



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.



February 2017

...leading the way to life in recovery!

PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

The #1 requested supportive service...



Tod Lipka (left) & Step Up Board Chair Barrett Esarey (right) honor outgoing Secretary of US Dept. of Veterans Affairs Robert A. McDonald (center) at Crossroads Kitchen.

Step Up, Steve Bing, and Shangri-La Construction recently hosted a VIP dinner honoring Robert A. McDonald, outgoing Secretary US Department of Veterans Affairs at Crossroads Kitchen in L.A. "Secretary McDonald's leadership in funding housing vouchers and supportive services has been key in ending Veteran homelessness through permanent supportive housing initiatives," said Step Up President & CEO Tod Lipka.

Step Up and Shangri-La Construction's innovative public/private partnership to end homelessness for Veterans was recently recommended to oversee 55 units of permanent supportive housing in Building 209 on the West Los Angeles VA Medical Center Campus. Final steps in securing the award await congressional approval, and then Step Up will provide onsite mental health supportive services and property management services for the newly housed Veterans.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING & PLACEMENT

Productivity and social connectedness...

Len Lovallo, Program Director Vocational Services, began working for Step Up in 2004. Prior to joining Step Up, the Brooklyn native lived in Manhattan where he co-authored *Agatha Christie Companion*, a reference book on the life and works of the famed mystery writer.



Program Director Len Lovallo, Vocational Services at Step Up

Len learned about Step Up through a friend and was hired as a Job Coach. Twelve years later, he is a Program Director and still appreciates how special this work is while continuing to give back to the people who need it the most. "I feel very satisfied I have been a part of this process. I hope I have instilled my passion to the staff and the members we serve."

Lovallo never loses sight of the greater value of Step Up's vocational programs. He's committed to ensuring that others understand, "it's not just about cutting veggies, or mopping floors. It's about the empowerment of the members learning job skills, increasing their social skills, and realizing their mental health issues are not a barrier to employment. This is the complete package." With his years of experience he offers this advice: "No regrets. Never look back, only forward. You cannot change the past, but only learn from it."

A SENSE OF BELONGING

Mutuality, safety, respect...



TAY Step Up member Sunnie W. participates on NPR's new show 1A.

Last month, Step Up participated on a panel for NPR's new show 1A, discussing innovative efforts to end homelessness across America. Tod Lipka, Step Up President & CEO, Philip Mangano, Step Up board member and former Executive Director of the US Interagency Council on Homelessness, Governor Hickenlooper from CO, Governor Baker from MA, Greg Devereaux, San Bernardino County CEO, and Sunnie W., a Transitional Age Youth Step Up member joined in on the panel discussion. The link to the full show is available at www.stepuponsecond.org.

Santa Monica:	
Step Up	(310) 394-6889
Daniel's Place	(310) 392-5855
<i>Transitional Aged Youth (18-28 years)</i>	
Hollywood/West Hollywood:	
General Information	(323) 380-7590 x1330
Beverly Hills:	
Street Outreach Team	(310) 901-3020
San Bernardino:	
Field Services	(909) 963-5355