



Homeless exists, **But we as a community can help** **What can you do to help “Who am I?”**

- Donate to a local homeless shelter
- Volunteer at a community meal
- Volunteer at a code blue shelter (winter)
- Conduct a food drive and donate to a local pantry
- Start up a collection of items that are in need
- Pray for those helping and those who are homeless



Who am I?

Thank You for taking the time to read this, this is about my life, who am I? During my life, I've met so many wonderful homeless persons, they were Doctors, Lawyers, Professors, Master Degree Engineers, Veterans, Teachers, Nurses, Police officers, Plumbers, Retirees, Bus Drivers, Master Carpenter's, Mothers, Fathers, Grandparents, Laborers, Blue and White collar workers, even business owners and everything in-between. Who am I?

We all have a name, a past, a story and a future. There's nothing different between you and I and we don't like when we are treated differently. Remember, I could be someone's wife, husband, son, daughter, father, mother, sister, brother, uncle, aunt or even a missing person / relative.

I've met so many wonderful organizations in my time from faith base, non-profits, public, private, government agencies, homeless shelters, community meals, food pantries, and so many others including wonderful individuals and others who I am thankful for helping me. Many of them volunteer and do this from the goodness of their heart, work every day and maybe once in a while to help those in need.

Many homeless are afraid as I was, I was scared, I was ashamed, I couldn't believe that this had this happen to me, I am in disbelief, and didn't know where to turn. I am very caring, loving, thoughtful and do not want to be homeless. Why did this happen, where do I turn, who will help me?

Where can I sleep tonight that is safe, it's cold out tonight and I'm scared, who am I?



Once you get to know me by name, stop and listen to my story, understand me, you may see me for who I am. I am no different than you or I. I could even become a friend forever. I know, I have a few who I call my friends. I help others in need to get help, some do, some don't, I don't give up, so please don't give up on me

I pray for you every night that you will not judge me for who I am, rather pray for those who are still homeless and one day, they too find a home, get help, reconnect to family, call mom and say I'm ok or tell my family one day I'll be home. I didn't do anything wrong, I didn't get into trouble, I did everything right.

Sincerely,

Who am I?

"Did you know" in the Lehigh Valley there are upwards of 1,000 homeless individuals living each day without a home? These are families with children, Mothers, Fathers, they are young, middle age or could be a senior. Some have mental health problems, some have addiction(s), but for many, they've recently become homeless. Homelessness is due to many factors and issues, a fire, loss of a business, divorce, laid off, medical bills, illness, injuries, family issues including domestic abuse, drugs, neglect, and so much more. They range from being a recent high school student, with honors, those who've earned a college degree and even a doctor's degree. Yes, homeless could be anyone. ***Who am I?***

Lehigh Valley Homeless Shelters

Help us, so we can continue to help "who am I?"

Allentown:

- Allentown Rescue Mission (men only)
- Salvation Army (women and children)
- Sixth Street Shelter (families with children)

Bethlehem:

- New Bethany Ministries (women and children)
- Victory House (men only)

Easton:

- 3rd Street Alliance (women and children)
- Safe Harbor (adult men and women)

Others:

- Valor / Paul's House (veterans (men only) Stroudsburg
- Turning Point (victims of domestic violence) Lehigh Valley

Veteran Homeless Services:

- Hope for Veterans
- Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living
- Catholic Charities