

HANDS4HOPE - YOUTH MAKING A DIFFERENCE



EMPOWERING YOUTH IN LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE SINCE 2008

EXPLORE. ACT. LEAD.

A large group of diverse young people, mostly teenagers, are posing on wooden bleachers in what appears to be a school gymnasium. They are arranged in several rows, some standing and some sitting. Many of them are holding small, white cards with text on them. The group is diverse in ethnicity and age. Overlaid on the bottom half of the image is the text "ANNUAL REPORT 2025-2026" in large, bold, white capital letters with a blue outline. The background shows a gymnasium with a wooden floor and a brick wall in the distance.

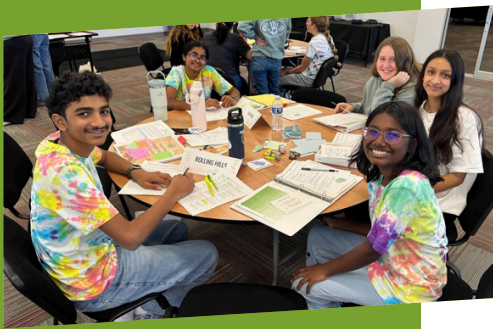
ANNUAL REPORT 2025-2026

At Hands4Hope - Youth Making A Difference, our mission is to inspire and empower youth in leadership and service. We do this by giving youth a platform to make their voices heard on issues affecting our community and providing them the opportunity to take action in their own way.

CENTERING YOUTH VOICES

We have created a safe place for youth who want to step up and take action.

Youth participant survey results:



Felt safe during meetings & events



Felt my voice and ideas were heard



Gained a better understanding of the people they served



Inspired to volunteer in the community again

MORE THAN VOLUNTEERING

Our surveys demonstrate that Hands4Hope consistently excels at creating meaningful youth-adult partnerships, empowering youth voice, developing leadership and workforce-ready skills, and inspiring a lifelong love of service.



570

Youth participants



410

Youth who participated regularly



16,118

People served through youth projects & outreach

There are plenty of people here in need. Sometimes people in need don't look how you expect them to look. Challenging assumptions is great and healthy.

Hands4Hope Youth Leader



I learned how to collaborate with large teams and how to stay organized. The professional setting really helped push me out of my comfort zone in many aspects, and it has helped me greatly!

Hands4Hope On-Campus Club Participant



PROJECTS THAT MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Youth in 11 Hands4Hope Clubs on middle and high school campuses **investigate** needs in the community, **plan** a project to address an unmet need, **take action**, **reflect** on their project, and create a **demonstration** that showcases their year of service-learning.



View all the Club project demonstrations



The Herbert Green Middle School Hands4Hope Club raised funds and held a supply drive to help wild animals with their recovery and release.



The Oak Ridge High School Hands4Hope Empower Club held a food drive to stock the emergency food pantry.



The Union Mine High School Hands4Hope Club organized a bingo event fundraiser to support warm meals for people experiencing food insecurity.

2025-2026 | HIGHLIGHTS

9,889 Total youth service hours



Hands4Hope youth participants develop greater empathy, understand community challenges firsthand, and build meaningful relationships with those they serve. The numbers show that youth truly make an impact on those in need now. More adult volunteers are needed to serve as leads and mentors to support current and expanded opportunities.

Meals served or delivered

10,837

Total outreaches and projects

345

Youth in Leadership Opportunities

128

Community organization partners served by outreaches & projects

32

Adult volunteers consistently lead youth in outreach events

24



335 Crafts, cards, and desserts made by participants



Number of items collected in youth-led drives **25,236**



Pounds of food collected & distributed

893

665 Students in need in grades TK-12 received \$66,800 worth of backpacks and school supplies



Raised by youth-led projects to benefit causes close to their hearts

\$53,246



\$131,244

Total value of items collected in youth-led drives and distributed to those in need

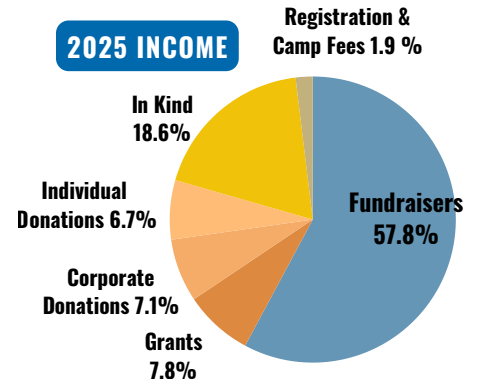
HOW WE DO IT

Our community of supporters plays a vital role in Hands4Hope - Youth Making A Difference. Volunteers generously share their time, talents, and treasures by serving as **Adult Mentors and Adult Leads**, and on the **Board of Directors, Steering Committees**, and in planning and fundraising teams for events like **Endless Summer Beach Party, Nashville Songwriters Live, and Big Day of Giving**. Donors and sponsors generously invest financial resources that make our work possible. Together, their generosity ensures youth continue to receive high-quality leadership and service-learning experiences.

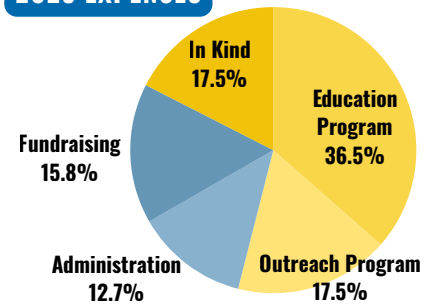
Creating these opportunities for youth is more important than ever. Research shows that youth in our community are experiencing increased sadness, anxiety, and a lack of meaningful connection. It also shows that caring adult relationships, meaningful participation, and school connectedness can **improve youth well-being and academic success**. Hands4Hope **intentionally provides these protective factors** through youth leadership, service-learning, caring adult mentors, and meaningful opportunities to make a difference.

While Hands4Hope helps meet community needs today, your support also invests in the next generation of compassionate, engaged leaders. **Thank you for believing in our mission and the brighter future our youth are helping to create.**

2025 INCOME



2025 EXPENSES



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS & DONORS

Both of my daughters were deeply involved volunteering for Hands4Hope throughout junior high, high school and beyond. The growth I saw in them from being a part of such a great community was amazing. Thank you Hands4Hope for making confident future leaders.

*Tammy and Daniel Dailey
Parents and Adult Volunteers*



Rick & Laura Fergerson | Valerie Antkowiak & Mark Pallone | Chisick Family Foundation

Jerome H. Hart & Wanda S. Hart Fund | Bassett Family | Kathleen Peek

Lee & Shelbi Bennett | El Dorado Community Foundation | Scott & Lynette Spriggs

Allworth Financial | Baird Foundation, Inc. | Beyer Family | Busch Family | Captrust

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