



July 27, 2016

## Community of Note



*Guiding Our Youth to Healthy Adulthood*

### Villages of Hope receives \$10,000 through Sun Sentinel Children's Fund

Villages of Hope recently received \$10,000 through the Sun Sentinel Children's Fund, a McCormick Foundation Fund. The grant will support VOH's Transitional Independent Living program, which aids young people who have aged out of foster care.

\$204,000 was distributed to 14 nonprofit organizations in Broward and Palm Beach counties through the Sun Sentinel Children's Fund in this grant cycle.

Joshua Kolkana, director of Villages of Hope, said more than 100 young adults have been served within VOH's residential program, and many more in auxiliary ways, since the organization was established in 2006. This number includes many youth who participate in transitional life skills training and developmental opportunities. Valuable life topics addressed include ensuring educational success; getting a job and staying employed; maintaining medical and dental care; accessing mental health services, as needed; and connecting residents relationally through mentors.

"Villages of Hope is proudest of the way our organization is able to go beyond the very good and helpful programs that meet immediate needs, to ones that holistically break the generational cycles of poverty, abuse and neglect," Kolkana said. Young adults leave with places to live, life skills and pathways for continued education and employment, which empower them to care for themselves and their families.

To learn more about the programs and services of Villages of Hope, visit [www.villagesofhope.net](http://www.villagesofhope.net). Celebrating 15 years of service in 2016, Place of Hope is a faith-based, state-licensed children's organization that provides family-style foster care (emergency and long-term); family outreach and intervention; maternity care; safety for domestic minor sexually trafficked victims; transitional housing and support services; foster care recruitment and support; hope and healing opportunities for children and families who have been traumatized by abuse and neglect. Place of Hope is located at 9078 Isaiah Lane in Palm Beach Gardens. For more information, please call 561-775-7195 or visit online at [www.placeofhope.com](http://www.placeofhope.com).