

We Welcome Past Residents "Home" Again!

- Jordan's Story

When one of our residents moves back home or gets a place of their own, we know that "life" still happens. Just because someone has a place to live, doesn't mean they don't still need help. At WRYM, our Aftercare program's staff member works with over 100 formerly homeless and at-risk youth each year to help fill the void of traditional family supports and help our past-residents continue to stay housed. Nevertheless, sometimes one of our past-residents can fall back into homelessness, and when they do, we make all effort to welcome them back into Transitional Housing so they can find "home" again.

In Jordan's case, he had previously stayed at WRYM and was able to find employment, address mental health issues, and build the life skills he needed while he was here in order to move out on his own. Almost a year later, Jordan contacted Aftercare and explained how his roommate situation had become unmanageable and how he was about to become homeless. Without any days in shelter or on the street, Jordan was able to come right to WRYM, and pick up where we left off.

In less then two months of being back at WRYM, Jordan's well-being, employment, self-esteem, and resiliency had returned to the point he was ready to move out on his own, and with the assistance of staff (after countless viewings), Jordan was able to acquire a safe/secure room rental and continue building his life.

Jordan's return to WRYM was reminiscent of a young man moving back home with mom and dad after struggling to make it on their own. You could sense Jordan's comfort, security, and appreciation in being at WRYM. Each day, you watched him rebuild himself and become ready to "stand on his own two feet" again. It is hard to put our feelings into words being a part of this journey, but the closest we can find is <u>pride</u> and <u>fulfilment</u>.

Welcoming Jordan "home" again and helping him rebuild his life is an accomplishment we hope you will share our pride in, because without your support and the investments of our community, helping Jordan and the many others like him wouldn't have been possible. Thank you on behalf of all our staff and volunteers for giving youth like Jordan a chance!

Name changed for confidentiality purposes.