

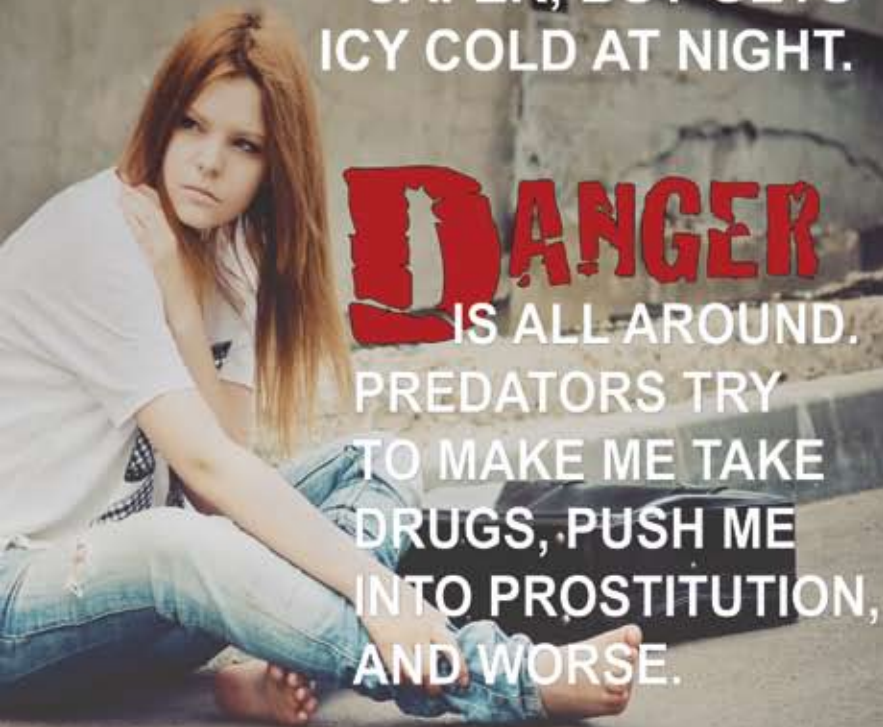
YOUTH HOMELESSNESS A TO Z

A **ABANDONMENT** IS SOMETHING I FACE EVERY DAY.

I AM **B** **BULLIED** BECAUSE I LOOK AND SMELL DIFFERENT.

SLEEPING OUTSIDE CAN BE **C** **COLD**. A METAL DUMPSTER SEEMS SAFER, BUT GETS ICY COLD AT NIGHT.

D **DANGER** IS ALL AROUND. PREDATORS TRY TO MAKE ME TAKE DRUGS, PUSH ME INTO PROSTITUTION, AND WORSE.



SOME NIGHTS I SLEEP IN THE PARK. BUT I'M SO **E** **EXHAUSTED** I DON'T MAKE IT TO SCHOOL ON TIME AND CAN'T STUDY. HOW WILL I GRADUATE?

I RAN AWAY FROM HOME BECAUSE OF THE CONSTANT **F** **FEAR** OF BEING ABUSED WHEN MY PARENTS USED DRUGS.

I'M TREATED LIKE **G** **GARBAGE**. CURSED AT, RIDICULED, THROWN AWAY.

SOMETIMES I ONLY EAT ONCE A DAY. I'M **H** **HUNGRY** FOR FOOD, FOR SOMEONE TO CARE, FOR A HOME.

I FEEL **I** **INVISIBLE**. UNWORTHY. NOT IMPORTANT.

J **JUMPED** IS BEING ATTACKED. I MADE THE MISTAKE OF SLEEPING IN ANOTHER HOMELESS PERSON'S SPOT. THEY TOOK MY STUFF AND BEAT ME UP.

I WAS **K** **KICKED OUT** WHEN MY MOM'S BOYFRIEND MOVED IN.

WHEN I REST ON PUBLIC BENCHES DOWNTOWN, PEOPLE THINK I AM A NUISANCE AND ACCUSE ME OF **L** **LOITERING**. BUT I HAVE NOWHERE TO GO.

I'M **M** **MOTIVATED** TO IMPROVE. I JUST NEED YOUR HELP.

THE **N** **NEGATIVE** LOOKS I GET ARE DESTROYING MY SELF-ESTEEM.

O **OPPORTUNITY** SUCCESS COMES WITH

I WANT SOMEONE TO BE **P** **PROUD** OF ME.

Q **QUALITY** LIFE. EVERYONE DESERVES A

THE **R** **REALITY** IS I DON'T KNOW WHERE I WILL SLEEP TONIGHT.

I DON'T FEEL **S** **SAFE & SECURE**.

I'VE HAD SO MUCH **T** **TRAUMA** IN MY PAST, BUT MY FUTURE IS LOOKING BRIGHT.

U **UNWORTHY** I FEEL BUT WITH YOU BELIEVING IN ME, THAT CAN CHANGE.

V **IOLENCE** IS ALL AROUND ME.

W **ORK** HARD AND WANT A JOB.

X MARKS THE SPOT WHERE I SIGNED TO OPEN MY OWN SAVINGS ACCOUNT TO GO TO COLLEGE.

SAY **Y** **ES** TO HELPING ME.

Z **ZERO** YOUTH SHOULD BE HOMELESS IN OUR COMMUNITY.

Community Action's HOME Youth & Resource Center
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