



Adrienne has been sleeping on friends' couches since September. When school started her mom promised things would be better. But Adrienne has heard that promise too many times...

It was supposed to be different this time. Adrienne's mom had been in rehab and when she got out she found a job. Adrienne was actually feeling optimistic. There was food in the refrigerator and a roof over their heads. Adrienne and her mom were getting along so well. And then the pattern started again – her mom found a new boyfriend, another drug addict who moved in almost immediately. The cycle of drug abuse, job loss, eviction notices, and physical violence was all too familiar to Adrienne. In her 16 years she'd lived it too many times already. She wasn't sticking around to see it all end in disaster yet again.

So Adrienne has been sleeping on friends' couches since September in an attempt to stay safe and stay in school and move beyond the struggles of her childhood. But couches don't count. They don't count as a home, and they don't count as a family, and they don't count as a support system. Couches won't help Adrienne heal and they can't provide reconciliation. But Casa Youth Shelter can.

Fortunately Adrienne confided in a teacher, who suggested she come to Casa Youth Shelter. Instead of a couch, Adrienne can sleep in a warm, safe bed of her own. More than just a bed, Adrienne will find compassion, support, and counseling at Casa Youth Shelter. Her counselors will bring Adrienne and her mom together in family therapy to work on crisis intervention and a plan for family reunification. Until they can safely reunify, Casa Youth Shelter will give Adrienne the stability she so deeply desires.

For 40 years, Casa Youth Shelter has been home to thousands of teens like Adrienne. Together with Casa Youth Shelter's counselors and case workers, families like Adrienne's have moved beyond crisis into resolution and recovery. They have successfully created safe homes where once there was turmoil.

In the coming years there will be thousands more who come to Casa Youth Shelter for a hot meal, a warm bed, and someone to talk to. For our 40th Anniversary we ask you to help teens like Adrienne and their families. Please consider giving to Casa Youth Shelter. Help us honor the 40 year legacy of our founder Myldred Jones, and ensure the ongoing provision of shelter care for another 40 years.

P.S. – 2018 can be a year of profound impact. Supporting Casa Youth Shelter is a powerful step in helping the young people in our community who need us most. Find out more about Casa Youth Shelter at www.casayouthshelter.org or call (562) 594-6825 to schedule a tour.