

THE HOMELESS VOICE

FLORIDAS LARGEST STREET NEWSPAPER



COSAC Foundation | PO Box 292-577 Davie, FL 33329 | 954-924-3571



The end of veteran homelessness is within reach in South Florida

BY BEN CARSON

There is no more important housing issue in this country than when a person or a family has no housing at all. It is even more tragic when that person is a veteran who once served our nation.

Homelessness makes us uncomfortable. Some are tempted to look away and surrender to the notion that it's a problem too big to solve. That's not true. This is a problem we can solve. Last week, I was honored to join the Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust to mark giant steps toward effectively ending veteran homelessness in South Florida."

Ending homelessness isn't some lofty goal or simple public declaration. It involves the heavy lift of creating a system to ensure that when homelessness happens, it's rare, brief and non-recurring. Miami-Dade County is joining a growing national movement, currently including 63 other communities, to end veteran homelessness.

This is not easy. To achieve this goal, the

Miami-Dade Homeless Trust needed to drive down the number of veterans experiencing homelessness by building a system that supports long-term and lasting solutions. My agency, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, is part of a larger federal effort to end homelessness in all its various forms. Along with the Department of Veterans Affairs and others, we have made incredible progress at reducing veteran homelessness.

The latest national estimate finds that the number of veterans experiencing homelessness is on the decline in most parts of the country. At latest count, local communities reported approximately 40,000 veterans experience homelessness on any given night — 2,800 in Florida alone. While we are making progress, these numbers tell us that we still have a lot of work to do.

The adage "All housing is local" is especially true when it comes to homelessness. For example, in many cities along the West Coast and

in the Northeast, the severe shortage of affordable housing is driving up the number of individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Meanwhile, there are a growing number of cities, counties, and states where we're seeing remarkable reductions in homelessness.

Miami-Dade County is joining the ranks of cities such as Kansas City and Pittsburgh, and states such as Virginia and Delaware, which are ending veteran homelessness. All this proves that ending homelessness can be done.

Those who find themselves homeless deserve more than a life on the streets. We have few responsibilities greater than making certain those who have sacrificed so much in service to this country have a home they can call their own. Miami-Dade County is answering the call to serve those who served us.

"All housing is local" is especially true when it comes to homelessness.

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About the Homeless Voice

The Homeless Voice houses, feeds, and finds jobs for anyone who is homeless. We serve up to 500 homeless daily and serve over 45,000 meals each month.

The Homeless Voice distributes a street newspaper in all major cities throughout Florida including Tallahassee, Lake City, Jacksonville, Tampa, Orlando, Daytona, Ft. Lauderdale, and Miami.

The Homeless Voice Newspaper has three functions.

- 1-Educate the public on homelessness and poverty issues
- 2-Provide temporary employment to those without a job
- 3-Raise additional funds for the Florida based shelter

We have grown into a multifaceted agency that feeds, shelters, and arranges for each homeless person to receive the necessary access to social and noncompulsory religious services to enable a return to a self-reliant lifestyle.

For the small percentage of people incapable of living independent lives, we provide a caring and supportive environment for their long-term residency.



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Publisher- Sean Cononie

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www.HomelessVoice.org/contact

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Homeless people wearing barcodes to accept online payments

SEAN MORRISON

Homeless people are wearing barcodes around their necks as part of an initiative to allow those who do not carry change to give donations via online payments.

The new wearable QR codes, like those found on online tickets, are being trialled in Oxford as part of a scheme backed by Oxford University named Greater Change. Money can be transferred to a homeless person by people scanning their phones on the barcode, linked to an online profile of the person it belongs to, and making an e-payment.

The initiative aims to support the poorest people by helping them off the street and into employment and accommodation with the money they individually raise.

