

# Your IMPACT!

How your investment is changing the future for individuals experiencing mental health issues through supportive housing, vocational training & placement, and a sense of belonging.



**January** 2017

...leading the way to life in recovery!

### PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

The #1 requested supportive service...



Step Up's San Bernardino Housing First team welcomed new members Juanita B. (left) and Daniel M. (below) to their new homes in December!

Juanita B. had experienced homelessness on more than 10 occassions. Most recently, she had lived on the streets for the past year.

Dan M. had been living under a tree in Bloomington since 2012. Both new members are excited to have their new homes and new



beginnings. Homelessness was ended for these two individuals through permanent supportive housing in studio apartments in the historic district of Highland. Step Up's Housing First services in San Bernardino County (SBC) began full throttle in late October. SBC services are funded in part through the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Continuum of Care grant program. In December, HUD announced renewal of funding for Step Up's SBC team in addition to awarding new funding for Step Up to begin offering services in 2017 in Riverside County. Congratulations Team Step Up!

## **VOCATIONAL TRAINING & PLACEMENT**

Productivity and social connectedness...



Jordan S. (left) and Joseph B. (right) help serve 130 Holiday dinners to Step Up members.

#### 2016 Milestones

- Over 175 members participated in supported employment training and placement programs.
- 38 individuals moved into unsubdized employment.
- · 45 individuals enrolled in an educational program of some type.
- Over 45,000 plus meals were prepared by vocational participants.

Hands-on vocational experiences in paid positions include: word processing; data entry; facilities maintenance; receptionist duties; clerical support; food service; restaurant kitchen operations; and retail associate work. The challenge is teaching participants how to develop their social skills and deal with their symptoms in the workplace. For Len Lovallo, Vocational Program Director, "The most rewarding aspect of the training program is when a participant gets outside employment and succeeds."

## A SENSE OF BELONGING

Mutuality, safety, respect...

Maria Jeffery, LCSW, was promoted to Program Manager at Daniel's Place, Step Up's special programming for transitional aged youth (TAY) experiencing mental health issues and homelessness. Maria formerly held the position of Lead Service Manager Maria Jeffery, LCSW Coordinator III as part of



Daniel's Place Program

Step Up's Hollywood TAY Outreach staff.

"At 15, I was walking the streets, homeless," said Jeffery. "My own experience helps me connect with and support TAY in finding tools to experience their lives in productive ways."

"Maria 'gets' these young people," said Barbara Bloom, Step Up's Chief Operations Officer. "Both her personal and professional experiences enrich the TAY drop-in and recovery services offered at Daniel's Place where we know a diagnosis is not a destiny." Congratulations, Maria.

Santa Monica:

(310) 394-6889 Step Up

Daniel's Place (310) 392-5855

Transitional Aged Youth (18-28 years)

Hollywood/West Hollywood:

General Information (323) 380-7590 x1330

**Beverly Hills:** 

Street Outreach Team (310) 901-3020

San Bernardino:

Field Services (909) 855-0627