“Basically, alcohol and drug use led me to [become homeless]. There at the end, it was heroin. It took over my life. I couldn’t work anymore. I burned all my bridges with my family and friends. It was to the point where it was too hurtful for them to keep having me in their life... You get trapped in the cycle.” - Leslie Tate

Leslie grew up in Bloomington and graduated from Edgewood High School. Suffering hard times and struggling with addiction, Leslie became homeless. For over a year, she bounced around from place to place and often slept in the hallways of the hospital. But eventually, all her options were used up and she ended up on the streets.

She had been afraid to use the shelters. But as winter approached, she had nowhere else to turn. She said, “I knew I wouldn’t be able to sleep outside because of my addiction.... You get so sick... It was really affecting my respiratory system, because I already had asthma. It could have been really bad.”

At that low point, she turned to Shalom and our overnight shelter, Friend’s Place.

Please make a gift right now to provide beds for people like Leslie who have nowhere else to turn. Fill out the enclosed adopt-a-bed card and mail in your support.

Thanks to generous people like you, Friend’s Place shelters and supports forty people every night just like Leslie in a safe and sober living environment. Through the support of the shelter, Leslie entered an outpatient program that used medication-assisted treatment to help her in her recovery. She’s now been off heroin for ten months, she’s employed, and has been living in her own home since January.

Leslie said, “The experience of coming to Friend’s Place directly changed my life... I was surprised at the genuine care and concern... It was the beginning of everything changing for me... I have confidence today... I like myself today... I love myself today... Thank you!”

This is the impact that your support provides. Please fill out the enclosed card and adopt a bed right now. You make stories like Leslie’s possible!!

With blessings,

Rev. Forrest Gilmore
Executive Director

P.S. There are people like Leslie out there right now who need YOU! Adopt a bed at Friend’s Place shelter to offer this life-saving gift to those in desperate need.