Money can be transferred to a homeless person by people scanning their phones on the barcode (BBC)

Each person's Greater Change account will be managed by a case worker who checks that

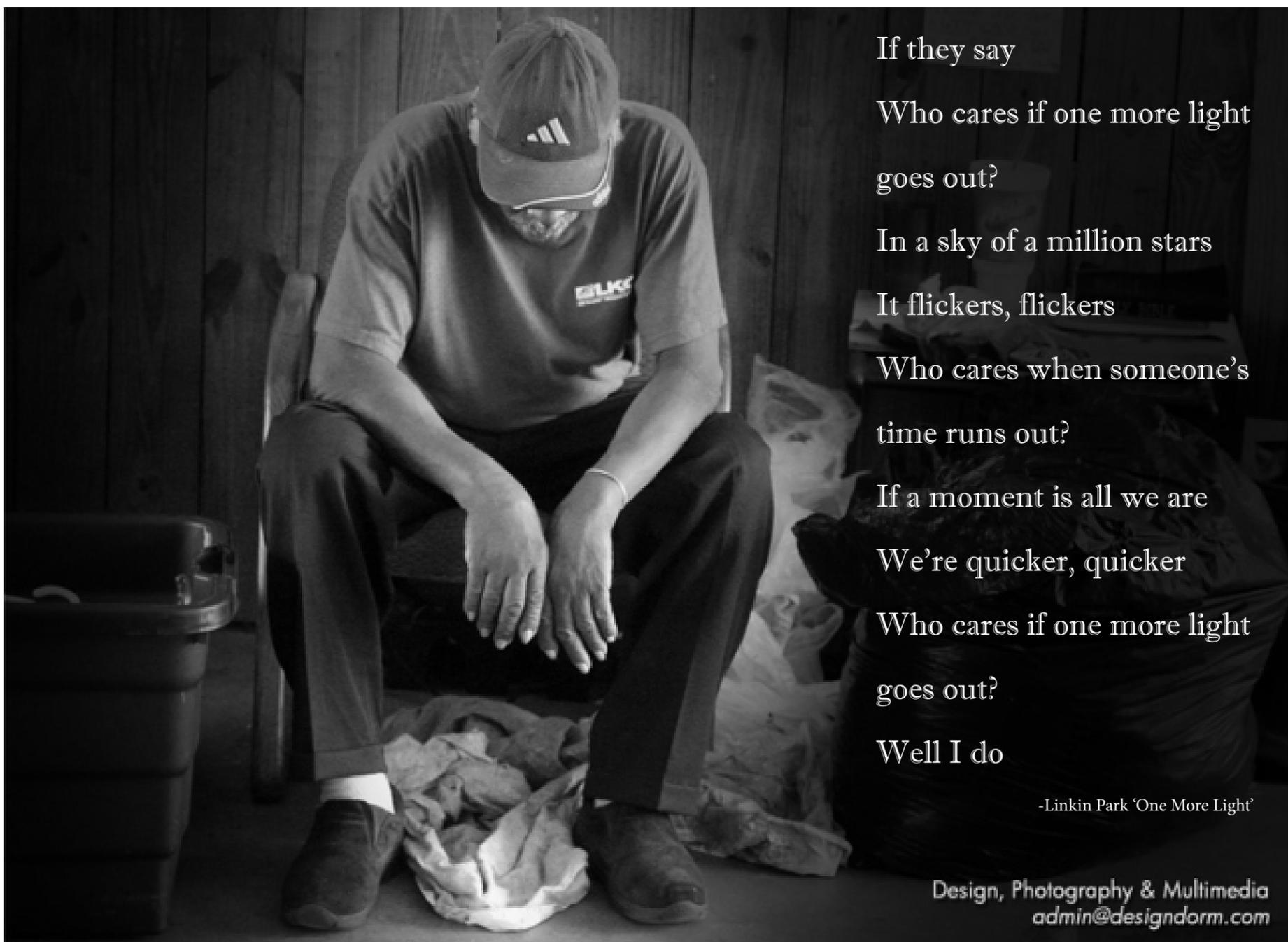


the money is spent sensibly, charity workers involved in the initiative have said.

Alex McCallion, founder of Greater Change, told the BBC: "The problem we're trying to solve here is that we live in an increasingly cashless society and as well as this when people give they worry about what this money might be spent on.

"So the solution we've come up with is a giving mechanism through your smartphone with a restrictive fund."

Each person's Greater Change account will be managed by a case worker who checks that the money is spent sensibly



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goes out?
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-Linkin Park 'One More Light'

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COSAC- who we are and what we do



The COSAC Foundation was originally established in May 1997 to partner with other social service agencies, in the area, that provided help to the homeless population. COSAC also independently feeds the homeless or anyone in need of food.

