



Journey House

Forever Changed

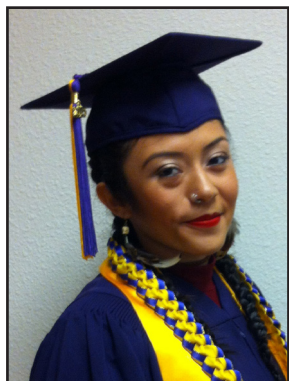
NEWS

A Non-Profit Benefit Corporation Since 1983

1232 N. Los Robles Ave · Pasadena. CA 91104

(626) 798-9478 · info@jhpasadena.org

Summer 2015



Crystal Graduates!

We are very proud to announce that Crystal graduated from Cal State San Francisco with a B.A. degree in Psychology and a minor in Women and Gender Studies. Crystal joined Journey House in 2010 while attending

Pasadena City College where she became a leader in the foster care community as a foster youth peer mentor. She has overcome adversity and continues to face challenges in her life without losing focus on her goals.

In her words

"I am so grateful to Journey House. They purchased my books every semester and provided me with lots of

encouragement and support, which kept my spirit high and my determination to finish college. From the beginning, Jorge and Tim have been nothing but supportive, caring, and nonjudgmental. I have been truly blessed to have these amazing individuals in my corner and I look towards paying it forward. Now what's next for me? I plan to stay in San Francisco and continue to do community work at a nonprofit called "Horizons Unlimited." I want to volunteer at Clinica, a local mental health clinic in the Mission District of San Francisco that serves undocumented and low-income folks. I plan to apply to graduate school in Santa Barbara. I also want to continue to grow spiritually regarding my Buddhist practice and continue to chant! I want to thank all the Pasadena supporters that continue to help Journey House fight for marginalized people. Jorge always encouraged me by saying; "Adelante, Si Se Puede y Se Debe!" (Keep going, Yes You Can and You Should!)



From the

Directors

Our Year to Expand

We have been truly blessed this year with a very generous grant from the Margie and Robert E. Petersen Foundation with a clear and explicate mandate to double or triple the number of former foster youth we serve. This grant opens the door for us to fulfill some long hoped-for dreams. In order to fulfill the granter requirements, we needed to hire additional staff: one person to work with Jorge in recruiting and providing services to more youths, plus two former foster youths to serve as mentors and advocates. Their task will be to form a speakers' panel of former foster youth who will be prepared to attend conferences and meetings throughout the state of California to bring awareness of the issues that foster youth face. They also will participate in governmental meetings to stay abreast of changes or updates to legislation that

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Congratulations Spencer!

I just graduated from Eastern Michigan University with a dual Bachelor's degree in Math and in Communication. I have decided to stay in Michigan and pursue a Master's degree in communication.

I have been asked to teach a speech class next year, as well as be a graduate assistant coach. These two positions will pay my full tuition for graduate school studies. I have a lot of ideas for the future, but I don't really know exactly what yet – maybe comedy, or computer programming, or astrophysics, or acting, or slam poetry. It's a very diverse list, I know, but I'm having a really hard time picking a favorite. I'm trying not to let their non-interconnectivity get in my way of enjoying all of them to some degree. During the summer, I'll be doing an internship at Towers Watson as a financial benefits analyst in DTLA. Thank you for all your help and encouragement in making my life exciting. ----- Spencer



Journey House Welcomes New Staff Members



Youth Services Coordinator

Jose joined us in January. He comes with many years of experience in the mental health and foster youth industry, especially with case management and the Medi-Cal application process. His primary responsibilities are recruiting new clients, providing resources to meet their needs, and guaranteeing that each of our youth has affordable health insurance. He lives in Monrovia with his wife and children.

“I personally feel blessed for being a part of Journey House team.”

