



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.

...leading the way to life in recovery!



August
2017

PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

The #1 requested supportive service...



Paula Boutte and Kimberlee Albers attend the National Alliance to End Homelessness Conference in Washington, D.C.

Tod Lipka, President & CEO, represented Step Up in July as part of a strategy session addressing some of the challenges on homelessness at the national policy level. Lipka was part of a stellar group of experts advancing the most significant accomplishments for individuals experiencing homelessness. "I'm happy to report Los Angeles is ahead of the curve in addressing homelessness with local initiative HHH and Measure H bringing new significant resources." said Lipka. "This is not happening in many other major cities."

Step Up was represented on the national stage when Paula Boutte, Program Manager in Santa Monica, and Kimberlee Albers, VP of Housing First Programs in the Inland Empire, attended NAEH in July. "HUD Secretary Ben Carson passionately endorsed Housing First saying, 'You can't fight addiction from the gutter, recover from a mental health challenge from under a bridge, or find employment without an address,'" said Albers.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING & PLACEMENT

Productivity and social connectedness...



Step Up recently received a donation of \$8,080 from 360 Dynamic Technology to support its Vocational Training Program. The company, which provides document management systems and services, has

also pledged to donate 12 brand new HP All-in-one computer systems for use throughout Step Up's programs.

"We are very impressed with the Vocational team's passion to help Step Up member's restore their ability to return to the workforce and regain their self-determination," said Patrick Bentley, Senior Consultant. "Meeting the members and watching them prepare a complete meal for so many was awesome!"

Last year, Step Up's Meal Program provided more than 45,000 meals to participants and the Vocational Program trained 185 people.

Santa Monica:

Step Up (310) 394-6889
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/Riverside:

Field Services (909) 963-5355

A SENSE OF BELONGING

Mutuality, safety, and respect...



Musicians include David on guitar (left), pianist Tom (center), and Painted Brain's James (right), "There's always room for one more!"

"Nothing about us without us" is a phrase describing peer-driven wellness programs. A great example of this is Step Up's collaborative relationship with The Painted Brain, a peer-driven outreach campaign dedicated to breaking down the stigma and isolation of mental health issues through creative expression and advocacy.

Every Friday afternoon, The Painted Brain's James hosts a jam session for Step Up's new residents in Bldg. 209 on the West LA VA Campus. The veterans, using their own instrument or one provided by Painted Brain, simply create the music in the moment, changing styles depending on the musicians jamming that day.

"It's obvious the Vets enjoy the boost in self-esteem they get from playing," commented Mark Phelan, Step Up Service Coordinator II HUD-VASH. "It's a relaxing and bonding experience that supports their well-being."