As we saw a new issue arise, we answered with a new program to tackle it.

Today we house, feed and find employment for anyone who is homeless. The COSAC Foundation has four main programs it focuses on: Homeless Outreach, Veteran's Inn, Homeless Voice, and the Food Bank.

Our Homeless Outreach program takes place monthly, or on an as needed basis. For example, during the colder months our outreach team is very active seeking homeless who need shelter, medical attention, and warmth. On a regular basis however, our team consists of volunteers, staff, and some trained medical professionals. Armed with food, blankets, toiletries, OTC medications, etc. they spend the better part of a

day and night ministering to those in need. Many people they encounter choose to stay on the streets for various reasons, making the Outreach Program always essential to the community.

Veteran's Inn is a former motel located in Lake City. It is now home to homeless Veterans providing them the services they need. There are 22 rooms to combat the 22 suicides that occur daily amongst homeless veterans. Here they have a safe haven. Through the generosity of the local Home Depot, Veteran's Inn just underwent some remodeling.

The Homeless Voice, the paper that brought you this article, is a publication that is distributed by homeless or formerly homeless individuals. Staff members create the paper by using articles that inform the public of the plight, progression and regressions of the homeless community. The vendors then distribute the Homeless Voice throughout the area and receive donations. This provides them with some income and a sense of purpose. Often

this is the first stepping stone towards more independency.

Lastly, our Food Bank. Over 149 households are served daily through our food bank. The donations provided are so crucial to feed the homeless and nearly homeless in our community. Almost 3 1/2 million Florida residents are food-insecure.

Pictured Above from Left: Our original Hollywood Shelter, Memorial Day BBQ, Halloween Food Bank Event, providing immunizations, meeting Terry Jacks to discuss Homeless Anti Drug Song, Director Sean Cononie on Dr. Phil pushing for Homeless Hate Crimes Laws, Homeless Voice Vendors, Staff shipping supplies to Haiti Earthquake Victims, Christmas Dinner Event, Homeless 5K Event, Homeless Advocates Arnold Abbott, Sean Cononie and (late) Michael Stoops in Washington D.C., and Sean showing love to a Hate Crime Victim. COSACS work goes way beyond the reach of just this paper- visit Cosacfoundation.org for more information and ways you can help

Orlando News

Orlando organizations will spend \$75K on study to find out how panhandlers spend their money

Posted By Xander Peters

Judging by recent reports on the issue, Orlandoans have a problem with downtown's panhandling population (re: homeless people). Now local organizations have commissioned a study to gain a better understanding.

The goal: to figure out how many homeless panhandlers are in the city, and how they spend their money. The six-month study, set to launch in September, will cost roughly \$75,000 and will be paid for by local businesses and churches.

"I think what we might find is that a lot of these folks panhandling are truly homeless and are kind of the most challenged people in our society on a lot of different fronts," says Andrae Bailey, former CEO of the Central Florida Commission on Homeless and founder of the Lead Homeless Initiative. "But again, the main point is that I could be wrong. There could be a bunch of professional panhandlers in disguises out here, as some believe."

Cue the confused shrugs to the latter part of Bailey's quote: Why would anyone assume suburban-living individuals would get really dirty every day just so they could come downtown and beg for money? And why does it even matter what panhandlers spend money on after a passerby

forks it over?

The study comes as the city is set to launch a Downtown Ambassador program next month. The idea is to hire staffers willing to take the initiative to approach panhandlers and try to talk them into relocating down the street or to help them gain access to social-service programs.

The pilot program will last for two years and cost about \$725,000 annually.

In July 2017, after a series of court rulings found anti-panhandling laws elsewhere in the country to be unconstitutional, Orlando overturned its 2000 ordinance limiting solicitation to a series of boxes outlined in blue paint. It also overturned the 2007 ban on nighttime panhandling.

The city passed a new law that prohibited soliciting handouts from cars stopped at intersections.

Under a section of law designated for "aggressive panhandling," the city also made it illegal to panhandle anyone using an ATM and for panhandlers to approach "captive audiences," such as folks waiting in a long line before an event. The law also says that panhandlers aren't allowed to ask for money a second time if initially rejected.