Foster Youth Advocacy Coordinators

Jesse is a former resident of Journey House. After his emancipation, he struggled in college, but found many organizations that gave him the opportunity to volunteer and participate in activities that helped build his leadership qualities and self-confidence. This led him to discover his passion to bring about social change. He remained in contact with Journey House staff while attending East LA College. His creativeness, innate intelligence and outgoing personality made him an excellent candidate for our expansion goals. While he completes his AA degree at Pasadena City College he will be working with Gabby in the creation of a speakers’ panel, mentoring, and fostering legislative changes for emancipated foster youth.



Gabby is a former foster youth who came to Journey House seeking assistance in her efforts to continue her college education. It didn’t take us long to see her as a very articulate and intelligent young lady who could have a great impact in encouraging other young people to pursue their hopes and dreams of obtaining a college education. While she attends Azusa Pacific University, completing her degrees in Psychology and Social Work, she will be using her experience in the foster care system to advocate legislative changes, develop a peer mentoring program, and a supportive network for youth in transition to adulthood. In light of her experience as an emancipated foster youth, Gabby is passionate about making sure that foster youth are prepared for the day they “age-out” of the foster care system and find themselves with little to no funding and support.

“My desire is to make sure that anyone who comes through Journey House does not go without. I am an advocate by nature and feel called to help others.”



Grant Writing Consultant

La Quetta comes to us with many years of experience in the non-profit industry and in the grant- writing field. She has taught classes at UCLA Extension in the Nonprofit Fundraising & Leadership Program and is the author of “The Grantbuilder: Step-by-Step Guide to Grant-writing Workbook.” As a part-time specialist, she will help us organize our grant-writing system, research new funding opportunities, and submit grant applications.

Board of Director's Profile

My Heart Goes to Journey House

I was a teacher in the LAUSD for the last 32 years. My life as a teacher was extremely rewarding as I witnessed the academic and physical growth of my students. Through teaching, I have learned patience and compassion.

After I retired, I asked God for directions to my next journey and I found Journey House. I was so excited about working with Journey House after I talked to Tim. This is the organization where I'd like to spend my effort and time. At the present time, I have a position as a part-time university supervisor at California State University, Northridge. Any financial support I can raise will be beneficial to the students at Journey House so they can continue their education in high school or college. Their education is important in order for them to achieve their dreams and set them on the path to lifelong success. Last year I attended the graduation celebration Journey House held for the young people graduating from high school and college. When I heard their stories of life in the foster care system

and their struggles, it made me cry. I was so touched. It was such a beautiful and meaningful moment to see them achieve their diplomas. To see their life change because of the support Journey House gave them is so moving.

I would like to give a huge thanks to Tim and Jorge. They are the assets of Journey House and are so dedicated. They have such a big heart for all the clients that ask for assistance. I'm so proud to be part of the Journey House family.



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deal with foster care issues, especially reallocating educational funds for foster youth pass the age of 21 who want to complete their higher education. And lastly, we needed to hire a fundraiser/grant writer in order to sustain our growth. We also plan to establish a "social enterprise," a profit-making operation in which we can have a steady source of income and a place where our youth can work while they attend college or pursue trade education.

Since January, over 60 youth who have reached age 21 contacted Journey House seeking financial and educational guidance. Because some of them turned 21, they no longer qualified for institutional funding and services from the County and other foster care agencies. All of these young people are full time college or university students. Because the law (AB12) stipulates that state funding for foster youth ends at 21, these students find themselves unable to complete their education and are in jeopardy of becoming homeless. To meet this very critical need,

Journey House has stepped in and is helping them find affordable and safe housing during their summer break. We are also providing counseling and guidance to help overcome the challenges they face.

In the fall, these students will be returning to their respective schools, such as UCLA, USC, University of Syracuse, Cal Baptist, U C Berkley, Dillard, Cal Poly Pomona and many local community colleges. Journey House is proud to support these youth in their pursuit of a higher education, regardless of their age. We are committed, and because of the grant we received, we are able to see that all these students receive financial assistance (books, registration, housing, etc.) in order to achieve their dream of a college education. The Journey House mission has always been to provide opportunities, encouragement and financial assistance for foster youth to realize their full potential through education.

