hope rising

Stories of Resiliency



NEWS OF HOPE



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From the Executive Director

Dear Friends:

In this edition of Hope Rising, you will read stories and reflections on resilience. I thank and celebrate you and our broader community and the resilience we help each other achieve.

Resiliency is the process of adapting well in the face of adversity. Being resilient is not possible based simply on a person's innate nature, or a trait that some have and some don't. Resiliency depends greatly on learned skills and on the support system surrounding a person and the confidence that comes from knowing you have a safety net.

Research shows that young people - and people of all ages for that matter - develop strong resiliency when they have caring and supportive relationships; when they learn to set goals and execute action plans towards those goals; when they have a positive self-view and confidence; when they have solid communication and problem-solving skills, and when they have tools to productively manage emotions. Boys Hope Girls Hope's comprehensive approach to nurturing and guiding young people focuses on the fundamentals of surrounding youth with meaningful relationships, personal skill building and a quality education. In the past couple of years, more than ever, this includes intentional social and emotional support activities. All of this is made possible by your investment.

Investment comes in many forms. The ongoing support from the community is what allows BHGH to be a resilient organization. Our staff, board members, donors, volunteers, service providers, school and community partners and so many others provide the capacity for BHGH to effectively support our scholars in and out of school. Most of all, our determined young scholars and their families are committed and focused on creating a positive future through education. They provide the inspiration, encouragement and determination to effectively carry out our mission to help motivated young people succeed in school and in life.

Thank you for the priceless investment you make in Boys Hope Girls Hope, our scholars and families, and our community. As we approach 2022, we wish you an abundance of health, support and resilience with which to achieve your goals and enjoy this journey we all share.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays,

Amy Pfeifer

Any fleifer

Executive Director apfeifer@bhgh.org

Collegians tap into their resiliency

Boys Hope Girls Hope scholars work hard for years in anticipation of college applications, college scholarships, college acceptances and finally campus life. What will college be like? Will I be able to find my classes? Who will my roommate be? While some of these unanswered questions may come with heightened anxiety, it's happy anticipation as they enter the next stage of their life.

For the BHGH High School Class of 2020 and 2021, those experiences became uncertain and different as colleges and universities were all trying to navigate the new landscape of COVID. Many of the college admission procedures, opportunities to tour campuses and even scholarship programs were cancelled due to COVID and created an unfortunate sense of uncertainty and disappointment for new college freshmen. Those already in college lost opportunities for study abroad and other immersion programs. Many found themselves alone in their dorm rooms doing distance learning.

2020 was a difficult year for everyone. Staying focused and positive was a struggle most days. Yet I was able to find small ways to think positively, listening to my favorite songs and working on my favorite hobby. Phone calls with Alex, College Success Manager, helped to keep me focused on the big picture and not dwell on what may not be going my way right now.

Sinai, BHGH Collegian, ASU

A few collegians took gap years in hopes of regaining those experiences in the 21-22 school year. One collegian whose program was cancelled and campus on the east coast closed, joined the AmeriCorps program and was able to do a service year at Boys Hope Girls Hope of Arizona. Having an alumna on our staff team provided wonderful insight and help to the scholars and the organization overall.

Resiliency to me is about "making it work". I had so many plans cancelled due to COVID and managed to make the most of it. Though, I had to change a lot in order to do that. I had to learn that it is okay not to finish your education in 4 years and it is ok to lose opportunities, because at the end of the day more will come as long as you are looking.

Genesis, BHGH Collegian, Smith College

Despite changes, cancellations, and modified programs, BHGH Collegians were resilient and persisted!





Resiliency brings new relationships

Becoming a BHGH scholar is an amazing accomplishment, yet it comes with high expectations and hard work. Each incoming class of sixth graders is attending a new and challenging school, increased homework plus BHGH programming. This can be a bit overwhelming for them, but BHGH staff is with them and their families for every new challenge they face.

