



PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release
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Hanna Boys Center Celebrates 24 Graduates from Archbishop Hanna High School Class of 2017

SONOMA, CA — June 2, 2017 — Hanna Boys Center, a Sonoma-based residential treatment center for at-risk young men, will recognize 24 graduates of Archbishop Hanna High School's Class of 2017 during graduation on Friday, June 2, 2017. Archbishop Hanna is a fully accredited Catholic high school on Hanna's campus. Of the 24 graduates, 19 are planning to continue their education while the remainder will start careers, including one in military service.

"While millions of kids across the country will graduate from high school this year, what makes the 2017 class of Archbishop Hanna special is our students' perseverance to overcome very challenging backgrounds," said Brian Farragher, executive director of Hanna Boys Center. "Some were neglected; some battled substance abuse issues; some experienced domestic or community violence; some didn't have enough food to eat. Most never thought that they would get to this point in their lives. Yet because each of them decided to change their lives, come to Hanna and build new connections, here we are. Today, we celebrate a milestone achievement for these young men, who will use this diploma as a stepping-stone to a brighter future. Hanna is thrilled to have been a pivotal part of their success stories and look forward to following their journey as alumni."

Archbishop Hanna High School students come to Hanna, mostly from California, with long histories of adversity and toxic stress, including abuse, neglect, and exposure to family and community struggles. Education is one of Hanna's core values, which includes nurturing the mind, the body and

the spirit to help transform boys into productive, healthy, compassionate young men. The instruction at Archbishop Hanna is customized to meet the specific needs of each boy, while the school's specially trained teachers and small class sizes provide the individualized attention and support the boys need to push forward. Hanna also offers multi-faceted vocational programs that help students develop the skillset and work ethic to help them secure future employment in agriculture, carpentry, welding, plumbing, electrical work, food services, healthcare and other industries.

Archbishop Hanna Principal Dennis Crandall added, "Every young man that leaves our campus with a diploma serves as validation of his commitment to control his future, and Hanna's mission to help. As these graduating seniors have heard me say many times, 'To be successful, don't be limited by your challenges, challenge your limits!' Our 2017 graduates have embraced this idea and are proof of the possibilities of what can be done when you don't let life's difficulties define you."

In addition to its on-campus residential center, Hanna also trains childcare professionals how to use trauma-informed care practices. The Hanna Institute expands Hanna's reach and impact by using the center's extensive knowledge and experience to support other youth-serving organizations and communities dedicated to building resilience in children and families.

Hanna Boys Center is accepting applications for the 2017-18 school year from Bay Area families.

To get started on the process for your teen boy age 13-17, go to:

<https://www.hannacenter.org/application>

About Hanna Boys Center

Since 1945, Hanna Boys Center has changed the lives of thousands of at-risk, motivated youth through faith, education and caring, helping them grow into productive members of society. Hanna

exists to help at-risk teens overcome the effects of childhood adversity—to become responsible, productive adults and realize their highest potential. We do this by providing a nurturing and therapeutic residential environment, a tailored educational model, and trained, caring adults who help kids create positive, permanent change in their lives. www.hannacenter.org

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