

Executive Treatment For *My Road Leads Home* A Documentary Series On Homelessness In Spokane

Project Summary

My Road Leads Home (MyRoadLeadsHome.org) is a documentary project on homelessness and related issues in the Spokane area that looks at public and private partnerships and pro-active community efforts to address critical homelessness-related issues. The project will eventually include a series of documentaries and a print book to accompany the series. Together, the documentaries and the book will examine homelessness and its many ripple effects, including issues such as drug addiction and recovery, employment, housing, hunger, food insecurity, veterans, and more. The project will document how our community is working together to address critical issues which impact the quality of life for the entire community.

Three Project Goals

Our generation has been described as people who “*listen with their eyes and think with their feelings.*” In other words, people respond to what they see and feel. The three Project Goals of My Road Leads Home are built on this reality.

- *Goal 1 - To Change The Optic Of Homelessness.* We need to change what our community sees when it comes to fighting and solving homelessness and the related issues. It’s time to stop focusing on homeless train wrecks and start focusing on genuine community solutions.
- *Goal 2 - To Change The Narrative Of Homelessness.* We need to tell better stories about people experiencing homelessness, who they are, what they’re going through and their hopes for their own future. We want to tell stories of successful outcomes.
- *Goal 3 - To Change The Tone Of The Public Discourse Surrounding Homelessness.* It’s time to move from anger and divisiveness to a tone of “we can solve this” and a common pursuit of the well-being of our entire community.

“My Road Leads Home: The Spokane Homeless Connect” - Our first finished full-length documentary features the 2019 *Spokane Homeless Connect*, an annual event that brought together 25 sponsors, 65 services providers, 100 volunteers, and 540 attendees either experiencing homelessness or working hard to avoid it. The finished documentary premiered on Thursday evening, May 30th, at the Spokane Public Library. Following the Premiere, the full documentary aired for a week on Community-Minded Television (Comcast Channel 14) as the result of a partnership with Community-Minded Enterprises. Both the Premiere and the full Spokane Homeless Connect documentary are available for viewing on our documentary website at MyRoadLeadsHome.org.

Yes, We Need Your Help

Our second documentary, **“A Place To Call Home,”** is already in early production, focusing on “the hidden homeless,” families experiencing homelessness in the greater Spokane area. It will highlight ministries and shelters, like Family Promise and St. Margaret’s, that are working with families experiencing homelessness to get them back on their feet. It will also challenge our community with practical opportunities to get involved and make a difference.

We need your financial participation. Making effective documentaries takes resources. This budget template is based on our experience producing the first documentary along with conversations with independent production people about the most cost effective way to produce the documentaries we want while maintaining the high level of production quality that people expect. This is your opportunity to get involved and make a difference.

Videography & Editing	
80 hours @ \$75/hour	\$6,000.00
Equipment	\$2,000.00
Music Licensing	\$1,000.00
Rising River Media Expenses	\$6,000.00
Intern	\$1,500.00
Contingency (things happen)	\$1,500.00
Total Expenses	\$18,000.00

General Information

Maurice Smith is the Executive Director of Rising River Media and the Executive Producer of *My Road Leads Home*. Maurice is a graduate of the University of North Carolina (Chapel Hill) and an honors graduate of Denver Seminary (MA - Theology). He is the author of several books, including *30 Days And 30 Ways Of Doing Good* and *The Least of These* and has worked among the homeless and marginalized in Spokane for nearly 15 years. Maurice serves as the Media & Communications Liaison for the Spokane Homeless Coalition.

My Road Leads Home is a documentary project of Rising River Media, a not-for-profit Washington Corporation (UBI 603148729), and a 501c3 tax-exempt entity (Federal ID# 45-3539101). Rising River Media, P.O. Box 1395, Veradale, WA 99037, (509) 475-8797, Email: risingrivermedia@gmail.com/ Website: MyRoadLeadsHome.org