

Hello All,

My name is Joseph Poulin and I am the lead housing navigator at Mid-Maine Homeless Shelter and Services. When we think of homelessness, what comes to mind? Maybe a person sleeping on a park bench or asking for change on a street corner. But, did you know many homeless people have jobs. They're the working poor, living in cars or couch surfing because they can't afford rent. Many of whom have families that bounce between shelters and temporary housing. I have worked with many of the people I just described and if it wasn't for our homeless shelters they would be on the streets or somewhere not meant for habitation. Our homeless shelter's provide stability, safety and eliminate the stress of not knowing where they will lay their head that night. We have the resources, we have the knowledge but unfortunately we need the funding to keep our doors open to the people that need us the most. Homeless people are human beings deserving of dignity and respect and I think sometimes we forget that.

Together, we can create a society where everyone has a place to call home. It won't be easy. But it's possible. And it starts with each one of us right here, right now.

Joseph Poulin

Mid-Maine Homeless Shelter

Lead Housing Navigator