Open Doors

Absolute respect and unconditional love for all youth overcoming homelessness and trafficking

Santa Clara Welcomes Its First Youth and Youth With Young Families

On May 20, Covenant House cut the ribbon on “an amazing, sacred space that will be home for young people who were facing and now overcoming homelessness,” says Kevin Ryan, President & CEO of Covenant House International. He went on to say “we were not unaccompanied in the darkness...from the very minute the pandemic set in for us, Cisco made extraordinary gifts so that young people had a safe place to be. Cisco has made this possible - this is a house that would not have existed but for Cisco's leadership and generosity. Cisco has time and time again stepped up to be company and hope and love in the world for young people.”

The need in California is enormous and this site is just one of four new Covenant House locations that will open in the state this year to serve young people experiencing homelessness. This new site is a unique public/corporate/nonprofit partnership, where the county is providing the building, Cisco is providing a large part of the operational funding, and Covenant House is running the program to serve youth. The initial space will house up to 30 residents at a time, with up to five units designated for parenting youth and their children.

This site will provide housing for youth ages 18-24, for up to two years, or until they are ready to move into their own homes.
Internships Lead Youth To Career Opportunities

Throughout our California campuses, our youth have been keeping busy this summer!

Our young people who chose to do internships are doing well with some ending soon with potential job offers on the horizon! In Oakland, being an intern for Hort | Culture has been a place where our youth have learned design, marketing, and sales skills.

While in Los Angeles, HavASole has given our young people countless opportunities to learn how to run a business while giving back. Sweetgreen was recently on campus to conduct interviews with five of our youth getting hired!

We are proud to provide our youth with these treasured moments of being a young adult. If you are interested in providing an internship opportunity, please email asattler@covca.org.

“It’s something that I love to do and want to keep doing!”

HAVANNA. MARKETING INTERN. COVENANT HOUSE, CA.

Santa Clara Welcomes Its First Youth and Youth With Young Families (continued)

Services will include three nutritious meals per day, onsite case management, mental health counseling, education and employment support, and access to long-term housing opportunities.

During the ribbon-cutting ceremony, Chuck Robbins, CEO of Cisco Systems, shared that “the power of public/private partnerships is astounding. The ability for us to really work together is the way we’ll solve problems.”

“There is a tremendous need and a tremendous opportunity to really prevent homelessness for future generations if we can get young people out of homelessness and into employment and supported by a community that really cares about them,” said Bill Bedrossian, CEO of Covenant House California. “We could not be more excited to call Santa Clara home for Covenant House. On June 1st young people will be living here. We can’t wait to house them and make this their home.”

To make an in-kind donation for our youth with young children overcoming homelessness, visit covenanthousecalifornia.org/donate-items.

Learn more at covenanthousecalifornia.org/santaclara
Even in the middle of an ongoing pandemic, Covenant House California has not lost sight of providing more beds to more youth throughout our state. Our young people deserve a safe place to sleep, nutritious meals, assistance on how to apply for college or finish their high school diplomas, guidance on securing a job, and help finding long-term housing so they can be successful, thriving members of our community.

As of August 2021, we have raised close to $10.5 million towards our $14 million goal to reach even more young people.

$14 MILLION DOLLAR GOAL

to help us provide 165 additional beds by the beginning of 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Amount Still Needed</th>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Opening Date</th>
<th>Beds for Young People</th>
<th>Building Update</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anaheim</td>
<td>$200,304</td>
<td>$2,250,000</td>
<td>Fall 2021</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Kitchen currently being renovated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hayward</td>
<td>$789,398</td>
<td>$1,600,000</td>
<td>Winter 2022</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Plans finished. Awaiting permits to build.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles</td>
<td>$981,230</td>
<td>$2,400,000</td>
<td>Fall 2021</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>20 additional beds for youth and staff offices complete. Awaiting permits to renovate kitchen.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santa Clara</td>
<td>$229,915</td>
<td>$3,250,000</td>
<td>Fall 2021</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Outside signage and permits being finalized.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crenshaw</td>
<td>$1,308,868</td>
<td>$3,000,000</td>
<td>Fall 2021</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Medical clinic seeing youth daily. New kitchen feeding youth daily. Awaiting permits to build rooms and staff offices.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oakland</td>
<td>$981,230</td>
<td>$2,400,000</td>
<td>Fall 2021</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20 additional beds for youth and staff offices complete. Awaiting permits to renovate kitchen.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Contact Amanda Sattler at asattler@covca.org if you would like to make an impact by helping us provide more beds to more youth.
A Note From Our CEO

It is difficult to wrap our heads around what has been happening in our communities over the past 18 months. At Covenant House CA, we have seen unprecedented heartache, while experiencing unexpected favor. Our young people have suffered through isolation, loss of employment, delays in education, and unavailability of housing. The suffering around us is intense. Young people experiencing homelessness on the street describe increased levels of drug trafficking, human trafficking, violence and just overall desperation. It is heart-breaking. Conversely, this has also been a period of time when we have witnessed the power and generosity of the Covenant House CA community. Staff have worked tirelessly to keep young people safe and moving forward. Volunteers have adapted by providing meals, care packages and other supplies to keep young people safe.

Our donors have enabled us to achieve our growth goals, including opening a new site in Santa Clara, expanding our Los Angeles site, and opening new sites in Anaheim and Hayward, and expanding our Oakland site, all later this year. This outpouring of support has not only confirmed what a special community we are a part of at Covenant House CA, but has also been the source of encouragement and love for our youth and staff. Thank you for being part of such a remarkable community that has shined so brightly in the midst of so much darkness!

Bill Bedrossian
Chief Executive Officer, Covenant House California