

A HOMELESS CRISIS EMERGES IN THE WAKE OF COVID



"THIS LAST YEAR MY LIFE HAS BEEN LIKE A GAME OF JENGA WITH BLOCKS FALLING RAPIDLY ONE AFTER THE OTHER. I NEVER WANT TO SLEEP ROUGH EVER AGAIN. ... I AM PROOF THAT BECOMING HOMELESS CAN HAPPEN TO ANYONE - ESPECIALLY NOW".

Turning Tides, the largest provider of support for homeless men and women in West Sussex are starting to see the real economic impact of Covid, as increasing numbers depend upon them.

The charity's services are now under huge pressure as increasing numbers of local people lose their livelihoods and subsequently their homes.

Simon, like so many others, never thought his life would unravel completely. Following the breakup of a long term relationship, he had to live out of his van for three months.

" Last March was the worst year of my life, within just a few days everything completely fell apart when my long term relationship ended. I was devastated and had absolutely nowhere to live. At the same time, the country went into its first lockdown - frightening for everyone. worse still, work dried up and I found myself 'sofa surfing'. I can only describe that time as feeling completely shell shocked and very afraid that this was happening to me. It was absolute hell. "



Fortunately, Turning Tides were able to support Simon at their local Community Hub where he accessed hot showers, clean clothes, hot meals and emotional help from keyworkers. Simon is now in accommodation provided by Turning Tides and is rebuilding the future he longs for.

For the first time ever an estimated 1,000 people, including families, are living in temporary emergency accommodation across the county. Unless they are supported into proper housing and, crucially, given support to rebuild their lives, it is only a matter of time before these short term remedies end and many are returned to the streets. With a shortage of temporary accommodation, limited affordable housing and rising numbers of people becoming homeless, Turning Tides are painfully aware the homeless crisis brought by Covid has only just begun.

Turning Tides are committed to find lasting solutions for local people, like Simon, who just need the chance to rebuild their lives - but they cannot do this without the continued support from our community.

DONATING WHATEVER YOU CAN AFFORD WILL ENABLE TURNING TIDES TO PROVIDE VITAL SUPPORT TO PEOPLE LIKE SIMON - ACROSS WEST SUSSEX



TO DONATE VISIT:

WWW.TURNING-TIDES.ORG.UK/HOMELESSCRISIS

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FUNDRAISING@TURNING-TIDES.ORG.UK



OR SCAN
ME TO GO!

