

The Problem: Huntsville has a massive gap in affordable housing!

The average rent in the Huntsville area is \$1,064!!! (https://www.rentcafe.com/average-rent-market-trends/us/al/huntsville/)

That number alone seems impossible to our most vulnerable neighbors. When you add in application fees, utility and rent deposit, first months rent in advance, insurance, and monthly utilities hope is no longer in reach. Dreaming about decorating and furnishing that home is not even a possibility.

When you start talking about housing with our homeless community you will often hear smoke screen responses to why they are content or happy being where they are. When I first spoke with a homeless friend last week Rachel, she said living out in the woods reminded her of stories from her great grandparents and that she was happier in the woods than in a home. When I started talking about Community of Hope and the homesteading, work, and housing opportunities it was inspiring to see Rachel quickly abandon her "I'm good being out here" mentality and start dreaming with us on what this community looks like and what she would need to do to live at Community of Hope.

We recently shared two additional stories from our friends Joe and Wayne on our social media page. Joe's story is impactful as he talks about not exceeding 25% a month in take home pay for a mortgage or rent payment. Joe makes \$1000 a month... Click here to read "They want to be out there"

The Solution:

How we can break the cycle of homelessness!

Community is the answer! While we are excited about a safe gated community, beautiful architected tiny homes, gardens, supportive services, general store, walking trails, laundry services, and opportunities to earn a dignified income, the answer to homelessness is providing a forged family and community.

Community of Hope (COH) is committed to:

- Embrace the challenge of providing affordable housing.
- Removing barriers that make housing seem hopeless.
- Provide homes at affordable price point of \$350/\$450 a month.
- Offer community with supportive services to address an individuals relational needs.
- Empower our Huntsville community into a lifestyle of love and service with our homeless community.
- Collaborating with other homeless organizations, emergency shelters, and day centers to provide strategies to exiting homelessness into (COH) a supportive residential community.
- Providing a safe and permanent housing in a community that we can all be apart of. COH is something that Huntsville will be proud of!

Success Why this works!

Check out some of our photo's below. These were taken at Community First! Village in 2018 and 2019 when we visited there. Together, our team has spent a total of 35 nights on site at this incredible village. We are replicating a proven model with a very high success rate in breaking the cycle of homelessness. They currently have about 600 formerly chronic homeless off the streets of Austin. We echo their statement of "Housing will never solve homeless, but community will."

When you visit homeless friends in camps, they don't always greet you or make eye contact. Often times their dignity and self worth are so low. When you are walking the streets of Community First! Village the vibe is totally different. You are greeted with the biggest smile, eye contact is there, maybe a wave, and you definitely get a hello and welcome. Dignity and hope has been restored. Those housed friends are now taking people on tours of their village. They are showing off their creative side and are the best host at showing off their homes. This cultivated community is restoring hope! We are thrilled to replicate their efforts right here in Huntsville.









Three ways you can help!

- Become a financial donor
- Donate Property COH is searching for 50 acres in Madison County.
- Invite us to come speak at your business, organization, or church.









Our Contact Information

- *{{Organization Name}}*
- *{{Organization Address}}*
- *{{Organization Phone}}*
- *{{Organization Website}}*

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