

Finding safety in your own Community through Open Arms

Adolescents and young adults are able to seek refuge and aided assistance within their community

Lending help to young adults and adolescents, Open Arms is an app that provides a solution to those seeking support and a short term home before becoming homeless. A benefit to Open Arms is its assistance with actively locating and providing open homes, also it offers to aid resources. By offering resources, the app offers a safe support system to help individuals find the help they need to get back into society. With this option, adolescents and young adults can worry less about where to stay and how to get the help they deserve.

Young adult and teen homelessness are on the rise in America. Each year, over 2.8 million youths become homeless within the United States. These dependent individuals are often met with experiences that expose them to victimization and exploitation. Being homeless holds a higher risk of these individuals partaking in substance abuse and delinquent behavior. Being exposed can also hurt an individual's mental and physical health. Few know of services for getting help.

"Being homeless has been a major concern in the United States and the youth and young adults are becoming more and more at risk of becoming homeless," said Aaron Nay, one of the Open Arms developer. "We want to be able to help these young age groups get back up on their feet by providing a way for them to seek refuge and provide the help they need within the community they live in."

To battle this growing matter of homelessness, Open Arms helps to provide a direct relationship between youth at risk and those good samaritans wishing to provide help. Government resources for dependent individuals are often far and few between, but Open Arms will allow a third party option to give assistance to the problems faced by these people. This app will help create a supportive atmosphere for positive youth development, allowing these individuals to avoid the dangers of living on the streets. Having these teens and young adults receive the help they need can help create healthier starts in their lives.

"It's tough not knowing if you're going to have a place to stay for the night. Using Open Arms helped me find a place that I could stay at and feel safe. I was able to get the help that I needed in the comfort of a non-toxic environment. I would rather be somewhere safe than not knowing when's the next time I sleep on a bed." Jeff Sanders, 19, ex-homeless teen.

Using Open Arms is as easy as downloading the app, creating a profile and entering your current location. Once your location is entered into the app, a map will appear with locations of potential hosts along with their bio and contact information. Use the map to select a location that will suit your current situation and then follow the instructions to get into contact with the temporary care provider to finalize the arrangements.

Open Arms is available for download in the IOS App store and the Google Play store. This app can be accessed through both desktop and mobile application. To learn more about the Open Arms app, visit www.openarms.com.

**The Writing Center at CU Denver
Confirmation of Student Visit**

Student Name: SAM HENDERSON
Consultant Name: DAVID J DeBONIS
Course (name/#): FINE 3444
Instructor: AMARA HULSCANDER
Date of Visit: 1/29/2019 Session Length: 50 min

Student Brought (i.e. 1 page/full draft/introduction only): _____

Assignment Topic: Application press release

Worked On: Adding a strong call-to-action that
is influential to the audience & also
working with keyword sentences using SUD.

GREAT GROUP! Super active & engaged