Apparently some members of the community find it pressing to figure out more about these roaming individuals.

Maybe that's a good thing after all. Or maybe it's completely pointless.

"I think homelessness can be very deceiving in the sense that you look at someone on the street and there's just a mystery to who they are and what's their real situation what's their real needs," Bailey says. "There's a human nature part of this where we want to believe that every person out there, you know, maybe is out there because they've made bad decisions,

that they could pull themselves up by their boot straps – and in some cases that's true."

Bailey adds: "I think, when we're at our best as a community, we don't make assumptions. We don't use assumptions and conjecture to make public policy; we use facts, and we simply have never done a study or dataset on panhandling."

why does it even matter
what panhandlers spend
money on after a passerby
forks it over?

Fort Lauderdale News

Homeless woman, 75, uses Fort Lauderdale lawsuit money to start over

Brittany Wallman

Until about a year ago, Holly Grant was living outdoors in downtown Fort Lauderdale's homeless camp, with boxes and boxes and boxes of her belongings, all neatly stacked and covered with a tarp.

Now, thanks to a recent lawsuit settlement with the city, the 75-year-old self-described "hoarder" plans to buy a van, de-clutter her life and start anew.

"You can't hold down a good woman," Grant said from a gathering room in her low-income senior tower, as her

Chihuahua, Sugar Pie Honey Bunch, nestled affectionately in her lap.

Grant was one of 10 homeless people who sued the city for destroying their belongings last year, when the camp was razed because of a rat infestation. Now living in what she terms a "penthouse" in Coral Springs, Grant said she'll use her portion of the recent lawsuit settlement to buy a \$2,000 van. She'll fill it with items she said she hoarded in her apartment, and sell them at a flea market. And then, the future is hers.



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Miami News

Miami Cops Keep Arresting Homeless People for Sitting on Crates

MEG O'CONNOR

Vernard Sands was sitting on a plastic crate at NE 79th Street and Miami Court in Little River on November 11, 2016, when a Miami Police car rolled up. The cops told the 35-year-old homeless man he was breaking the law — by illegally sitting on a crate. Then, a cop identified in police reports as Officer Mclean cuffed Sands, charged him with “unlawful use of a dairy case,” a misdemeanor, and took him to jail. Sands spent the night behind bars, all because he had been sitting on a crate.

Sands' ordeal isn't uncommon. In the past three years, Miami-area police have sent at least 49 people to jail for “unlawful use of a dairy case” (AKA sitting on one), according to booking data from the Miami-Dade Department of Corrections. During that same time, 58 people were arrested for possession of a shopping cart.

Both minor charges, activists say, are used almost exclusively to hassle homeless people, who often sit on crates and use carts to carry their possessions (or on Miami Beach, to hawk coconuts). They say the arrests cost taxpayers, clog jails, and do little to ease homelessness in Miami. “Punishing people for sitting on a milk crate is just another way Miami is criminalizing homelessness,” says Jackie Azis, staff attorney at the ACLU of Florida.

Miami-area cops have a well-deserved reputation for harassing the homeless. In the 1980s, Miami police routinely arrested transients for minor misdemeanors like being in a park after dark and sitting on sidewalks in a blatant effort to scare them into leaving. The problem was so bad that advocates sued and eventually forced the city to sign a resolution, called the Pottinger Agreement, which forces police to offer the homeless help and forbids them from arresting the homeless simply for living on the streets.

But this year Miami police have repeatedly been accused of harassing homeless people, while city leaders have moved to get rid of Pottinger altogether.

While charging the homeless with sitting on crates or pushing shopping carts is technically allowed under the Pottinger Agreement, it goes against the spirit of the deal, Azis argues.

“These are the types of actions that really were at the heart of Pottinger,” Azis says. “It appears the city is still using laws to harass homeless individuals in an effort to remove them from sight. These types of actions don't just hurt the individuals who were arrested but hurts our

communities. It does nothing to address the root cause of homelessness or to help find a solution to homelessness in Miami.”

