

I met Felicia\* on the streets of Washington, D.C. Even under her baggy clothes I observed that her bra was too small. As Felicia and I chatted, I told her about what our donors do - they provide support for girls and women on the street, including bras, pads and tampons.

For Felicia, a new or even second-hand bra was a luxury. Felicia told me she had been wearing her current bra for nine years. But she would never part with it, despite the improper fit. "It's my safety, my support," she said. Felicia explained that she stores money, ID and other small valuable items in her bra. She has been the victim of violent crimes before and knows that her precious few possessions may be stolen at any time. Her bra is her lifeline.

Continuously wearing any item of personal clothing for nearly a decade erodes a person's dignity. After receiving your donation, we stocked a local shelter that Felicia visits frequently. She was excited: For the first time in as long as she can remember, she could select a new bra that fits and even a second one. Felicia wore the tightest bra which dug into her shoulders and had a band that squeezed - because she never knew when she might get another. Even as it stretched, it offered her support and safety.

After finding her new bras, Felicia shared, "When someone believes I'm worth something, I start to feel as though I'm worth something, too."

Thanks to your donation, I know that Felicia is one step closer to living with the dignity she deserves.

\*Not her real name

Dear Supporter of I Support The Girls,

Thanks to you - and other generous donors - more than 140,000 girls and women experiencing homelessness in the U.S. were able to access bras and feminine hygiene products this year. These are items that many women feel are basic personal necessities, but most women on the street consider a "luxury."

## Your gift helps them maintain their dignity and self-respect!

Felicia's story is just one of thousands we could have shared. Your gift has already made a difference:

- **SCHOOL ATTENDANCE**: Your donation allowed teenage girls to attend school rather than missing 3-6 days of school every month out of embarrassment.
- **PERSONAL SAFETY:** With appropriate "support," girls and women can stand taller, feel less fear, and build self-esteem.
- **EMPLOYMENT**: These products allowed marginalized women to go on job interviews without worry and potentially land a job.

## You help women like Felicia maintain their dignity every single day across our country.

Sadly, girls and women are the fastest growing segment of the homeless population. Many agencies provide food and shelter. Those are crucial but not enough.

This month we are launching the **Support Dignity campaign**. By the end of 2018, our goal is to raise \$20,000 and provide 1,500 girls and women with basic personal necessities. You can be part of the success, someone helping to maintain dignity.

## Please consider a donation of \$20, \$45, or even \$75 or more for those who can't ensure their monthly needs as a woman.

Your support will provide the first steps towards pride and self-esteem for girls and women living on the street.

You can make your impact now by sending your gift, or going online (iSupportTheGirls.org/Donate) and donating immediately. Dignity, safety and self-respect for girls and women experiencing homelessness begins with your donation.

On behalf of Felicia and other women and girls in her situation, thank you for your continued support!

Happy holidays and a healthy new year ahead!

Dana Marlowe,

Executive Director, I Support the Girls

P.S. You can help women and girls right now with your generous gift. Please give today!

