



JOURNEY to DREAM

ANNUAL REPORT

FY 2019-2020

**BRIGHTER FUTURES—
BETTER COMMUNITIES**



OUR MISSION:

Journey to Dream (JTD) embraces, equips, and empowers hurting, at-risk, and homeless teens to overcome adversity and live purposeful lives. JTD offers a full breadth of services to a growing population of at-risk, victimized, and homeless youth with education, counseling, basic life needs, and safe shelter while empowering them with positive coping/life-skills, to become self-sufficient, productive, independent, successful adults.

CORE VALUES:

-COMPASSION-

We are caring and compassionate because of our inherent belief that every individual matters.

-DEDICATION-

We are dedicated to achieving our mission and advocating for today's youth.

-AUTHENTICITY-

We recognize each person is an individual with strengths and weaknesses; we strive to be open, honest, and authentic in all efforts.

-INTEGRITY-

We are committed to honesty, financial transparency, and ethical behavior in all areas.

-COMMUNICATION-

We show our youth that caring relationships are based on trust, respect, and honesty.

-STRUCTURE-

We provide structure and reasonable expectations allowing our youth to focus on their futures.

-CHOICE-

We help our youth make positive choices and encourage them to believe in themselves.

Our core values are guided by our belief in God and commitment to the spiritual values we hold dear.

A Letter from Our President: Brian White

Friends,

At Journey to Dream, we're thankful each day for the opportunity to serve Texas teens in crisis. The need has never been greater, and Journey to Dream made significant strides this year to serve more youth and to serve them better. This fiscal year was a breakthrough year for Journey to Dream. We saw teens without a place to go get adopted into wonderful homes, win awards for athletic achievement, get the best grades of their life, and truly feel at home for the first time.

Our CEO, Nesa Grider, has done an outstanding job this year building Journey to Dream. Over the past year, through her leadership, Kyle's Place was near-maximum capacity throughout the year, allowing us to serve more teens than ever. In addition, she secured grants to build Kyle's Place capacity, further expanding our service opportunity. Nesa and her leadership team developed the staff, teaching them to better serve the youth in care and created systems for success, so they know what great looks like. Journey to Dream also added a Chief Development Officer as an outreach and fundraising coordinator to local businesses. We've seen significant business partnerships start to develop, despite challenging economic times.

We can't possibly thank our generous donors and volunteers enough! Thank you for your commitment and dedication to the mission and providing the support needed to help us help hurting teens. From donating and decorating to helping teens enjoy a proper homecoming experience and spending time with our teens just having fun, we very much appreciate everything you do. Without you, none of this happens.

The Board saw some changes this year, like many years. Several board member's terms expired, and we thank them for their tireless dedication to Journey to Dream. I would like to take a moment to introduce Chris Hatton as the new Board President. Chris and his wife Laura have been long time supporters of Journey to Dream, and we're excited to have his leadership. He will be an outstanding president!

Lastly, I would like to say a very heartfelt thanks to Nesa, the Board, the staff, and volunteers of Journey to Dream. It has been an honor to play a role in the continued success of Journey to Dream, and I can't thank you enough for the guidance and support each of you played in the success of Journey to Dream. Thank you from the bottom of my heart!

Respectfully,

Brian White
President



Since opening our doors in February 2017, Kyle's Place has provided more than 92,844 services.

Often referred to as the forgotten population and now the hidden population, because they are unseen, youth homelessness is on the rise. They are the nation's invisible at-risk, most victimized and undercounted population - homeless teenagers. Our 2020 service numbers speak volumes to this growing population and the ongoing need of support.



5,290



5,113



5,232



7,145

2019 Points of Service: 22,780

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

- ◇ Department of Family and Protection Services (DPFS) extended License for 4 years
- ◇ Redesign of Administration and Storage Area –Kyle's Place
- ◇ Published the 3rd edition Livin' it Loud Curriculum
- ◇ New Chief Development Director Hired – Samantha Sims
- ◇ Aramark fully subsidized food for school groups
- ◇ Kyle's Place Resident Wins Defensive Player of the Year
- ◇ Journey to Dream Approved as Medicaid Provider
- ◇ Awarded Chic-Fil-A True Inspiration Award
- ◇ Journey to Dream Launched new website
- ◇ Kyle's Place resident made High School Varsity Cheer Squad
- ◇ Journey to Dream purchased a 2019 15-passenger Van
- ◇ Kyle's Place Resident win National One Dream Award – Overcoming Adversity
- ◇ All Kyle's Place Residents successfully promote to next grade level
- ◇ Kyle's Place Resident accepted into Supervised Independent Living Program (SIL)
- ◇ Kyle's Place 17 year old resident adopted

LIFE SKILLS

Life skills are the skills that many take for granted, like managing money, shopping, cooking, driving a car, and personal hygiene. They are essential for living independently. Some teens experiencing an unstable family environment never acquired these skills or lost them through extended periods of homelessness. Skills like time management, problem-solving, goal setting, teamwork, effective communications, organization, and conflict resolution are necessary to achieve success. Smart shopping, meal planning, cooking, budgeting, bill paying and balancing a checkbook are also vital to succeed independently. Our Life Skills Development Program teaches these skills to our teens participating in our transitional living program.

