

WHAT'S GOOD!

"There is a general consensus that foster youths need permanent, supportive, emotional connections with adults to navigate the challenging transition to adulthood"

In Gratitude

We would like to thank all of our supporters! Your support has helped us immensely during these trying times. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to change lives, and more importantly, thank you for believing in us and in our mission!!

- [100 Women Charitable Foundation](#)
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- [Bay Area Wilderness Training](#)
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- [San Jose Strong](#)
- [Sports Basement](#)
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- [Supervisor Cindy Chavez, District 2](#)

Thank you too to all of our individual contributors!

We sincerely appreciate the support, and look forward to continuing our work of transforming lives and challenging public systems.



The First Cohort: What We've Learned

In our last newsletter we mentioned that we were going to report back on the youth we provide mentorship and general support to, but do not have the capacity to provide housing support for. All were renting rooms. Although the majority of these youth made gains, housing played a significant role in limiting their strides. Only one of the youth remains in the same location, and one of the youth has moved *four times* since we started our first cohort. Housing stability and access to immediate support both play critical roles in the long term development and success of our targeted population. In serving both, youth housed through RTB, and youth housed 'on their own', we've seen that stabilized housing is imperative for long term, sustainable success. RTB will continue to provide mentorship and support to youth we do not have the capacity to provide housing for, as we work towards addressing the long term solution. Housing stability, mentorship and long term support for all former foster youth, and other under resourced youth populations.

"It has been found young adults who have emancipated out of the foster care system struggle during early adulthood due to the lack of a permanent home that enables them to form relational permanence and ecological permanence."

Community Building

RTB will be hosting monthly Community meals starting on Sunday, May 23, 2021, at Action Spot, located at 453 W San Carlos Street from 4:00p - 7:00p. Community meals are informal resource and information gathering opportunities for those interested in learning more about our community, as a potential mentee, as a volunteer, as a partner, or as a member of our team. Come learn what we're all about! [Please RSVP here.](#)

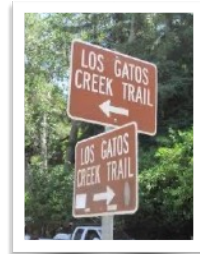
Staying Focused

When one of our first mentees joined the community he was working as a line cook at a local chain restaurant. His passions are cooking and music, and he's always dreamed of combining the two in a business. He was a hard, committed and productive worker, but felt like his opportunities to advance were limited, as were his options to pursue his dream. After being laid off due to the pandemic, he enrolled at San Jose City College and began taking classes towards his Business degree. He's now in his second semester, is eligible for financial support, and as he adjusts to the life of a student, looks forward to increasing his work load and continuing his to pursue his dream. We look forward to being a part of his journey towards success!

Get Outside with RTB!



The RTB community actively promotes wellness through outdoor activities and exercise. We recently began exploring Santa Teresa County Park. The park has numerous trails for all skill levels and abilities. We are returning for another hike on Saturday, May 8th, as there are a multitude of trail options that we have yet to explore! We'll be meeting in the lower parking lot at 9:00am sharp. All are welcome!



RTB will also be hosting a Bike Ride on the Los Gatos Creek Trail on Saturday, May 22nd. If you don't have a bicycle, no problem! The Sports Basement has set aside some bicycles for us to use! The number of bicycles is limited, so please reach out as soon as possible if you need a bicycle so that we can be sure to have one secured for you!

For more information RTB events, please contact us [here](#). Please visit us at [Razing the Bar](#) for more community events.

More to Come!

We look forward to continuing to grow - sharing updates, resources, and opportunities in our monthly newsletter - and expanding content as we grow. To sign up to receive our newsletter automatically please go to www.razingthebar.org