

1⁴⁸
Harold Brown
2101 College Ave Apt 114
Indianapolis IN 46202-1866



Dear Harold Brown,

Disbelief.

Disbelief it actually happened.

Disbelief it actually happened to her.

Emily found herself homeless on the night of her sixteenth birthday. A night that should have been about cake, presents, friends, and family turned into a nightmare of shouting, tears, and rejection.

How could her parents do this to her?

Emily knew she was a lesbian for years but also knew her family wouldn't understand her orientation. Still, when she decided to come out on her birthday, she decided to take a risk. Sure, her parents wouldn't be happy, but would they really kick her out?

As she walked down the sidewalk that night with a bag of clothes, her mind raced. She was a good kid. She had decent grades. Why did her parents not love her? Where was she going to sleep that night, or the next night?

That cold night was the first of many nights Emily found herself alone. She rode the bus around the city as long as she could, fighting off sleep for fear she would be harmed.

Like Emily, two out of every five homeless kids in Indianapolis are LGBTQ.

Where do young people like Emily go when they are kicked out by their parents? Unfortunately for them, the options are limited. These youth might be able to couch-surf for a while, but that isn't permanent or always safe. They're often afraid to ask for help, worried that they'll be targeted for being LGBTQ. And in the entire state of Indiana, there is not a single facility that is focused on the needs of LGBTQ homeless youth.

(over, please)

There are few safe housing options for homeless LGBTQ youth in Indianapolis.

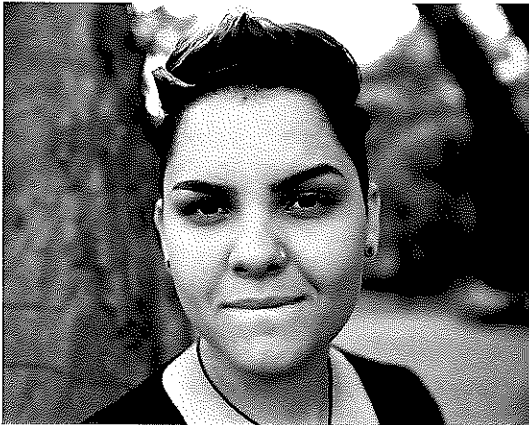
Rejected by her parents and faced with the overwhelming challenge of finding shelter and food, Emily is likely to turn to any number of unsafe and scary measures to live. Survival sex is one option. In other words, she might turn to prostitution just so she can eat and stay warm.

No young person in our city should be made to choose between a safe home or prostitution.

Trinity Haven, Indiana's only residence focusing on LGBTQ youth, will be a place where young people like Emily will find a warm bed, meals every day, and acceptance.

Founded in response to the alarming numbers of LGBTQ young people left homeless in Indianapolis every night, Trinity Haven is working to provide long-term housing for youth like Emily--and to give them stability. Working with partners like Indiana Youth Group (IYG), Trinity Haven will not only give kids a home, they will provide services these kids need to be healthy and independent. At Trinity Haven, kids will not only survive, they will thrive.

Staffed around the clock, Trinity Haven will be secure. It will also be a community of youth and trained staff. Resident will have chores. They will be expected to do homework. And they will share meals together. They will support one another... just like a family should.



At Trinity Haven, Emily won't need to put herself in harm's way just to survive. At Trinity Haven, Emily will find the acceptance she has longed to find.

But Trinity Haven can't work alone. *We need you.*

You can make a difference in the lives of young people like Emily. Your gift will give a safe home for youth here in our community. You will send a message that youth in our city deserve support no matter their orientation or gender identity.

Will you do what their parents wouldn't? Will you give these children acceptance?

Will you please join us in supporting young people like Emily? With your support, we can ensure that no youth is faced with disbelief, fear, and rejection.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Leigh Ann Hirschman".

Leigh Ann Hirschman (she/her/hers)
Ally and Board Chair

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jenni White".

Jenni White (she/her/hers)
Executive Director

P.S. No LGBTQ youth should face another night without a safe place to sleep. Give acceptance, give hope and make a difference in a young person's life with your gift today!