What's Happening

- ◆ Judeana starts her second year in graduate school at Cal State LA
- ◆ Selena starts her Senior year at St. Mary's College
- ◆ Olivia starts her Senior year at Cal Baptist
- ◆ Lucero starts her Senior year at USC
- ◆ Carmen starts her Junior year at Loyola Marymount University
- ◆ Jessie starts his Sophomore year at LA Trade Tech
- ◆ Jorge starts his Sophomore year at El Camino College
- ◆ Chris starts his Sophomore year at La Verne University
- ◆ Daniel starts his Freshman year at PCC
- ◆ Cristian is getting married in June
- ◆ DeJane and Tatiana had babies
- ◆ Laura unfortunately was arrested on felony charges
- ◆ Many more are maintaining jobs, education and contact with us

We appreciate the following for helping us so far in 2015

INDIVIDUALS

Carmen and Dan Apodaca – Altadena
Irene Bou – Los Angeles
Jaung Chun – Los Angeles
Susan and Roger Dickey – Monrovia
Donna Ames-Heldfond – San Francisco
Mary Fitzpatrick Johnson – San Dimas
William May – Pasadena
Doris McGinley – Glendora
Carlos and Julia Mendez – La Puente
Raul Mercado – South El Monte
Martha Jo Morehouse – Glendale
Sue Park – Los Angeles
Tom and Elizabeth Polenzani – Pasadena
Ludina and El Sayed Sallam – Pasadena
Kevin and Kimberly Sanchez – Glendora
John & Dinah Sandusky – Albuquerque, NM
David Sandoval – Pasadena
Debra and Tom Schweiner – Glendora
Rudy and Sheryl Tekippe – Pasadena
Matthew Toledo – Imperial
Mike and Mary Tressel – Concord
Venise Williams – Pasadena
Fred and Betty Wong – Alhambra
Jeffrey and Renee Ying – Glendora
Ronald Younker – Pasadena

IN-KIND DONATIONS

Arcadia Association of Realtors
Becky Bristow – Tujunga
Jan Cantwell – Pasadena
Mary Rose Costte – San Gabriel
Sheila Diamont – La Habra Heights
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Sandra Iwasaki – South Pasadena
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Jennifer Terrell – Pasadena
Kristen Willet – South Pasadena
Fred and Betty Wong – Alhambra
Ron Younker – Pasadena

BUSINESSES

Bank of America United Way Campaign
Lucky Management – Los Angeles
Danny Osti Tree Service – Sierra Madre

ORGANIZATIONS

Foothill Unity Center – Monrovia
Pasadena-Foothill Realtors Association
Polytechnic School – Pasadena
Rotary Club of Pasadena
Sierra Madre Women's Club
SPARC – Pasadena

GRANTERS

Ahmanson Foundation
City of Pasadena (CDBG Funding)
Phoenix Foundation
The Rose Hills Foundation

Thank You!

How you can help us in our expansion year...

1. Donate to the “cost of attendance” college fund – helping 30 some college students.
2. Donate any unwanted household items. We can use everything and anything as we help find suitable housing for our clients
3. Donate your time and professional expertise as a Board member. For more information call Tim, the Executive Director

The Pasadena Chamber of Commerce Commended
Journey House for Five Years of Membership.



Contact Information



Journey House, Inc.

1232 N. Los Robles Avenue
Pasadena, California 91104
(626)798-9478 • Tax ID# 95-3838636
www.JourneyHouseYouth.org
info@jhpasadena.org

Board of Directors

Fred Wong, Esq. President
Venise Williams Finance (Interim)
Ben Sarafi Secretary
Andrew Cooper
Byung Jung Jhung
Patrick Mayworm
Kevin Sanchez
Tim Mayworm Executive Director
Jorge Camarena Program Director

Mission Statement

Journey House is a non-profit organization, established in 1983 whose sole purpose is to assist emancipated foster youth meet their independent living needs.