

# News of HOPE

Renewing Hope. Rebuilding Lives.

## Their success is our success!

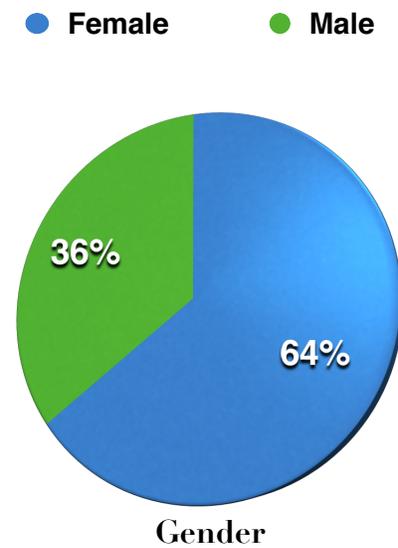
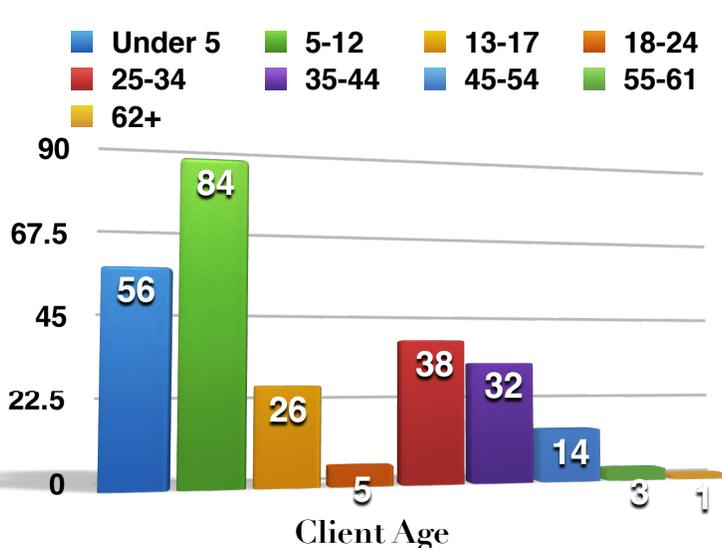
This year has brought a number of new programs and excellent outcomes that we are excited to share! Project HOPE has been running now for three years and with that we have added new and exciting programs such as our work experience program. Many of our single moms have never worked a day in their life and have nothing to add to a resume. With our work experience program we have been able to provide our residents with job skills and a letter of recommendation when they go apply to jobs. It has also been on our hearts to be able to reach the unsheltered single individuals in our community. I am a part of the San Joaquin County Homeless Task Force and attend outreaches that supply our unsheltered homeless with resources and an opportunity to get into a program or shelter.



Our Interns of HOPE program is the key to making Project HOPE so successful. Interns of HOPE encompasses our case management and therapy for each individual adult and child in our program. The interns come from different colleges who are working on their degree for Social Work, Marriage and Family Therapy, Mental Health, or Recovery Counseling. Through our intake process, a resident is lined up with a case manager that is best suited to the individual's needs. This is an excellent opportunity for the intern students to learn what it takes to provide counseling, therapy, and case management to families in crisis.

Without Interns of HOPE we would not see the success that we have experienced over the last three years. We have gone from 9% stably housed to an average of 50.5% - 62% stably housed! From October 1, 2016 to October 1, 2017, we have serviced 259 individuals. Of the 259 individuals, 166 of them were children! Almost 65% of our client are under the age of 18 and 54% of our clients are under the age of 12! Armed with this knowledge, we recognize that our children are also in a crisis. We have a program written specifically for our children called Children of HOPE. Through this program we are offering our children groups and therapy to assist them in learning skills to cope with crisis and trauma. None of this is possible without the amazing support of this great and generous community, our local colleges, interns, Manteca Police Department and churches! Thank you all for a great year!

## Client Demographics



# Appreciating our past, stewarding our future!

It has been my pleasure to serve at HOPE ministries for nearly four years. In fact, it has been an answer to prayer! While going to college my faith was challenged. I prayed for the opportunity to work in a ministry, serving and advocating for families in distress. HOPE Ministries has afforded me that answer to prayer and I never take it for granted, but before I came along, the Lord was hard at work through many other remarkable individuals. With this coming year being our **25<sup>th</sup> anniversary**, we will take many moments to look back with appreciation in how those individuals allowed themselves to be used by the Lord for this remarkable mission. From the inception of the mission envisioned by the Greater Manteca Ministerial Association (GMMA), to the handful of Executive Directors carrying the torch of leadership, to the many outstanding Board members, this next year will be one of celebrating our past with eyes on stewarding the future.

“Stewardship,” one of my favorite words! Our goal is to make the Lord, our Board of Directors and our community, proud of the work we do in our community. With success of “Project Hope,” through the increase in families finding occupational and residential independence upon graduation, we certainly feel we are going the right direction!

