Pathways to HOPE Project challenge by Choice

a program of Alliance for HOPE International

The Pathways to HOPE Project builds on the nationally recognized work of Camp HOPE by creating a year-round Camp HOPE program for 100 children and teens (ages 11-17) from Imperial and San Diego Counties.

The goal of the Pathways to HOPE Project is to mitigate the impacts of trauma on 100 children and teens with high Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE) Scores through holistic year-round programming and mentorship. While attending Camp HOPE during the summer, each Pathways participant will be in a HOPE Circle with 10-12 peers, two Assistant Counselors, and two adult mentors.

At camp, each HOPE Circle will be participating in activities including white water rafting, tubing, wakeboarding, zip lining, field games, high and low ropes courses, music and the arts, and much more!

After children and teens return from camp, they will participate in monthly activities with their HOPE Circle. The goal of these activities will be to help them focus on achieving goals for their lives and exposing them to knowledge and experiences associated with Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM). Our central goal is that through the Pathways to HOPE Project, we can change the destinies of children that would otherwise very likely be subjected to lives of perpetuated violence, incarceration, substance abuse, and other dysfunctions.

We believe that through the power of Camp HOPE's summer program, combined with year-round mentoring and educational activities, this innovative approach can create Pathways to HOPE for the children who need it most. The anticipated outcomes include increased HOPE Scores, improvements in self-regulation, esteem, and efficacy, consistent child and parental engagement, improved school performance, increased interest in college and vocational programs, increased knowledge of STEAM skills and related career options, and improved emotional health and well-being.

The University of Oklahoma will be conducting the evaluation study of the Pathways to HOPE Project including benchmarking each child's ACE Scores and their initial HOPE Scores. The research design has been reviewed by the Institutional Review Board of OU's Center of Applied Research on Nonprofit Organizations and we anticipate publication of the outcomes of the Pathways to HOPE Project within two years.





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