

MEET ZACH

COMMITMENT

BELONGING

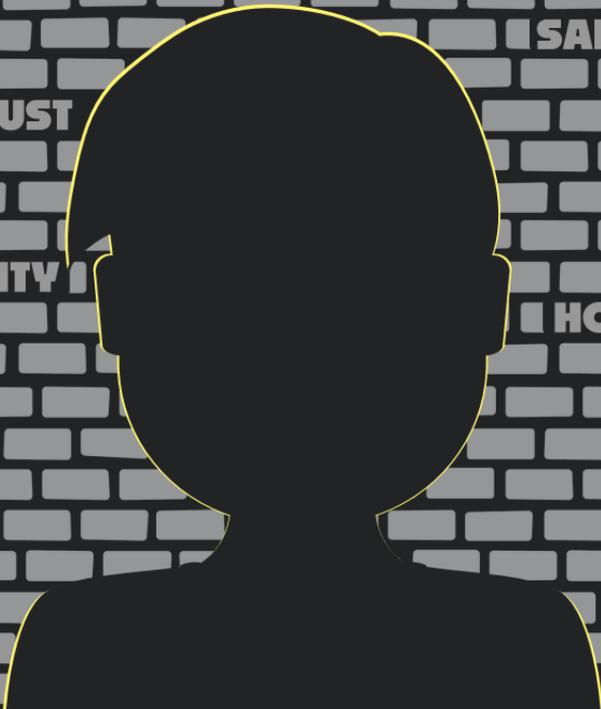
RELATIONSHIPS

SAFETY

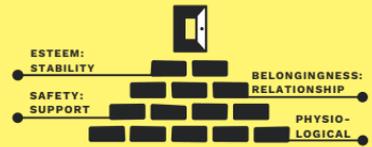
TRUST

STABILITY

HONESTY



Each unique Found Village story fuels our mission to surround teens in crisis by connecting them with relationships and resources specific to their needs. Every story is precious and as so, the true identity of this teen has been concealed for his protection. Each supporter lays a significant brick in building a wall of trust that makes any of this possible. The bricks you lay change lives.



MEETING ZACH'S NEED FOR STABILITY



The perils of mental illness struck Zach at an early age as he witnessed his mother battle the tight grips of schizophrenia disorder. At age 8, he was sent to live with family members, which quickly transitioned to him being tossed around from one home to another. Finally, Zach was placed into the foster care system, away from his family, with little support. When Zach joined, he was in major crisis, in and out of Children's psychiatric hospital, and had missed 61 days of school in the 1st quarter. We witnessed him go from extreme instability onto a steadier path as he began to participate in our community. From 61 missed days to just 11 in the 2nd semester, he embraced the stability we offered, no longer needed hospitalization, and transitioned from a behavioral school to traditional.

MEETING ZACH'S NEED FOR HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS



Unfortunately, Zach's dreams of being adopted met him with disappointment through years of petitioning for a family to call his own. Despite this disappointment, however, we were able to come alongside Zach to provide him with healthy relationships that have slowly reconciled those of his past. One of our coaches took a particular effort to relate with Zach and helped reshape many of the lies he grew to believe about himself and his capabilities. Though he was not adopted as a minor, one of his first case workers reunite with him through found village and became like a mother and stable support system to him. The area of relationships has been a mighty hill to climb with Zach due to the brokenness of his past, but it is amazing to see his tremendous development despite these circumstances.

MEETING ZACH'S NEED FOR SUPPORT



Zach is now in our Launch Program for young adults and we continue to offer him the support he needs to inch closer to his greatest potential. Despite battling the attacks of generational mental illness himself, Zach has made tremendous milestones. He graduated from high school and his post-secondary media program, and lives on his own in the community. He has remained connected with our partners at Crossroads Church who have offered him spiritual support and enrichment. We continue to advocate for Zach's success and independence while reminding him that he has a light that no amount of hardship could ever put out. It is an honor to be just a part of this young man's triumphant story and in his own words,

"God didn't leave me and take me from my mother, he was protecting me, I see that now. He has been with me through everyone at Found Village. He put you all in my life so I was not alone."