

Dear Supporter,

Grow up. Get a job. Just do it. It's not that hard.

It's true; it's not typically that hard. Unless you don't have a reliable place to live, identification, money for food or transportation and on top of all of that, you have a history of losing every job you get.

How did you learn how to show up on time? How did you learn to communicate with your co-workers? Where did you get your strong work ethic? Chances are, someone in your life modeled that for you. But what if you didn't have "that person"? Here at the Haven Project, we not only provide housing assistance, identification, basic needs, and transportation; we offer our clients "that person"; someone who teaches them the skills they need to stay employed.

Since we started our job-training program in 2015, we've created over 100 on-site paid work opportunities in our Café and in our Catalyst workshops. Jobs where clients receive highly supervised assignments, direct feedback, and chances to make mistakes without losing their job. Thanks to partnership arrangements with local nonprofits and community businesses, clients are prepared to move on to other jobs and keep those jobs—a critical piece of becoming independent, safe and self supporting.

As a customer in our café, a donor, or a community partner, you have played a critical role in the success of our job-training clients.

I'm so grateful for your support.



Gini Mazman
Executive Director
The Haven Project

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Please consider making a tax deductible donation to the Haven Project.

Online: Via credit card: www.havenproject.net/donate
Mail: Via check: 57 Munroe St. Lynn, MA 01901

Catalyst Workshops: A Path to Permanent Employment

In 2017, the Haven Project launched Catalyst, a workshop training program designed for clients who are grappling with obstacles to successful, permanent employment. Catalyst workshops provide the Haven Project clients with low-barrier, paid training opportunities that help develop basic employability skills and provide immediate, increased stability. During Catalyst workshops, participants develop job skills by learning to make products such as body scrubs, soaps, candles and metal stamped jewelry.

These products are sold under the Catalyst name and are available for purchase at Land of a Thousand Hills Café, local fairs and community events.



The Haven Project's Jobs Program Coordinator, Fredy Hincapie, has developed partnerships with community businesses so that Catalyst participants can transition from workshop training to permanent employment. "The Haven Project maintains ongoing contact with our community partners so that we can evaluate client progress and provide mentoring and skills development when needed," reports Hincapie. "Our goal is to help young adults to succeed. The Catalyst training program helps ensure that our clients are well-trained and ready to be employed."

The Catalyst model has proven effective for clients who had previously been struggling. In 2018, Catalyst workshops provided training to 39 clients, 25 of whom have been able to move on to permanent full or part-time employment.



Job Program Coordinator:
Fredy Hincapie



Catalyst products on display at a local event.



<https://www.facebook.com/Haven.Project57/>

<https://www.facebook.com/lothlynn/>

YOUNG ADULT VOICES

When we met Kayla, she had very little work experience. While she knew she would need to work and save money to live independently, Kayla struggled to succeed at work and at home. She was unable to find the balance between school, homework, and babysitting for the relative with whom she was staying. The stress and anxiety of her situation made keeping a job seem like an insurmountable obstacle.

Shortly after coming to the Haven Project, Kayla stood out as a perfect candidate for our job-training program. She started working at Catalyst workshops learning basic reliability. She was respectful and motivated. Our Job Program Coordinator was confident that with the right training, Kayla could be successful. Haven staff also began working with her on boundaries with family and provided educational support. Within a short period of time, Kayla transitioned into our social enterprise, Thousand Hills Café.

Kayla has been working in the Café for three months. We've seen drastic improvements in her professional skills. She has gone from coming in late and missing shifts to arriving promptly

and following call-out procedure when necessary. She even began using a planner to manage her hectic schedule! Kayla has also developed great communication skills and has learned to accept and ask for feedback.

Kayla's next step will be to transition from working in the Café to maintaining a job in the community. We will continue to support Kayla as she applies for jobs and when she begins working. As Kayla continues to grow in her skills and experience, the staff of the Haven Project will continue to empower her to become independent and successful.

Want to learn more about how to get involved at the Haven Project?

We hold informational meetings in the Café twice monthly. You can find out about upcoming dates and sign up on our website:

<http://havenproject.net/informational-meetings/>

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Laura Reeder became a volunteer in October 2018 after learning about the Haven Project and attending one of our regular monthly informational meetings. She has been working with the young adults participating in our Catalyst workshops every Friday. After developing a rapport with one of our clients, she is now doing one-to-one mentoring with them bi-weekly. This is in addition to becoming a significant donor and contributing arts and craft supplies to the workshops.

When asked why she chose to get involved with the Haven Project, Laura explained that as a teacher in public schools, community organizations, and in higher education, she has seen the challenges of homelessness with so many young people and their families. She went

on to say, "The Haven Project bridges a difficult period between K-12 school and adulthood for so many. I wanted to use my experience as an educator and as an artist to encourage young people to succeed, and the Haven Project provided a way to do that."

At the Haven Project, Laura has found a community that respects and cares for a great diversity of issues with young people. Laura explains, "Every single story is different and at the Haven Project we get to learn so much from each other."

Laura stated, "I believe that poverty of spirit in one person is dangerously expensive to all of society. We cannot afford the associated costs of despair that comes with homelessness. James Baldwin once wrote, 'Anyone who has struggled with poverty knows how

extremely expensive it is to be poor.' That statement inspires my mission and resonates with the times in my own life when I was not able to make ends meet or felt that there was no better tomorrow."

We are grateful that Laura has chosen to bring her passion and expertise to the Haven Project. Her support has been invaluable.



The Haven Project
57 Munroe St.
Lynn, MA. 01901

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Lynn, MA
Permit No. 183