KYLE'S PLACE

Kyle's Place does much more than provide a safe place to live. Residents at Kyle's Place learn a new way of life, experiencing love and support, many for the first time, while breaking negative cycles, achieving goals, and being hopeful about the future. Journey to Dream has been serving homeless teens since 2004 through outreach programs that offer support for meals, clothing, and transportation, as well as life skills training. Kyle's Place is a transitional living home for unaccompanied teen's age 14 to 19. The home is complete with all the amenities, and it is a comfortable place for teens to live and pursue meaningful futures. While living here, teens work with family counselors, mentors who help with life skills, and have access to community resources. After leaving Kyle's Place, teens have the skills to confidently put one foot in front of the other towards a brighter future.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Building strong relationships is essential; it is incredible to see God using these teens to be a catalyst for change. Some teens come into our programs broken, dealing with unspeakable trauma, depression, addiction, and self-harming –yet each one of them has made such an impact while part of Journey to Dream and continue to give back and change the world around them.

Through our continuum of care and outreach, our Leadership team maintains relationships with social service, community partners, and area school districts. We are taking a proactive stance to share our mission of equipping, empowering, and embracing an often forgotten population of teens. Our staff is available to address community organizations, school assemblies and church groups as we continue to walk along beside these teens and to meet them where they are. They are enough just how they are!

SCHOOL PROGRAMS

While COVID19 interrupted our school programs this past year, we have reset to offer our groups virtually for the 2020-2021 school year. Journey to Dream's School Programs inspires students to reach their fullest potential by encouraging them to take action against any obstacles that may be hindering them from accomplishing their goals. Student support groups provide a safe environment for students to share life, find acceptance and understanding while gaining the education and resources needed to make positive life choices. Journey to Dream curriculum consist of interactive activities and topics discussing coping skills, relationships, self-worth, boundaries, and more. Students assist their peers in navigating through life challenges with respect, transparency, and inclusion.



Financial Summary

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

Thank you for giving generously to help at-risk, victimized and homeless teens succeed this year.

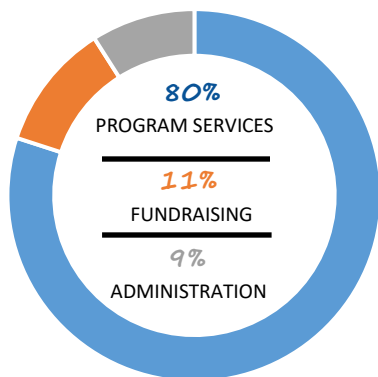
Of every \$1 you gave,

80¢

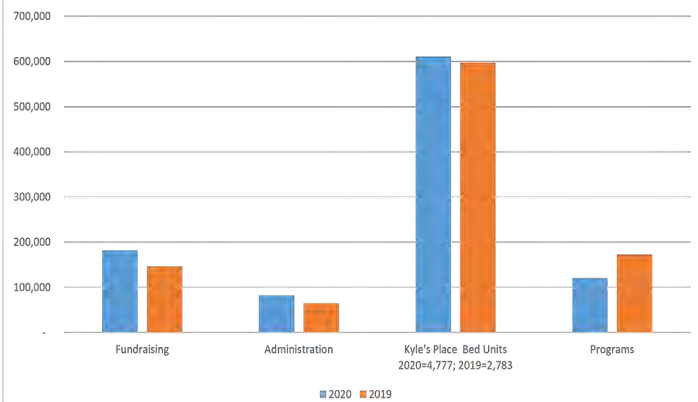
was invested in programs

for at-risk, homeless, and traumatized teens.