The charges cost taxpayers and rarely stick. According to the Florida Department of Corrections, it costs \$55.80 a day or \$20,367 a year to keep someone locked up in Florida. Most dairy crate and shopping cart cases end with the charges being dismissed by the prosecution. Plus Miami police officers spend hours of their time arresting and booking homeless people for a charge that will in all likelihood be dropped.

A review of ten such cases shows that the defendants were often homeless and were simply sitting around or pushing a shopping cart along a sidewalk before their arrest.

Earlier this year, on January 18, MPD officers spotted 65-year-old Modesto Paez-Diaz sitting



on a milk crate in Little Havana.

Because the crates and the shopping carts are stamped with company logos, having one in your possession — even if you just saw it sitting on the side of the road or pulled it out of a dumpster — is a first-degree misdemeanor punishable by up to one year in prison. (McArthur Dairy and its parent company, Dean Foods, are most frequently cited in police reports as the victims of Floridians' heinous dairy crate theft. Neither company returned messages for this story.)

Paez-Diaz ended up spending the night in jail. As usual, the next morning a judge dismissed the case. Paez-Diaz still owes the city a \$50 public defender fee, despite applying for indigent status.

The bogus arrests aren't restricted to Miami city limits. Just before Christmas in 2015, 35-year-old Shane Burnett was pushing a shopping cart filled with his possessions outside a mall in Doral. Burnett, who the

police report notes is homeless, was approached by Doral Police officers while standing outside a library.

“Doral CST detectives observed defendant Shane Burnett loitering in front of Miami-Dade Library with his possessions inside of a red shopping cart belonging to victim Sports Authority. The defendant was arrested and charged accordingly,” wrote police Officer M. Brajdic in the incident report.

Burnett spent the night in jail. The charges were eventually dismissed, though Burnett never recovered his possessions confiscated by Doral Police that day.

Carlos Roldos ran afoul of the law on August 21, 2016, as he sat on a milk crate on the corner of West Fourth Avenue and 29th Place. Then the police spotted him.

“I observed Roldos... sitting on a dairy crate. The dairy crate was stamped with the trademark McArthur Dairy logo. Roldos was arrested and transported to jail,” wrote Officer F. Alvarez in the incident report.

Like so many others, Roldos spent the night in jail, only to have the prosecutor drop the charges the next day. The Miami-Dade County clerk's office still lists Roldos as owing a \$50 public defender fee.

On May 4, 2017, GenetaurusReives was sitting on a Dean Foods crate when the cops arrived. Officer J. Casiano approached Reives at the corner of NW 13th Street and NW Second Avenue and arrested him. Reives paid \$1,000 bond to get out of jail the next day, though the prosecutor dismissed the charges.

Most of the agencies responsible for recent arrests for illegal crate-sitting or shopping carts didn't return messages from New Times about their policies on booking homeless people for the minor crimes. An MPD spokesperson declined to comment.

On Thursday, under the 395 overpass in Overtown where dozens of homeless people spend the day escaping the sun, several said they had been harassed by cops simply for being homeless.

“One time I was sitting on a milk crate, and they [police officers] came up out of their car and told me, ‘You can't sit on that,’” said Charlie, an elderly homeless man who declined to give his last name. “So I had to sit on the ground. I'm not doing too well. I have hepatitis C, so my back hurts if I sit too low or too high. I threw the crate over the fence; they didn't arrest me. It's up to the officer.”

Another man, Joseph Simmons, said, “They come here and throw our stuff away.” Asked whether he had ever seen anyone get arrested for sitting on a dairy crate, Simmons laughed. “A thousand times. Every day. That's nothing new.”

“They should be catching people that are robbing and killing, not people who are just trying to live and let live,” Charlie said.

**In the past three years,
Miami-area police have sent
at least 49 people to jail for
“unlawful use of a dairy case”
(AKA sitting on one)**

Tallahassee News

Tallahassee officer's support helps homeless man land job

Fox News

A Tallahassee police officer's kind gesture helped a homeless man land a job, but the job is likely just the beginning. Last week, video of Officer Tony Carlson helping a man, identified as Phil, shave his face in preparation for a job interview spread across the internet.

Fast-forward a few days and Phil got the job, but the offer was contingent upon Phil gathering a valid, state-issued ID and his birth certificate.

Senator Marco Rubio heard Phil's story and offered to help him get the documents he needed to start work.

