**AVOIDING HOMELESSNESS**

“ Being homeless is like living in a post-apocalyptic world. You’re on the outskirts of society “ - Frank Dillane

The definition of the word ‘homeless’ is being without a home , and therefore typically living on the street. The issue of men , women and children living on the street is a painful reality in South Africa and all over the world. Having a growing population of the homeless which lies in between 100 000 and 200 000 people , which keeps growing each year is a matter should be resolved in our country, without wasting any further time. Homelessness has such a negative affect on its people that it puts people at higher risks for victimization, poor health, loneliness, and depression, which can lead to chemical dependency, crime, and a host of other issues. Homelessness has severe negative impacts , not only for the people who experience it, but for cities and countries where it persists. In addition to the personal affects of homelessness, there are often economic costs to providing services, from emergency healthcare to outreach and law enforcement. One of the more significant negative impacts a homeless base has on the environment is found in the fact that human waste typically is released into the open. This includes both waste matter and urine. The release of human waste in this manner contaminates the ground and water.

Organizations such as Women In Need , Healthcare for the homeless and Streetwise work with local communities , both in terms of changing attitudes towards street children , men and women and in preventing them from leaving home.

Raising funds to keep our organization alive would not be difficult at all as we’ll be hosting charity drives for the homeless where clothes , toiletries and more will be donated. Online donations will also be available. Fundraising events will also be held to raise money for the homeless.