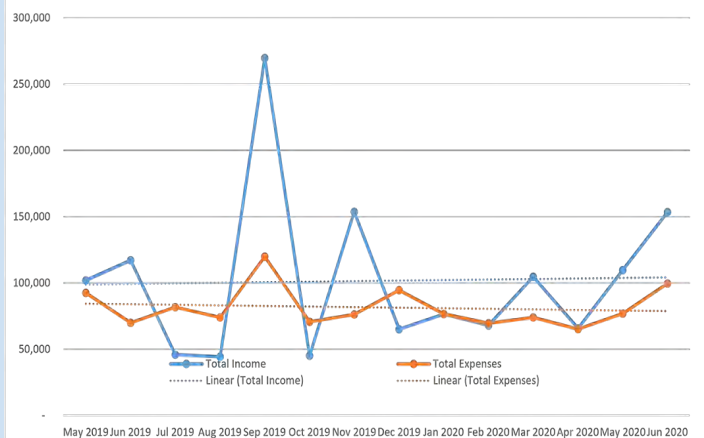
Here's how:



Expense by Class
YTD Jun 30, 2020 & YTD Jun 30, 2019



13 Month Rolling Income & Expense



Revenue and Support

Contributions, Grants & Foster Reimbursement	\$895,704
Special Events Net Revenue	162,767
Mission/Outreach Partners	34,914
Total Revenue	\$1,093,385

Programs and Operating Expenses

Program Services	\$729,610
Fundraising	101,714
General and Administration	82,734
Total Expenses	\$914,057

Net Assets

Beginning of Fiscal Year	\$470,777
Change in net Assets	178,453
Total Net Assets	\$649,230

2020 Board of Directors

Brian White

President

Keith Long

Secretary

Billie Cantu

Julie Davenport

Chris Hatton

President Elect

Shelley Connell

Treasurer

Michael Truitt

Paul Dietzler

Journey to Dream Leadership

Nesa Grider

Chief Executive Officer

Anita Lansmon

Chief Financial Officer

Ravain Owens

Director of Social Services and Case Management

Samantha Sims

Chief Development Officer

Dawn Park

Kyle's Place Program Manager

COMMUNITY EVENTS

SHOP WITH A COP

Shop with Cop provides a fun filled evening for teens in hopes of creating a long term relationship with law enforcement. During this 6th annual event, 86 teens were provided dinner, an unforgettable ride to Target with police car lights and sirens blaring, and \$150 in Target gift cards to shop. Officer Thomas said it best, "it is events like this that leave an indelible mark of respect on both the officers and the teens."



SIP & STROLL WINE WALK

The 4th Annual Sip and Stroll welcomed over 500 guests joining us for a night of wine, food, fun, and giving! Sponsored by The Shops of Highland Village, guests received an exclusive goody bag, commemorative wine glass, access to entertainment, and food pairings around the property. The night's entertainment included a lipstick print analyst, caricature artist, strolling guitarist, and a "living grapevine" stilt walker. We are thankful for the continued partnership with The Shops of Highland Village.



BRIGHTER LEMONADE

Mia Camm has made it an annual tradition to host a lemonade stand to raise funds for Journey to Dream. For the 4th year, Brighter Lemonade has far exceeded their sales expectations and the ability to give back to homeless teens. COVID19 was no match for Brighter Lemonade, with an enterprising spirit; Mia and her team offered new flavors, collected orders, and bottled lemonade for delivery. While Mia might have launched this annual tradition, her closest friends Lilly and Claire, are now part of the team working hard to share the message of Brighter Lemonade.

Mia, the founder of Brighter Lemonade, said it best, "The reason I put so much effort into my lemonade is that the lemonade makes people happy and the donations live."



DREAM BIG GALA

Journey to Dream hosted its 7th annual Dream Big Gala to end teen homelessness on September 14, 2019, at Venue Forty50, Addison, Texas.

This year's honorary chair Janet Jensen, Founder and Executive Directive of the Jensen Project, shared her personal story of sexual assault survival and her commitment to fueling strong partnerships in the fight against sexual violence. With a generous matching gift of \$35,000 by Ms. Jensen and the fantastic support from our donors and sponsors from the Dream Big Gala, Journey to Dream, raised over \$158,000. This is critical funding that will provide shelter, clothing, food, basic life essentials, and supportive services to at-risk and homeless teens in our community.

Guests enjoyed a VIP reception, tray-passed appetizers, complimentary drinks, and a fun time socializing before dinner along with the impactful program. It was exciting to celebrate with community leaders, donors, and volunteers who are committed to eradicating youth homelessness. Former Journey to Dream students and Kyle Place residents shared their emotional and personal stories of tragedy, struggle, and triumph.

Without a doubt, the highlight of the night was the announcement that one of our Kyle's Place residents was adopted! After 17 long years in and out of the CPS system, this resident now has a loving family to call her own. Not a dry eye in the house!

We want to extend our sincerest gratitude to all the sponsors, donors, and attendees that helped make our gala a success.



