

Dear Friends of Briarpatch,

As we leave the winter behind us, we reflect on the past months and look forward. How have we changed lives this year thus far and how can we continue to change them in the upcoming months? We appreciate *your support* and *rely on it* for our success!

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## Briarpatch in the News

[Young and Homeless](#)  
Isthms March 2016

*"I see at least a couple of people on Facebook who are just posting statuses every single night that are like, 'Is there anybody's house I can stay at? My mom's crazy, I can't be here right now,'...."*

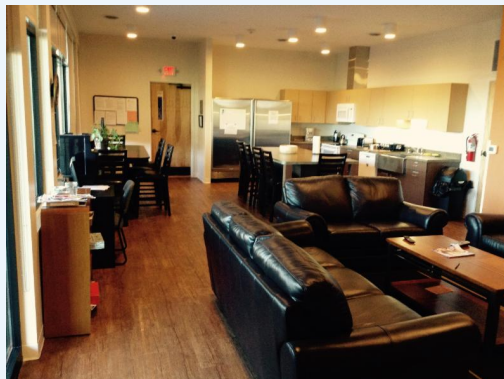
[Continue Reading](#)

[Reducing Homeless Rate of Youth](#)  
NBC November 2015

"Child homelessness is something you may not think about. In fact, some call it an invisible issue." NBC explores the issue of youth homelessness and reports on Briarpatch's efforts to reduce this rate.

[Watch the Full Video](#)

## Where Will I Sleep Tonight?



Have you ever had to ask yourself that question? Approximately **300 youth** in Madison are asking themselves this every night. This past October we opened an 8 bed shelter to act as a part of the solution. Since opening in October we have housed **32 youths** for a total of **169 nights**.

Donate by clicking below to help these youth answer the question- **Where will I sleep tonight?**

[Learn More](#)

[Donate Today!](#)

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## Flower Power 5K



On **May 22nd** Briarpatch will host our first ever 5K benefit

## Why Does Dane County Need Us?

Hundreds of youth are homeless in Dane County every night:

**75%** of homeless and run away youth that have or will drop out of school

**1 in 3** youth will be approached for sex within 48 hours of leaving home

## Upcoming Events

### For Fun

#### **MTI Cares- Briarpatch Youth Bowl-A-Thon**

April 24

Dust off those bowling shoes and join Madison Teachers Inc for their annual Bowl-A-Thon and bowl for a cause! Donations will benefit the Briarpatch youth homeless shelter.

[Read More Here](#)

#### **Toss a Buck for Briarpatch**

On-Going

Stop in for a craft beer at One Barrel Brewery and toss a buck on the ceiling to get a discount off your drink! All money on the ceiling will go to Briarpatch's **'Giving Homeless Youth a Chance'** shelter campaign.

[Read More Here](#)

### For Youth

#### **Teens Like Us**

Tuesdays 5:00pm-7:00pm

Teens Like Us is a drop-in-group designed to promote *healthy, self-respecting habits* for LGBTQ youth. TLU meets weekly and also organizes periodic social activities! All activities are designed to promote healthy, self-respecting lifestyles. Meetings are held at Briarpatch's facilities on 2720 Rimrock Road. Contact June Paul at [june.paul@briarpatch.org](mailto:june.paul@briarpatch.org) for

run! Proceeds will go to benefit our "Giving Homeless Youth a Chance" campaign and prizes will be given for a variety of achievements, including a prize for best costume!

We want to create a 'living bouquet' so put on your best flower costume and your running shoes and **help support the youth of Dane County!**

Register Today!

## Great People Doing Amazing Things



Briarpatch is held together through the *amazing volunteers* from the community. This month we recognize- **Alex Chen!**

**Why Briarpatch?- "My time with Briarpatch has been a lesson in empathy and maturity. With the wide variety of programs, volunteering is never dull. With opportunities for client interaction and youth supervision, Briarpatch is a fantastic volunteering opportunity for those studying psych or social work"- Chen**

Alex has been with Briarpatch since 2010 and serves as a Lead Volunteer Counselor, providing crisis intervention services via our 24-hour help line, and in person counseling for youth and their families!

*Alex brings the voice of youth to the discussion as a youth representative on the Briarpatch Board of Directors. We are extremely grateful for all that Alex does for us and the youth of Madison.*

## Who and How Do We Serve?

more information!

## For Parents

### **Parent Support Group**

April 23 10:00am-11:30am  
Every 4th Saturday of the month

Join us for a valuable session about *navigating the education system!* School psychologist, Nira Scherz-Busch will be sharing useful information about the education system that is critical for parents struggling to understand how their children navigate through education systems. All parents are welcome and no registration is necessary! Contact Stacey Slotty at [stacey.slotty@briarpatch.org](mailto:stacey.slotty@briarpatch.org) for more information.

Meetings at Trinity Lutheran Church 1904 Winnebago St. Madison, WI

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## **Volunteer Opportunities**

If you're passionate about youths' well-being and looking to get involved within the community, volunteering at Briarpatch could be for you! Volunteer training will be conducted throughout June for the following volunteer opportunities!

**Volunteer Counselor**

**Parent Support Group**

**Parent Support PR Representative**

**Assistant Work Team Supervisor**

*If you are interested, please [visit our website](#) for more information.*



[Click Here](#) to Access Full Program List and Descriptions!

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## **Summer Job Opportunity!**

Spend your summer working with teens in Madison to ***promote basic employment and life skills!*** Work to establish ***goals and strategies within teams of 4-5 teens*** based on program objectives. Training for employment will be offered on:  
April 18th 20th & 25th 27th  
May 16th 18th 23rd 25th.

[Read more about this opportunity!](#)

Forward this email

STAY CONNECTED



