Chief Vocational Officer Amy Stone.

A SENSE OF BELONGING



Thank you to the Ahmanson Foundation for their generous funding that will allow Michael's Village to get new electrical panel upgrades for all units, including wiring, security cameras, and installation that will cover the entire property. New energy-efficient, dual A/C and heater units with a built-in occupancy sensor will be installed in all 32 units.

In July, Michael's Village received a new mural (pictured) that celebrates the coming home of its residents. It was designed by Terrence Stasse with Arts Bridging the Gap and the residents and painted with the help of Hollywood PAL, Gang Recidivism Youth Division, Youth Policy Institute, and volunteers.

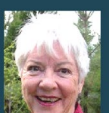
Michael's Village opened in 2014 after Step Up and Aileen Getty purchased the Hollywood Studio Inn and converted the motel into 32 units of permanent supportive housing for people experiencing mental health conditions. Six units are held for and occupied by Transitional Age Youth.

DON'T FORGET TO
Buy your tickets and tribute ads!

Daniel's Place 20th Anniversary Celebration



Arthur
Greenberg



Susan
Dempsay

SEPTEMBER 25, 2019

6-8:30 PM
SKIRBALL CULTURAL CENTER

www.stepuponsecond.org