



H.O.P.E. For The Holidays... *a benefit for homeless teenagers*

H.O.P.E for the Holidays 2008 Beneficiaries

Help of Southern Nevada Center for Independent Living is an emergency shelter program for homeless teenagers. It is a residential facility that serves homeless youth, ages 16 to 21, by providing programs, education, support and tools necessary to transition them from homelessness to independence. They are given the opportunity to mature and learn independent living skills in a structured supervised setting. Residents must be enrolled in education with the goal of completing high school while at the same time learning skills that will allow them to enter the work force and become productive citizens. (www.helpsonv.org)

Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth is a 24-hour Safe Place drop in center. They are the only youth service provider with a continuum of care involving street outreach, 24 hour crisis intervention, and independent residential housing programs for responsible youth that are working toward living successfully on their own. NPHY assists homeless youth with contacting family members and restoring identification so they can work, drive and go to school. NPHY offers counselors, medical care, food, clothing, and a safe place to relax, use the computers, shower, and wash their clothes. (www.nphy.org)

Street Teens is a drop in center where homeless teens can receive free medical care, medication, food, food vouchers, a shower and the chance to wash their clothes. Street Teens is open seven days a week from 4-8 p.m. It is non-residential but the center works hand-in-hand with the above facilities. Unfortunately, these teens feel they cannot trust others so they feel safer on the streets. It takes time, resources, commitment, and a personalized step by step approach to help move them off the streets. (www.streetteens.org)

Living Grace Home provides a safe place for young pregnant teens ages 14-22 who have no place to live. House parents provide 24 hour supervision. Teens must attend school or work, share expenses, follow basic house rules, and take an active role in planning menus and shopping. Living Grace Home offers shelter, counseling, life skills training, assistance with education and vocational goals, childcare and permanent housing. (www.LivingGraceHome.com)

Clark County School District Title 1 Hope is a federally funded program that plays a vital role in guaranteeing the educational rights and protection of homeless teens. The Las Vegas area is divided into five regions, each having a facilitator who oversees the homeless teens who are working towards their high school diploma. Trained homeless advocates have been implemented in the high schools. These individuals (usually a counselor, first aid

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safety assistant (FASA), nurse or clerk) volunteer their time and are well versed in the laws regarding homeless youth and can identify those teens that need support and assistance. The goal is to keep these teens in school and to provide services that will help them stay successful in school.
(www.ccsd.net)