




Forging new futures with young adults

Jackson, MI | A Set Free Work



MyPlace is rental living space for youth 16 through 21 who are aging out of foster care or can be placed in Independent Living.



Statistics demonstrate that many youth caught in human trafficking have been part of the child welfare system.

At MyPlace we never lose sight of the fact that each youth we seek to serve is an individual. Each has their own unique story and history. Each with their own potential to thrive and excel in life. It is our goal to walk with them on their unique journey.

Sources:

<http://www.michigannightlight.com/specialfeatures/helpingmichiganhomelessyouth.aspx>

Many youth that age out of the foster care system are left with few options for safe and stable housing.



Lack of stable housing:

More than 38,000 children live on their own (unaccompanied and homeless) in Michigan. ¹

Limitations of social services:

Once a youth has aged out of foster care they **will lose many of the social services such as housing stability**, options for post secondary education, family and social support network.

Employment and life skills:

Many youth need help with life skills such as obtaining a driver's license, creating a budget, completing a GED program, as well as healthy lifestyle coaching.

Sources:

- ¹ <http://www.michigannightlight.com/specialfeatures/helpingmichiganhomelessyouth.aspx>
- <https://www.arrow.org/foster-homes-for-teens/>
- <https://www.nfyi.org/issues/sex-trafficking/>

In 2016, there were around **440,000¹** children in the foster care system in the United States, and **13,500+²** children in Michigan.

20% of the children who are in foster care will become **instantly homeless when they turn 18.**

25% of individuals who have aged out of the foster care system **suffer from the effects of PTSD.**

One out of every two individuals who age out of the system will **develop substance dependency.**

Less than 3% chance for someone who has aged out of the foster care system **to earn a college degree** at any point in their life.

Sources:

1 <https://www.ifoster.org/6-quick-statistics-on-the-current-state-of-foster-care/>

2 <https://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2019/05/11/michigan-needs-more-foster-mothers-and-fathers/1094329001/>

<https://www.nfyi.org/51-useful-aging-out-of-foster-care-statistics-social-race-media/>

The underlying issue to youth homelessness is that community has been broken.

Through a community survey in the Jackson area, it was found that some of **the individuals most at risk for human trafficking were youth who had been involved with the Child Welfare System, especially those who had experienced abuse, neglect, sexual abuse, homelessness, or ran away.**

The community survey found while there are many agencies, organizations, and individuals working to prevent and reduce the vulnerability of adolescents in the Jackson area, there is a need to address the gap in services to assist youth who have aged out of the system or do not have foster homes, to gain the life skills, educational opportunities and emotional support needed to become successful individuals and responsible citizens.

MyPlace believes the best way to prevent vulnerability is by forming relationships with these individuals to affirm that they are known and loved. With emerging and existing community partnerships, MyPlace will provide a safe home and surround the youth with life skills education and mentoring.



About our team

Our mission is to reduce the vulnerability for exploitation by offering safe transitional housing and holistic support services to youth and young adults in the Greater Jackson area with a preference to those in vulnerable circumstances.

Through community-based action and partnership with others, we will offer new futures by transitioning these youths to self-sufficiency.

Our vision is to end exploitation and human trafficking within the youth of the Greater Jackson Community.



Our Values

We are committed to reducing the vulnerability of youth to exploitation.

We are committed to community-based action and partnership.

We are committed to creating opportunities for new futures.



MyPlace is located in the greater Jackson, Michigan area and was birthed from the Spring Arbor Free Methodist Church and the local chapter of Set Free Movement, an anti-human trafficking organization.

For the past decade, Set Free has focused on education and awareness about human trafficking. After conducting a community assessment, Set Free realized the need for preventative services for vulnerable youth and formed MyPlace.

Ways to connect with My Place



Pray for MyPlace & Residents

Pray that youth would sense our love for them and find a home in MyPlace. Pray for inner healing from trauma and hope-filled futures for foster care youth.

Become a Mentor

One of the greatest gifts you can give a young person, that will change their path, is your focus, attention and guidance. These three aspects alone can help foster positive emotional and cognitive development.

Give

- > Sponsor an event
- > Volunteer your time
- > Donate funds and materials

Make donations online at myplacejackson.org.
Checks can be written to "Set Free Movement" with "MyPlace" in the memo line and sent to:
Set Free Movement at 7602 50th PL NE Marysville, Wa 98270.

To find out our current needs, please us at info@myplacejackson.org.
Visit myplacejackson.org for more information.

Partners

SET  FREE

