

A photograph of a metal shopping cart with blue handles and wheels, parked on a red brick sidewalk. The cart is overflowing with various items, including a large, rolled-up mattress, several bags, and other personal belongings. In the background, there is a light-colored stone or concrete wall with a window. The text "WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE HOMELESS?" is overlaid in large, yellow, stylized capital letters.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE HOMELESS?

BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR
PEACE PROMISERS

**Have you ever seen
someone who you
thought was
homeless? How did
this make you feel?
What did you think
about this person?**



DID YOU WONDER WHY THAT PERSON
MIGHT NOT HAVE A PLACE TO LIVE?

The Peace Promisers have
been learning more about
homelessness and why it
happens.

We created this slideshow to
help teach you as well.



DO PEOPLE CHOOSE TO BE HOMELESS?

People do not choose to be homeless. There are 4 main reasons why someone might become homeless.



Reasons:

1. Lack of affordable housing
2. Poverty - not having enough money to get your basic needs
3. Mental Illness - like severe depression
4. Substance abuse - using too many drugs or too much alcohol



DID YOU KNOW THAT THERE ARE HOMELESS YOUTH IN OUR COMMUNITY AS WELL?

12% of the homeless population in Kelowna is under the age of 24.

35, 000 youth across Canada will experience homelessness over the course of the year

Youth become homeless when they don't have a good home life and can't find a good place to live on their own.



WHAT IS BEING DONE IN OUR COMMUNITY?

There are groups that are trying to get more affordable housing in Kelowna to ensure that people who are at risk of becoming homeless can find a safe affordable place to live.

Places like the Kelowna Gospel Mission provide shelter and meals for individuals who already live on the streets. There are many people in Kelowna who are trying to help those who are homeless.



WHAT IS BEING DONE TO HELP HOMELESS YOUTH IN OUR COMMUNITY?

In our community there are many Organizations who support homeless Youth. Kelowna Girls and Boys Club Has a youth shelter and drop in Centre. ARC programs provide Counselling for youth with drug and Alcohol issues and the Canadian Mental Health Association has started the Foundry to support Youth. These are only some of the Options to support homeless youth in Kelowna.



Boys & Girls Clubs



**Canadian Mental
Health Association**
Kelowna



WHAT CAN WE DO TO HELP?

We think the best way to help is by treating homeless people with respect. No one chooses to be homeless and being homeless doesn't mean someone is not worthy of being treated with kindness. Smile at someone who is on the streets or say hello.

You can also make donations or volunteer at places like the Kelowna Gospel Mission, Kelowna Food Bank, The Boys and Girls Club or Canadian Mental Health Association.

You CAN make a difference!



This Harmony day,
remember:

Everyone matters.
Everyone belongs.
Everyone deserves to
be loved.



Happy Harmony Day
Watson Road.

Thank you for listening
to this presentation from
the Peace Promisers.

And remember...
Every Day is Harmony
Day!

