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

January 2019

2018 Milestones Achieved and Celebrated

Homelessness currently ended for 1042 individuals through Step Up’s Housing First programs including 123 newly housed individuals in the Inland Empire! Step Up proudly maintains a 95% housing retention rate across all sites and serves more than 2,000 unduplicated individuals in Southern California.

206 individuals participated in supported employment training & placement programs, with 50 participants moving to unsubsidized employment, including 16 TAY. 28 individuals, including 20 TAY enrolled or are in the process of enrolling in college and 7 individuals enrolled in a high-school diploma program. 46,350 fresh meals were prepared by vocational participants.

Step Up partnered with Jamboree Housing Corporation as co-developer for Santa Ana Veterans Village, Jamboree’s first affordable housing property exclusively for Veterans. Providing 76 permanent supportive housing apartments designed to achieve HOMES LEED-certified Gold rating, Santa Ana Veterans Village breaks ground January 7, 2019.

Step Up ventured onto the national stage with partner Dr. Sam Tsemberis’s Pathways to Housing to provide housing and supportive services in the greater Atlanta metro area. Through the generosity of The John and Polly Sparks Foundation, 140 of Atlanta’s most vulnerable individuals experiencing homelessness and mental health conditions will receive supportive services and housing.

Step Up partnered with Wendover Housing Partners in Sanford, Florida, on Warley Park, the city’s first PSH housing community with 85 apartments for families, individuals, and Veterans experiencing homelessness. Construction is slated to begin in January 2019.

SOME OF STEP UP’S 2018 HIGHLIGHTS

United States Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor recently recognized Step Up Hollywood for their work with individuals experiencing homelessness and severe and persistent mental health conditions.

Justice Sotomayor noted how “impressed” she was with the work Step Up is doing in the community to address homelessness and mental health issues in Los Angeles. In recognition of and gratitude for Step Up’s work, she gifted the office signed copies of her most recent book, Turning Pages: My Life Story. The book chronicles her inspiring life journey to the United States Supreme Court.

Step Up was named 2018 Non-Profit of the Year by State Senator Ben Allen, CA-District 26. At left, David Tavlin, Step Up’s VP Clinical Programs; Mia Serrano, Senator Ben Allen, and Tod Lipka, Step Up’s President & CEO.

Above left, newly confirmed Secretary US Department of Veterans Affairs Robert Wilke with Building 209 resident Howard P. Above right is Jiyoo Pena, LISW-S, HUD-VASH, and City of Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti with Step Up staff members Rebecca Ricci and Jonathan Barahona, as they tour Building 209 on the West L.A. Veterans Affairs Campus.

Step Up Assistant Program Manager Shari Lachin (L), and Emily James, Step Up Director Hollywood Clinical Programs.

Justice Sotomayor’s new book, Turning Pages.