A Tallahassee-based shelter helped Phil get in touch with the right people and he was able to get what he needed.

Just about a week later, the Tallahassee Police Department announced Phil is officially starting his new job.

"Phillip aka 'Phil' started his new job today at McDonald's! We couldn't be more proud! The way Tallahassee has come together to help has been amazing to say the least. We were all reminded this week how a little kindness can go a long way," Tallahassee PD said on Facebook.



Tampa News

Bay area woman wants urban rest stop for homeless



By Dalia Dangerfield

Beth Ross wants to create Tampa's first urban rest stop.

"It's going to be a place where the homeless can go, take a shower, do laundry," she said.

Ross got the idea while visiting Seattle. A stop there has been providing free services for homeless individuals and families for nearly 20 years.

"It's kind of like a full circle of solving a community's problems," Ross said.

She has already been helping the homeless with shampoos, conditioners, toiletries and blankets through her first non-profit, Blanket Tampa Bay.

The urban rest stop would be the next step.

"There are so many people every Monday night that are looking for work, that want a job. If we can get them cleaned up, get them clothes for interview, get them a job, they'll be off the street."

But she will need money. She has been applying for grants and doing whatever she can to make it a reality.

"I'm just thrilled. I feel like a kid at Christmas. I just know it's going to come," Ross said.

She is hoping to have the urban rest stop ready to go by next year.

It will take about \$50,000 to get started, she said. Ross has also been meeting with local leaders to get political support for the project.

Items the shelter will always need...

Gift Cards

Coffee and Coffee Cups

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Toothpaste and Toothbrushes

Socks and Hygiene Kits

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Send items to 4700 SW 51st Street Suite 208 Davie, FL 33314

Gay teen living on his own, struggling to get to college

By Jenese Harris

Thousands of teens will leave the familiar life of high school and family next month to head off to college. But 18-year-old Seth Owen separated from his family months ago has been living on his own because he is gay and his religious beliefs didn't agree with his parents.

Owen said he too is college bound, and he's determined to become successful with or without anyone's acceptance of his lifestyle. Owen is optimistic about the future and ready for new experiences.

He said he has survived with the help of friends, his reality is far too common for LGBTQ teens.

His lesson in adversity began in his sophomore year of high school.

"I was writing a paper one night and my dad decided to check my phone," Owen said. "He was searching for quite a few hours and found a photo that clearly showed that I was gay and questioned me for quite a few hours that night."

Days later, Owen said his parents sent him to counseling.

"They made it clear the intention was to make me straight. (That) was their end goal."

That end goal failed and Owen lived in his truth, that he is gay.

Seth continued to live with his parents for a couple years, staying busy with three jobs, after school programs, dual enrollment classes and swimming.

"I guess you could say it was easier to try to avoid home. I felt like I was doing something good with the struggle instead of doing something damaging," Owen said.

But Owen and his parents would reach a break-

ing point.

The pastor at his parents' church had strong opinions about women's place in society and the LGBTQ community -- opinions that Owen couldn't abide. He asked his parents to send him to a different church, but they said no.

"Either go to church or you can move out," Owen quoted his parents telling him. "I called a mentor. I said, I can't do this. I went back in and asked, 'Is there any way that we can compromise,' and my dad said no."

He moved out in February of this year -- two-thirds of the way through his senior year.

"I was really, really upset," Owen said. "It was extremely hurtful to know that I was walking out that door not knowing what lay ahead and feeling I don't know how to explain it it was devastating, absolutely devastating."

They made it clear the intention was to make me straight. (That) was their end goal.

Owen was homeless, sleeping on friends' couches and find support through his mentors.

Despite the challenges, Owen maintained a 4.16 GPA and became

co-valedictorian of his First Coast High School's class of 2018.

Seth's story is not unique, according to the Centers for Disease Control. Bullying and assault are common for LGBTQ teens who come out. One study published on the CDC website shows 30 percent of LGBTQ teens consider suicide, compared to 6 percent for heterosexual teens.

Owen, by contrast, is looking forward to the future. He was accepted to Georgetown University, but that is its own challenge.

Owen says his tuition is about \$77,000 annually. Owen was awarded about \$50,000 in scholarships, but has no one to help make up the difference or sign a student loan.

