

MEET MARTIN



But many who are experiencing homelessness see no future at all.

Martin's story is like so many others we hear every day. Minor infractions led to more serious brushes with the law until he found himself spending more and more time incarcerated. It was not long before Martin's life became a hopeless cycle of homelessness and jail.

Sometimes it is true, that when you hit the bottom the only way to go is up. It is also true that you must be willing to begin the climb.

When Martin met the staff and volunteers at The Bridges, he had already decided he needed to change direction. He understood it would take commitment, perseverance, and acceptance. He also understood that unless he accepted help, he would never be able to move forward.

"I really had nothing to look forward to."

Today, Martin is housed and able to manage his life with support from staff through the Blair Voluntary Trust program. He has repaid those to whom he was indebted, even paying off his traffic fines. With a smile, Martin tells us, "I can now drive legally for the first time in thirty years!"

Our supports are intended to help the whole person. We work to deliver hope, and to walk with individuals as they recreate their own futures. As he reflects on his own journey, Martin also recognizes that he has changed. He says, "I now believe there are people who care with no strings attached which in turn has made me a more caring person."

We may not be able to solve the homelessness issue, but we can change lives.