  
I can’t imagine being homeless this winter, can you? The fact is, sleeping rough, couch surfing or living in temporary shelter is a reality for too many people in our community.  
  
Approximately 16% of Elgin-St. Thomas residents live in low income households and one in five of our children live in poverty. A family shouldn’t have to make the choice between a roof over their head or food on the table. Last year, 159 people in our community were identified as experiencing homelessness while 196 community members were forced to seek emergency support at Inn Out of the Cold in St. Thomas. We still have work to do.  
  
That’s why I'm asking you to spare a little warmth and help me fight poverty in our community.  
  
On February 7, I’m going to bundle up and sleep in my car overnight. It’s going to be uncomfortable, difficult and cold. But for me, it’s just one night. For too many of our neighbours, it’s every night.   
  
So please pledge your support now. Your donation will help United Way invest in proven programs that fight homelessness and poverty right here at home. Your donation stays 100% local, always.

<https://unitedwayem.akaraisin.com/pledge/Participant/Home.aspx?seid=18645&mid=9&pid=4733473>