The work we do would simply not be possible without the loyal and consistent funding and labor of individuals, corporations and churches that share in our vision. As our vision grows, our work will follow and we humbly request that you consider how you, your work place and your service clubs or churches, might consider supporting that work? 25 years is an amazing achievement and in a perfect world we should strive to end the need of homeless shelters. Until then, we look forward with excitement as we expand on the mission and vision of HOPE Ministries and learn from our past so that we can serve excellently in the future!



In His Service,

*Cecily Ballungay*  
Executive Director

*The generous man will be prosperous, and he who waters will himself be watered.*

*Proverbs 11:25*

Mailing Address; P.O. Box 841 Manteca, CA. 95336  
Phone: 209-824-0658 [www.hopefamilyshelters.org](http://www.hopefamilyshelters.org)



## Board of Directors

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So much work is done at the shelter with the help of volunteers and we are so grateful when the load is made lighter with these amazing and generous individuals!

### Ways you can help...

- Volunteer (babysitting, story hour with the kids, apartment painting, etc.)
- Intern (Interns of HOPE, case management)
- End of Year cash donation

All of this can be done at  
[www.hopefamilyshelters.org](http://www.hopefamilyshelters.org)



# Client Story

My name is Kayleigh Overstreet and I am a grateful believer in Jesus Christ. I and my two-year-old son were fleeing for our lives from an extremely abusive situation when we found the Raymus House and HOPE Family shelters in 2012. Although we were free from our abuser, my alcohol abuse continued and was never addressed. We were moved to Building HOPE, the transitional shelter, after a few months at Raymus House. My alcoholism continued and not a day went by that I did not drink.

When it was my time to move from the apartments, we moved ourselves into another physically and emotionally abusive situation. This led to us being on the street for another six months. I was able to return to Raymus House in August of 2016. I felt very humbled and blessed to try again. This blessing came in the form of the new staff, Cecily, Michelle and Christine. Cecily was the first to hold my hands and pray for me. Christine always made sure our needs were met, loving us as if she was our own mother. Michelle helped with her tools of recovery and how to build a foundation with Christ as the base of her no-nonsense nature and never-ending faith in me. She always reminded me that I could accomplish anything I set my mind to. Without God sending these women into my life, I probably would not be here today. The staff turned into my forever family, friends and support system.

We started attending church, self-improvement, education on finances, parenting, life skills, and Hurts, Habits and Hang-Ups classes. I was baptized in April of 2017 and started an online course to receive my high school diploma. I was blessed with another chance at the transitional apartments. This was a fresh start, the right way. Within a few months, a job opening at Raymus House was calling my name. I left the apartment fully furnished for the next family. I am now the site manager for the Raymus House Women and Children's Shelter, where I can help lead others to following the right path. I am excited to be able to use my past to help bring hope and encouragement to the ladies that come in. God never wastes a hurt! Proverbs 27:17 says, "As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another" (NIV). This is what I believe we all are doing as staff, both for each other and the residents. God never wastes a hurt! I am grateful for God's restoration, second chances, and HOPE Family Shelters!



## Shelter Operations...no small task!

It has been an honor to be the Shelter Operations Manager since June of this year. This rewarding position includes assisting clients with many aspects of their day including but not limited to supporting them with life style struggles and overseeing our work experience program. I am also charged with managing donations, working alongside the generous service clubs, churches and individuals who reach out to support us. This allows me to shine the light of God into our residence lives!

In the past few months, many positive changes have been made in the lives of our clients. Streamlining chores and work experience has given the residents a plan of action in their daily schedules. Our most rewarding task accomplishment so far has been the donation center. The center organizes all donation in a manner that makes them available for clients' needs and in the future, retail sale. This invaluable experience will become the focal point for preparing clients to work in the retail industry.

In the coming year we anticipate more positive changes while working closely with the community. We meet so many amazing individuals who truly care about the wellbeing of the families we serve and they partner with us through making donations of gently used clothing and household goods, volunteering time and resources. We strive to serve our clients excellently and encourage the community to consider that when donating. Please consider our Facebook Page "Donations for HOPE" as a means to let the public in on the shelter's needs. This next year will be filled with many blessings and it will be great to partner with our community as we serve together in God's name!





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We are tremendously grateful to the following Corporations, Churches and Service Clubs for your sincere and generous care and support of our families in our community.

### Churches

Calvary Community Church of Manteca  
Crossroads Grace Community Church  
Southside Christian Church  
United Lutheran Church

First Christian Church  
New Hope Foursquare  
Refuge Church

Sequoia Heights Baptist Church  
United Methodist Women  
Calvary Chapel Manteca  
Jackson Avenue Church

### Service Clubs/Organizations

Family Project  
Girl Scouts Troops  
Manteca K-9

Manteca Sunrise Kiwanis  
Manteca Police Chiefs Foundation  
Woodbridge Owners Association  
Daughters Of the British Empire  
Jory Kusy and FilmworX

Stockton Bicycle Club  
Manteca High School FFA  
Del Webb Volunteers  
BBVA Compass Bank  
Manteca Insurance

Ripon Serves  
Soroptomist  
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**Hope Ministries, INC.**  
P.O. Box 841  
Manteca, CA. 95336

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