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Supporting Young People at Hope Street



provide opportunities for them to develop their resilience, their living skills and their ability to engage with education leading to fulfilling employment and ongoing connection within their local community.

The Hope Street articles contained in this edition of *Parity* provide a glimpse of our expert approach to scaffolding a compassionate response to the needs of young people and their children. Whether they be for a single night, or a longer time, our interventions are professional, responsive, trauma informed and designed to cater for individual needs within a safe and caring environment.

Socio-political structures continue to barricade young people into cycles of poverty and homelessness. Ending youth homelessness is everybody's responsibility. The whole community should be involved in the solution. The continued assistance of governments, corporate entities, philanthropists and individuals, is vital.

Hope Street cannot work alone. In partnership with community stakeholders, we are currently piloting and establishing new program models in growth corridors. We are excited about the new services that will make a difference in the lives of young people. Ending long-term homelessness is our goal.

The holistic wellbeing of all young persons and their children is paramount. It is shameful that, in our prosperous country, thousands of people between 16 and 25 have no safe place to live. Youth homelessness does not occur in a vacuum. Trauma, social isolation, mental health issues, poor physical health and interrupted education are merely some of the negative repercussions that damage the lives of these vulnerable people. Responding to this unacceptable social problem requires a multi-faceted approach.

It is central to Hope Street's approach that each young person is provided with an environment that fosters stability and personal, physical and emotional safety. Hope Street provides a sanctuary in which many can begin the process of recovering from the trauma of family violence and neglect. Homelessness also causes trauma. We believe it is essential to assist young people in developing their capacity to live interdependently in the community. Our aim is to