One of Owen's former teachers created a GoFundMe account. Within five weeks, more than 300 people donated and the total has surpassed \$25,000.

"I don't think thank you is good enough," Owen said.



"Of course I am extremely grateful, but I think thank you doesn't say it. Now it's time to pay it forward."

He has already decided he will pay it forward by becoming a defense attorney for teen criminals. Owen says they too have been neglected and need more help. Owen leaves for Georgetown Aug. 22.

Georgetown University says it admits and enrolls students without regard to their financial circumstances and is committed to meeting the demonstrated financial need of eligible students through a combination of aid programs that include grants, scholarships, employment and loans from federal, state, private, and University resources. While they cannot comment on any individual case, they work closely with students whose financial circumstances change after admission to modify financial aid assistance and ensure they can still enroll regardless of their ability to pay.

Homeless rates for LGBT teens are alarming, but parents can make a difference

By Jaimie Seaton

I will never forget the father who told me, on a first date, about his transgender son, who was assigned female gender at birth but identifies as male. What stuck with me most wasn't the fact that he had a transgender child, but the affectionate way he described his relationship with his son. The father told me that he didn't fully understand at first what his child was saying, but he knew he loved him, and that was all that mattered. So he educated himself and supported his child through the transition.

Not all parents are as accepting of their children. Too often, kids who come out to their parents are rejected, abused or thrown out of their home.

Up to 1.6 million young people experience homelessness in the United States every year. Forty percent of them identify as LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender), according to a 2012 study conducted by the Williams Institute at UCLA Law. It's estimated that LGBT youth represent about 7 percent of the population, which puts that 40 percent figure into heartbreaking context.

"There are several reasons parents reject their LGBT youth," said Telaina Eriksen, author of "Unconditional: A Guide to Loving and Supporting Your LGBTQ Child." "Sometimes it is based on religion; they think that their child is a sinner or that their child needs to be punished so they see 'the error of their ways.' They might think if they force their child to leave their home, their child may return repenting, magically somehow no longer LGBT."

Eriksen, who is an assistant professor at Michi-

gan State University and has a gay daughter, added that sometimes one parent is more accepting than the other and that they might kick a child out of their home to please their spouse or partner. Or parents might think that an LGBT child makes them look bad to their peers.

"These attitudes can be present in any race, religion or income bracket," Eriksen said.

She said that parents who reject their LGBT child need to do some work on themselves, because the problem is theirs, not their child's.

"A good way to start is for a parent to think about how they felt when their child was first born; the overwhelming love, sense of awe, and the sense of responsibility and commitment," Eriksen said. "My number one piece of advice is to keep the lines of communication open and keep reaffirming your love to your child."

Marcus Pizer, 19, told me that when he came out as transgender to his family three years ago, he was worried that his parents wouldn't accept him, but those fears were unfounded.

Marcus and his parents, Penny and Chuck, recently spoke with me from their home in Vermont.

"I had two reactions when Marcus came out," Penny said. "Intellectually, I felt like, 'We love you and want you to be who you are.' But then there's the emotional, which is like a death, in a way, of the person who used to be."

Each family member — Marcus has three siblings — is dealing with the change in their own way and from their own perspective. Marcus and his parents attended family therapy, and they all continue to work through their emotions as Marcus transitions.

"I think that everybody has to be really honest on where

they are," Penny said. "You can't tell anybody else how they should do their own process."

Two years ago, Marcus went to his parents and said he wanted to do something to help trans youth who don't have the support he has at home.

"I've always recognized the privilege that I had," Marcus said. "Talking to other trans youth online, I heard stories that were heartbreaking about how others haven't been able to transition safely or be who they are."

The family founded Safe Harbor for Trans Teens, a nonprofit foundation that offers a safe space for LGBT teens — including a small Department for Children and Families licensed homeless shelter — where they live, in Burlington, Vt. The hip college town on Lake Champlain mirrors the rest of the nation, where 40 percent of homeless youth identify as LGBT.

"That was a motivating factor," Chuck said. "It was something that we felt was not being addressed adequately, so we decided to focus on that area."

