

WHO THEY ARE.

When you're homeless, a tent and sleeping bag can change everything.



About WHO THEY ARE

The homeless community is in need of love and support. Helping this group of people who are often forgotten about, ignored, or misunderstood can be hard to do when you don't know where to start. **WHO THEY ARE** is a group of volunteers banded together to help restore dignity to people who have lost everything by providing them with a tent and sleeping bag so they can stay dry and comfortable underneath the stars.

**WHO
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The Comfort Kit (\$295)

DONATE



Your donation provides a rugged tent, sleeping bag, rope, and a tarp

TENT

Tents provide shelter from the rain, cold, and offer a sense of privacy and protection when sleeping in the outdoors.

SLEEPING BAG

During the warmer seasons, sleeping on top of the sleeping bag provides extra padding from the ground. During freezing weather a quality sleeping bag provides a warm place to sleep for the night.

ROPE AND A TARP

Tarps and rope are especially useful during all seasons. They help keep water out of the tent and can provide additional warmth when draped over the tent. During hot weather the tarp can be used to create shade.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

The Comfort Kit provides most of the necessities to keep someone warm and dry. As needed, we also supply backpacks, battery packs, and other rugged goods for living outdoors.

But what about...

If you're like us, you've probably had predisposed thoughts towards homelessness--why can't they just get a job? Why would you give them a tent and not just get them off the streets? What if they use our money or resources to buy drugs or alcohol? You are not alone in having mixed feelings towards the homeless community.

Is it a complicated mess? Yes. Are there hundreds of scenarios that converge to create the circumstances many homeless men, women, and teenagers find themselves in? Yes. From mental illness, to job loss, to fleeing domestic violence, to disability, to the choices they make or that were made for them, many folks in our community find themselves without a home.

What can we do to truly help?

First, we can listen: What do you need? A warm sleeping bag? Ok. A phone charger? No problem. A tent that doesn't leak? We got you. We can provide a little comfort to an otherwise wildly uncomfortable situation. And when we provide comfort, we find it begins the restoration of dignity. Suddenly, that person who otherwise has been invisible is seen, heard, helped, valued.

Then, we get up, go ahead, and do something about it. In the New Testament, Jesus preaches a famous message titled, "The Sermon On The Mount" where He exhorts the audience--the meek, the poor, the hungry. He says, "Blessed are you who..." and in Aramaic, that phrase is the verb *ashray*, which means, "get up, go ahead, and do something." An active, energetic, alive approach to Jesus' words and teaching. As believers, Who They Are seeks to take an active, energetic, and alive approach to the homeless community--to bring dignity and compassion and essential items to a group of people who are meek, poor, hungry and homeless. And God's love is felt in that warm and dry tent.

Join us in providing dignity and comfort to the homeless in Cherokee County, right where they are, and loving them exactly for Who They Are.

Maureen Goodwin
Director



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