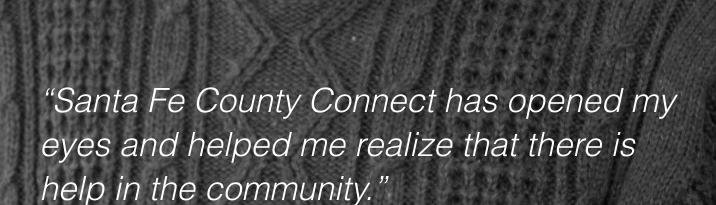
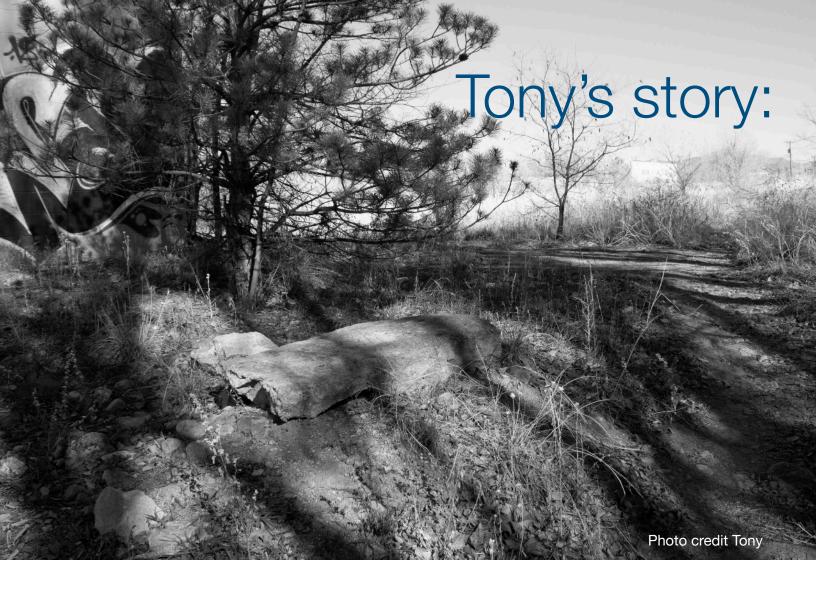
Santa Fe County Connect

a network for health and well-being



-Tony



Being homeless is really rough. I know, I've been there. I was sleeping on the streets from 2004 to 2018. It can happen to anyone and led to many arrests for panhandling, drinking in public, doing drugs and dealing with mental health issues, losing relations with friends and family, and having a near death experience. Living on the street is dangerous. I lived in fear. I used to sit on a rock and plan my day. Today I have a new plan.

Santa Fe County Connect has opened my eyes and helped me realize that there is help in the community. There are programs out there that care for my well-being and people with kind hearts and open hands. St. Elizabeth's Shelter, Life Link, Health Care for the Homeless, Mobile Integrated Health Office all helped me with transportation, counseling, housing and healthcare.

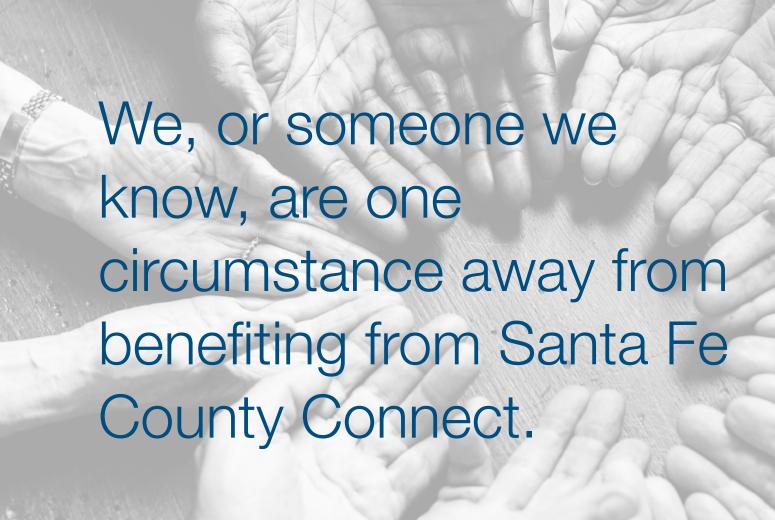
Now I have a safe home of my own.

Recently, leaving my apartment, feeling the snow fall, feeling the cold in the air, I was shocked. How did I ever live outside? How did I survive? The streets don't have to be your life. **There is help for you**, if you are ready and willing to accept it.

Photo credit Tony

The Story Telling Project tells the stories of three individuals with text, photos and short videos that capture their experiences with navigation services from organizations in the Santa Fe County Connect network.

Network identity will be cultivated using these stories with a goal of creating an identity throughout the community that people recognize and trust.



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