Now imagine that you are facing all of these new challenges that come with being a BHGH scholar and then everything is turned upside down with the onset of COVID. Schools closed and moved to online learning, after school activities were cancelled and all social interactions were halted outside of your nuclear family. BHGH staff quickly moved to make sure scholars had internet, school supplies and they increased the scholar and family check-ins to make sure scholars were focused and on track.

Still some scholars were struggling with this new reality.

Yareli, a new sixth grader, was really struggling with being online all the time. BHGH was new and her rigorous Jesuit middle school was new. She is a very social person who was now stuck at home attending school on the computer, homework on the computer, after school activities and clubs on the computer.

Celina, BHGH collegian and Dorrance Scholar, needed a large amount of community service hours for her scholarship, yet it was tough because of the lack of volunteer opportunities available during the pandemic.

We matched Celina up with Yareli as a study buddy and let her know that she really just needed someone to talk to. Celina had benefitted from a strong mentor from the community when she was a younger scholar and wanted to give back to new scholars. Yareli's grades went up, she was happier, and she persisted through the program and is now doing well as a 7th grader!

This relationship was such a success, we matched all sixth graders with collegians this year. We saw deep relationships being formed that benefitted not only for the sixth grader, but the collegians as well!

It is an invaluable benefit for younger scholars to connect with older scholars who share how they have learned and utilized resiliency skills to persevere through some of the same challenges.



BHGH Scholars and Alumni

Far and near

From the moment a child becomes a Boys Hope Girls Hope Scholar, their journey to a college degree begins. At every age and stage, BHGH fills scholars' tool boxes with the necessary experiences and skills to become a competitive and attractive college applicant to the schools of their choice. Once accepted, the support and guidance from BHGH continues to ensure that our collegians persevere to become welleducated, career-ready men and women for others.

of BHGH scholars are low-income, first-generation college students

Middle School Average GPA	3.5
High School Average GPA	3.2
Collegian Average GPA	3.3

BHGH Scholars excel in school and life!

Of the 37 enrolled BHGH collegians

X10/n Have no debt!

Average debt for the BHGH collegians who have it

S8K

National average for collegian debt in 2020

Forbes Magazine

Of the recent BHGH college grads

their field of study!

- ·US Naval Officer
- ·Television news writer
- ·Freelance social media
- ·Freelance graphic design
- ·Civil engineer
- ·Engineering inspector
- ·Editorial lead (writer)
- ·Logistics flow lead
- ·Surgical ICU Nurse
- ·Attorney
- ·Landscape architect
- ·Financial management

Boys Hope Girls Hope has 37 collegians attending the following colleges.





















Thank you Julie Hancock

Outgoing BHGH Board Chair: Julie Hancock, Camelot Homes

Julie Hancock joined the Boys Hope Girls Hope board in 2015 and jumped right in with her enthusiasm and support. In 2015, Camelot Homes completely renovated the Girls Hope home, providing a beautiful and new environment for scholars for years to come. Julie's fundraising skills were crucial as the 2019 Success Starts with Hope Breakfast Co-Chair, setting new records for attendance and funds raised. We are truly grateful for Julie's board leadership and her passionate support of BHGH scholars!

What a year it has been! As my term as Board Chair comes to an end and I have had an opportunity to reflect on all we have accomplished here at Boys Hope Girls Hope, one word keeps coming to my mind...RESILIENCY!

I originally became involved with BHGH because I was drawn to our mission and our amazing scholars as they demonstrated over and over again their grace, persistence and passion. Seeing how resilient they were as they had to adapt to new living circumstances, new rules, new school environments, new friends and new opportunities really inspired me.

As I grew in my involvement with the organization, I came to realize that our staff, board and donors were equally resilient and passionate. It was remarkable to see how quickly we adapted to the consequences of COVID-19, establishing on line programming, creating virtual fundraising events, and setting records for donations and new supporters.

At the same time, we have embarked on many long-term activities including strategic planning and cultural fluency initiatives which will guide us into the future and help us foster better awareness and connectivity with our scholars, their families and the world in general.



