

Have you ever met
**a person
who is homeless?**



Character is portrayed by a model

MMeet Sarah. Sarah is 19 years old and no longer in foster care. She has a couple of part-time jobs and takes an evening class at a local college. Sarah's looked hard for housing, but can't find anything she can afford to rent. For the past month she's slept on a co-worker's sofa. She's not sure what will happen next.

Fact: The majority of people who are homeless do not live on the street.

Homelessness, together we can solve it.

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Mmeet Susan. When Susan's hours were cut back at work she got behind on her rent and was evicted. Unable to find a place she can afford, Susan and her teenage daughter have been staying at an emergency shelter in New Westminster.

Fact: A shelter bed costs the public up to \$80 per night – this works out to more than double the rent for an average two-bedroom apartment.

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Mmeet Larry. Larry has a physical disability and struggles with alcoholism. His health has declined since his hotel apartment in Surrey was closed. Last year, he was taken to hospital emergency 24 times.

Fact: On average, being homeless doubles a person's annual cost of health care.

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Have you ever met

a person who was homeless?



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Anna had nowhere to go when her husband threw her out. Community centre staff referred her to a shelter for abused women. With the help of an outreach worker, Anna sorted out her finances, received counseling, and is now living safely in a senior's housing complex.

For Anna, support services, an adequate income and affordable housing made the difference between homelessness and a home.

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Greater Vancouver Regional
Steering Committee on
Homelessness

Have you ever met
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was homeless?**



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Dolores could not find a place she could afford. Homeless, she turned to an aboriginal women's organization. A staff member worked with Dolores to secure an income, enroll in community college and find permanent housing. Two years later Dolores and her son are living in a family housing complex.

For Dolores, support services, an adequate income and affordable housing made the difference between homelessness and a home.

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At 19, John was homeless and living in a tent. An outreach worker connected him to a job program. There, John found a place to live and received training, life skills counseling and work boots donated by a local employer. Now working, John has enough income to rent an apartment.

For John, support services, an adequate income and affordable housing made the difference between homelessness and a home.

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