2020 King Metal's Invitational Golf Tournament

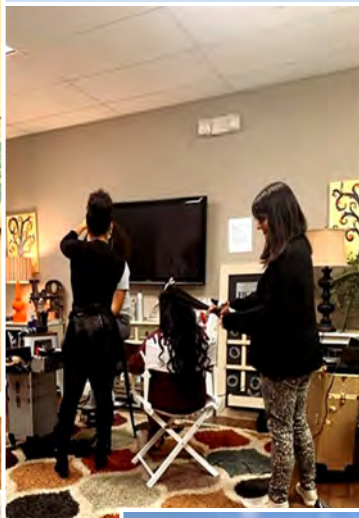
COVID-19 was no match from the supporters of the King Architectural Metals Tee Off for Teens. This Charity Golf Classic comes together annually for a first-class event to celebrate, network, and raise funds for Journey to Dream. The 15th annual Tee Off for Teens Golf Classic took place on June 30, 2020 at Stonebriar Country Club. By all accounts it was an overwhelming success. With a noon shotgun start everyone finished their 18 holes and vied for placement on the leader board. After golf, the festivities continued with players enjoying a Mexican buffet dinner, raffle drawing for exceptional prizes, the announcement of awards and cocktails while maintaining social distancing. Eddie King was presented with a handcrafted gift by the residents at Kyle's Place as a special thank you for his continued generosity and support. We are beyond blessed with the continuous support of Leaderboard, Jeff Hederick, King Architectural Metals, and Eddie King.



THE HEARTBEAT OF JOURNEY TO DREAM

VOLUNTEERS

We recognize individuals and families who give their time, talent, voice, and resources to make a difference in teen lives. The Journey to Dream volunteers has been supporting and mentoring our teens for over 16 years. They are a dynamic group of individuals from all walks of life who share their talents, kindness, and generous spirits with our teens. Many of the founding members, dating back to 2004, are still involved and impacting this often forgotten population. Our 298 dedicated volunteers provided **2,543** hours of service this past year. They are certainly the unsung heroes of JTD.



SPONSORS

Thank you to our sponsors for your unwavering support of Journey to Dream throughout the years.



Rick & Janet Blackstock



INDIVIDUAL & FOUNDATION DONORS

We are grateful for all of our sponsors, donors, and volunteers who support our mission of serving hurting, at-risk, and homeless youth. We rely on the continuous support of many individuals, companies, and partners to invest in these teens and help us continue our mission.

Thank you!

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\$50,000 and Above

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Jenson Project

Janet Jensen

Over \$25,000

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A Letter from Our President Elect:

Chris Hatton

Equip, Empower and Embrace. These are three words that all of us need in our lives. At one time, and probably still today, we all needed to be quipped, empowered, and embraced to accomplish a task, learn a life skill, or get through a rough period time. At the same time, we need to be the ones equipping, empowering, and embracing others for their journey called life.

Matthew 25:40-The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

As I ponder what lies ahead for Journey to Dream, I can't help but want to take a few moments to thank and recognize several outgoing board members for the time served. Both Julie Davenport and Keith Long served on the Board of Directors with big hearts and with big dreams for the kids. Their love for the kids and the organization was evident in their dedication to the board, the staff, and the kids. I also want to thank and congratulate Brian White, who served as our Board President 2019-2020, for a trying but successful year. However, we can't quite say goodbye to Brian, as he has decided to serve as a board member for another term-Thank you!

As we start our new year, we are still facing the challenge of operating in a COVID-19 world. Thanks to the diligence of the Journey to Dream staff and the residents, we managed to remain COVID free! However, this means sacrifices all around, especially for the kids. Because our residents at Kyle's Place are a family of 14 (plus staff), the task of keeping everyone healthy is daunting. The residents are attending class virtually; some may not be able to go to work; our volunteers are restricted from coming to Kyle's place and until recently, the residents were not allowed to have their home family visits.

The teens in the high school programs are also making huge sacrifices. By not being able to hold our weekly school programs on the high school campuses, they are not getting their weekly dose of being equipped, empowered, and embraced. Sometimes, the school program is the only place they receive this encouragement.

I understand that COVID-19 has affected each of us in our own way. I fear the biggest challenge for Journey to Dream is that as a non-profit we are privately supported by a great community, and our donors may not be able to financially support us in the way they have in the past. As we move forward, my plea to the community leaders, corporations, and individual donors is to not forget our Journey to Dream mission, and continue to support our programs to the best of your abilities.

I look forward to working with Nesa Grider, CEO, and the rest of the board to continue our journey to Dream Big!

Sincerely,

Chris Hatton
President Elect

