

Push for Change

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Joe Roberts is pushing a shopping cart 9000k over 517 days to spread awareness about youth homelessness.



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Transcript: Push for Change

joe roberts began pushing a shopping cart on may 1st and won't be stopping until september 30, 2017. the push for change is a national awareness and youth empowerment campaign to prevent youth homelessness. our news source 8 reporter, sarah duncan, walked with him along the highway in florenceville this morning and brings us his story. i was a homeless kid pushing a shopping cart around the streets in vancouver. vo: the shopping cart is a symbol of joe robert's transformation from youth homelessness. it wasn't like i woke up and decided to make poor choices. i came from an environment that was unconducive to growth. i began to make those poor choices and by the time i was nineteen i was living on the street. vo: helping others to make better choices is the motivation for joe and why he is pushing a shopping cart 9000 kilometers across canada in five hundred and seventeen days. i thought this is a great opportunity to engage the country and beyond to talk about what we need to do to properly invest in kids when they're young because the best opportunity we have to avert homelessness or addiction or street life of gangs is to be there for that child. vo: an average day for joe starts at 6am. he gets out on the trail as fast as possible to walk twenty-four kilometers each day. what gets me out of bed is knowing that today is going to be another stretch of highway that i never have to walk again and it gets us closer to our goal of ending up in vancouver in 2017. vo: along the way the push for change team has over four hundred planned events with schools and communities. here in new brunswick or here in maine you don't see kids sitting on a piece of cardboard in front of the liquor stores but there's disengaged children in all of these communities. vo: joe says that every young person living on the street was once sitting in a classroom so why not invest inside the schools by the time you see somebody on the street a lot has happened in that first ninety days of street involvement. all kinds of terrible things have happened. vo: when i asked joe if he is worried about walking through the snow he said... i'm not concerned about the snow. we're canadian aye. vo: as joe says, human beings are the most beautiful when they're pouring their lives out for others. for news source 8, i'm sarah duncan. you can track joe's progress on their website at www.thepushforchange.com. ###

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