

All of us who serve at New Horizons Ministries love to celebrate Easter! Remembering the resurrection of Christ on Easter morning reminds us of God's promise to breathe new life into lives that the world declares are broken, dead, and buried. This is the hope that we hold out for each of the homeless and street involved young people we serve, that God break through and resurrect their lives. With the echoes of Easter choruses still ringing in our ears, I wanted to share one of these resurrection stories.

One of the difficulties our young people experience occurs when they begin to make better choices in their lives and attempt to move away from the streets. Many carry records from the criminal justice system based on past actions they may have committed just to survive. When they begin to look for a job, most of their employment interviews never get beyond the question, "Have you ever been arrested or convicted of a felony?" In November we opened Street Bean Espresso to extend our continuum of care and create job training and sustainable employment for the young people we serve. Our goal was to provide a place where street involved young people could establish a work history that declares, "I may have had street involvement in the past, but look at who I am today!"

Yesterday, I heard that one of our employed young people would now only be working 5 hours a week at Street Bean. When I asked why, I was told that because of her employment history at Street Bean and the recommendation we were able to provide, she has now found a full time job working in a career she had always dreamed about. She wanted to still continue to work 5 hours a week with us because she loves Street Bean and wants to support it. What a wonderful story of resurrection we have been privileged to witness in the life of this formerly street involved young person.

So often we hear hard stories from the homeless and street involved young people we serve. It's a joy to also be able to share moments like these that celebrate triumph and resurrection.

In this season of Easter, Christ is Risen Indeed!

**Dan**