

Hi my name is Moet. I am 20 years old and today I just want to take a minute to talk about youth homelessness. Some of the leading causes of youth homelessness are problems that start at home such as sexual and physical abuse, parental neglect, or addiction within the family.

After doing some research I found that according to ncsi.org that "Each year an estimated 4.2 million youth and young adults experience homelessness." To break it down a little more a University of Chicago study found that 69% of homeless youth have mental health issues, 33% were once in foster care, and 50% have been in the juvenile justice system, in jail or detention centers."

Now going based off of this, I believe that there should be something done. There needs to be a program where youth can get mental health services for free without worrying about how it's going to get paid for. I believe we need to look more into people who are looking to foster or adopt during background searches to make sure that they are stable and able to take care of the kid by doing random home searches to make sure it's safe for the kids.

There's been time after time that we as young adults and kids have been ignored because we are "young." You see it time after time on social media where youth are abused or killed by adults within their home and more than half the time nothing is being done.

I want to take a minute and think what else can we do to change this? How can I as a parent, sibling, family member, or even a teacher, doctor, etc. help make sure stuff like this doesn't keep happening? How can I help make a change? We need to all come together and make sure young kids and adults are listened to more. We need to take action.