As my term ends as Board Chair, I feel confident that the resiliency I have witnessed in this organization, and all of the passionate people and scholars involved, will allow Boys Hope Girls Hope to confidently head into the future, expanding our reach, inspiring future donors and most importantly offering hope to future generations of well-educated men and women for others.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve such an incredible organization!

Julie Hancock
Camelot Homes
Managing Director

An interview with Jose Leon

Incoming BHGH Board Chair: Jose Leon, Leon Law PLLC

Jose Leon joined the Boys Hope Girls Hope board in 2018 and has been an active member of the Program Committee helping ensure that BHGH programs are meeting the needs of our scholars and their families. We are honored to have his leadership as Board Chair!

Q: Tell us a bit about your background and how you connect with our scholars?

I'm a Mexican born immigrant that came to the US with the goal of securing a higher education. My parents didn't finish grade school. My father was a successful farmer but didn't have more than a 3rd grade education. My mother got her GED when we arrived in the US and settled in Nogales, AZ. At home my parents were supportive but didn't necessarily know what to do or how to advise me as I navigated the school system.

Q: Why are you invested in BHGH?

I'm invested in BHGH because I see my own story in each and every child. The BHGH demographic falls right in line with the hardships and environment I dealt with growing up.

Q: What does resiliency mean to you?

Resiliency means allowing yourself to lean in to the difficult aspects of life. The road to any goal is sometimes long and arduous but the gratification that comes with achieving it lasts a lifetime.

Q: As a Scottsdale Charro, have your perseverance and resiliency skills helped on long trail rides?

Horseback riding is a lot about trust and confidence. When you're out exploring the land on a horse you need to settle in and allow the horse to feel your comfort level with any situation. You'll encounter scary hills, narrow paths, rocky and unstable ground. If the typical surefooted horse trips, falls, or spooks you want to be able to bring them back to a calm state. That requires a horseback rider to stay calm and use the skills learned along the way to prevent an injury and get the horse focused again. Life is a lot like that with challenges and distractions that can prevent you from achieving your goal efficiently.

Q: What does it mean to be board chair and your goals for your tenure?

I am extremely honored to be Board Chair. I am humbled and look forward to providing as much value as I can during my tenure. I think we are positioned to make some big decisions in the coming years that will set the foundation for growth. I'm looking forward to doing my part for that process.

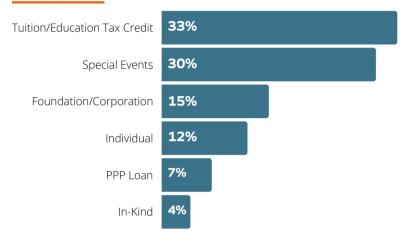
Jose Leon Leon Law PLLC



Financial Snapshot

FY21 (July 2020 - June 2021)

INCOME





EXPENSES



FY 21

Cash Revenue	\$1,252,519
Cash Expense	\$1,214,452
In-Kind Support	\$77,583
Tuition In-Kind/Private Education Tax Credit	\$652,199
Depreciation	\$55,447

Boys Hope Girls Hope benefits from a diverse funding base and is proud of our fiscal efficiency with 85% of every dollar going directly to support our scholars and programs.

*Boys Hope Girls Hope has more than a six-month operating reserve at fiscal year-end.

Boys Hope Girls Hope nurtures and guides young people in need to become well-educated, career-ready men and women for others. Boys Hope Girls Hope of Arizona's annual impact isn't solely measured in numbers, but also in how we're listening and responding to our scholars and their families. We are committed to learning and growth while staying true to our mission. If you would like to learn more about BHGH operations, please contact our Executive Director, Amy Pfeifer at apfeifer@bhgh.org.

Our Investors

Thank you to each and every donor, volunteer and advocate, at every level, who make the Boys Hope Girls Hope program possible!

We gratefully recognize the following supporters of \$5,000+, July 2020 - June 2021

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Arcadia Capital Group, LLC LandSea Homes
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To nurture and guide motivated young people in need to become well-educated, career-ready men and women for others.

Boys Hope Girls Hope of Arizona

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