HOMELESSNESS

Is Not Simply a Lack of Shelter

It was never about houses. According to Amnesty International USA: Vacant houses outnumber homeless people by <u>five times</u>. We MUST allocate resources where they are needed most.



When something as simple as a lost wallet has the power to create a life sentence of homelessness, we must peel back the layers to examine the roots perpetuating cycles of poverty.



A cycle of poverty is the "set of factors or events by which poverty, once started, is likely to continue unless there is outside intervention".

Families trapped in cycles of poverty, have either limited or no resources. There are many disadvantages that collectively work in a circular process making it virtually impossible to break the cycle.

Most shelters turn those in need out during the day without providing resources to create a better life.

When resources are what is needed most to escape these cycles, shelter is not enough.

The Obstacles:

Housing Affordability
Mental Health
Poverty
Addiction
Accessible Childcare
Stigma/ Bias
Unemployment

SWITCHPOINT CRC IS ALREADY ADDRESSING EACH ONE OF THESE ISSUES IN ACTION OR IN PLANNED ACTION.

This population feels the sting of a society that doesn't want them. Many cities have criminalized homelessness leaving those most vulnerable feeling like they don't matter. Switchpoint Community Resource Center and it's subsidiaries are expanding to meet their needs, beyond shelter and food. We have the power to create a switch point in the lives of our neighbors experiencing poverty and homelessness. Please join us.