"If the parent is inclined to get angry, lash out at their child or kick them out of the house, they should think about how they would feel if their child were to die tomorrow. Because that could really happen if a parent withdraws emotional, physical and financial support from their minor child," Eriksen said.

Up to 1.6 million young people experience homelessness in the United States every year. Forty percent of them identify as LGBT

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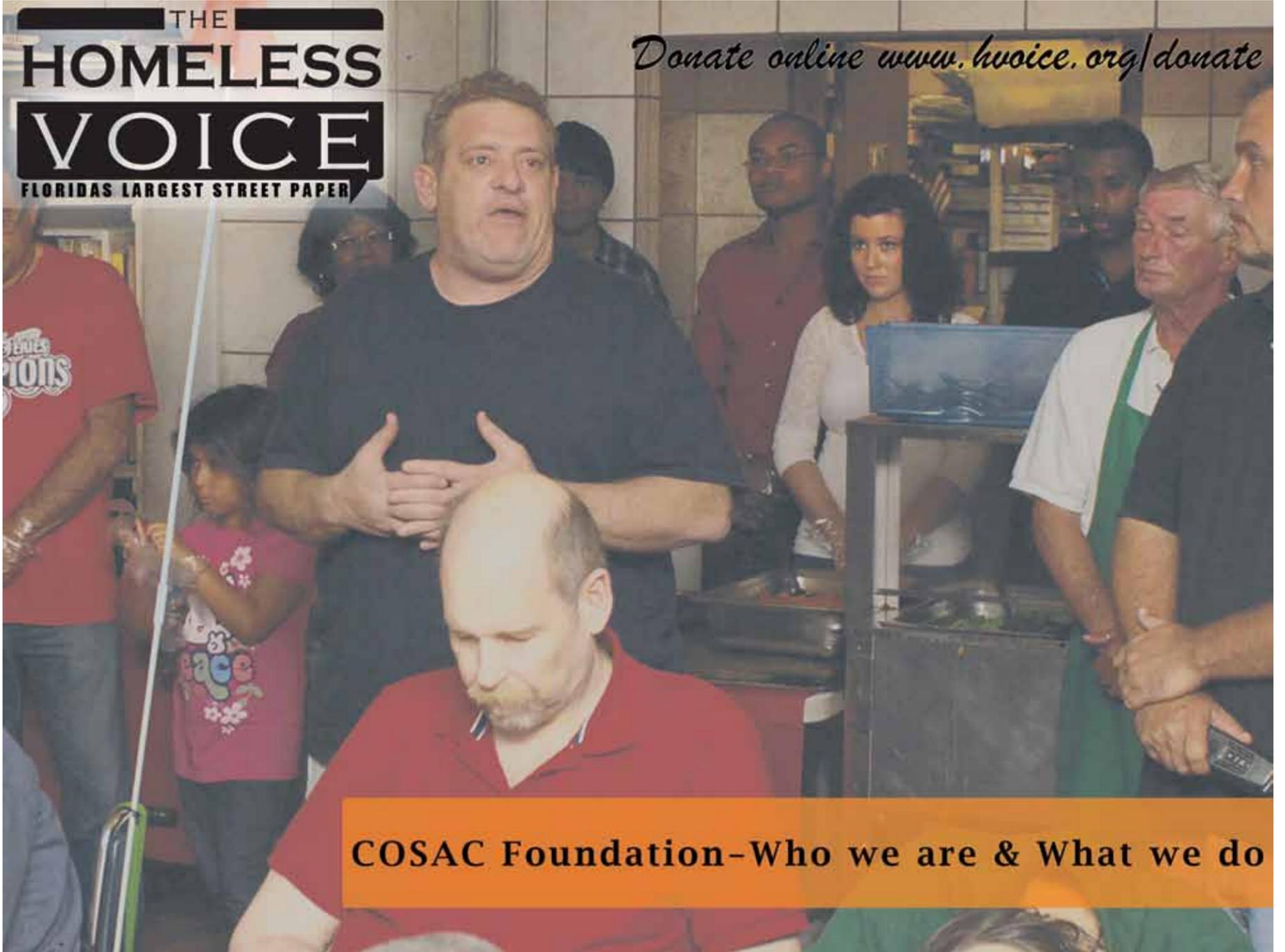
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