



E.J.

Background: E.J. and his younger brother used to come to our Youth Resource Center years ago for food that they'd bring home where they lived with their father who struggled with a number of illnesses, including addiction. Although Dad tried to shield the boys from their woes, E.J. knew that even if no one said the word "homeless," they were certainly housing insecure. Eventually, younger brother went to live with relatives while E.J. stayed with Dad--wherever that may have been at any given time.

Help from Waypoint: Over the years, as E.J. became a young adult, he made friends with other young people on the street who each had their own kinds of struggles and methods of how to survive them. One common theme was to just get to Waypoint; the general consensus was that that could be a turning point for those trying to exit or avoid homelessness. E.J. got help of various kinds for over a year.

Where to from here: When E.J. stopped coming by, it was because he and Dad were able to get their footing, hold jobs, had transportation, and Dad got the necessary treatment services. It was hard for E.J. to imagine a future as anything other than a caretaker for his dad, but a degree in nursing might make sense; E.J. was looking into nursing programs and financial assistance during his last visits to our center. We hope he continues on that course of claiming his life and pursuing goals for the future.