

Dear Friends,

**"I couldn't sleep when I was homeless. I was afraid to close my eyes."**

It's hard to imagine the real fear many homeless people in South Australia face. You and I have a safe place to sleep and belong. Thousands of people like Julie don't.

"I left home to escape my partner who was very violent towards me. I feared for my life and I had to get away but I had nowhere to go. I was forced to 'sleep rough'.

**"I don't know which was worse, being bashed or being too scared to close my eyes for fear of what might happen to me.** I'd become addicted to amphetamines and had even started stealing money to feed my habit & survive".

Domestic violence, financial stress, family breakdown, depression: It only takes one of these to turn someone's life upside down and start the downward spiral towards homelessness.

Friends, I'm writing to you today in the hope that once again you will give generously to help people like Julie put a stop to that downward spiral, and turn their lives around.

Julie was desperate when she first came to Byron Place Community Centre. Every day, UnitingCare Wesley Adelaide staff and volunteers help people who are homeless or at serious risk of becoming homeless. We work with people of all ages and walks of life to help them find stable, safe accommodation and rebuild their lives.

For Julie, the first step was helping her find somewhere safe to live. Having a roof over her head meant

that she was able to sleep at night and cook for herself so she could eat proper meals.

Our counsellor helped Julie regain her health and the strength she needed to face her addiction. Then we helped her to enrol in a TAFE course, and she has now completed two years of her business administration course.

Having a home and hope of future employment has given Julie the confidence and courage she needed to live her life free of drugs. What's more, she has reunited with her mother and is starting to feel part of her own family.

**Friends** the generosity of people like you helped make this possible. UnitingCare Wesley Adelaide urgently needs your help to continue providing the high level of care and support that homeless people need. Your gift of **\$50 \$75** or, if you can manage it, **\$100** would be a tremendous help.

The choice is yours and every gift helps UnitingCare Wesley Adelaide to help someone in our community change their life for the better. I am very grateful for the kindness you have shown in the past.

You'll be glad to know that when Julie calls in to Byron Place Community Centre these days, she's no longer a client. She's a volunteer - helping others.

"My life was a mess. I don't know what would have happened to me without the care and support the people at Byron Place gave me.

**"They didn't give up on me even when I wanted to give up on myself. No one judged me. They helped me see that my past didn't have to dictate my future; that I could rebuild my life one step at a time."**

UnitingCare Wesley Adelaide assists many thousands of ordinary people like Julie "doing it tough" every year. Some people have no home; others need help to find work or need crisis counselling and hope to keep on living. Unfortunately, for every person helped, many more cannot be helped as we simply don't have enough resources.

I have enclosed a donation coupon and reply paid envelope to make it easy for you to make your tax-deductible gift. Or you may wish to call **1800 247 365** to give by credit card.

Your generous gift today will help people like Julie put a stop to fear and homelessness. Better still, your support will help them turn their lives around - so they become proud members of our South Australian community. For that, I cannot thank you enough.

Warmly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sue Park".

Ms Sue Park  
Chief Executive Officer

P.S. Fear is very real for the thousands of homeless people in South Australia. Your generous gift today will help someone stop the destructive spiral so they can rebuild their lives, for a better future. Like Julie, they will be forever grateful for what you have helped to make possible.