

# Nonprofit Helps Edmond Teen Go From Homelessness To University Student

By Kelsey Kernstine



EDMOND, Okla. – An Edmond teen found herself hungry, no place to shower, and nowhere to call home until she said a miracle happened.

Can you imagine being a young person and nowhere to live?

One teen told News 9 she was in this predicament and PIVOT helped her get back on her feet

“My grandpa died suddenly. Life flipped upside down,” Sophie said.

It was a tough turn of events for the 17-year-old Edmond Santa Fe High School student. Sophie said she found herself alone, mourning the loss of her grandfather, and no place to call home.

In fact, some nights, Sophie was forced to sleep her car.

“I had my backpack and school work in the passenger seat and clothes and shoes in the trunk,” she said. “I just wasn’t focused on school. I just had to be focused on where I was going to eat my next meal, take a shower.”

Some days, the weight of the world was simply too much.

“There were times, I really just wanted to give up and drop out of school and just kind of give up on my life,” Sophie said.

Then one day, a school counselor helped Sophie find the nonprofit group PIVOT. Within weeks, things changed.

“PIVOT is a place for kids that just don’t have a place to belong,” Chandy Rice said.

Sophie found herself walking into a new home and a new life.

“Some of the service they offer are the food pantry, the clothing closet, counseling, case management. I just felt like a huge weight was taken off my shoulders,” Sophie said.

PIVOT gave Sophie a new chance at life and she grabbed it. She graduated high school, worked full time, and now has her own place to call home.

“I’m sure I would have not gotten as far as I have without PIVOT,” she said.

Sophie is attending UCO in Edmond where she hopes she can help as many kids like her.

PIVOT said they provide resources until these at risk youth can make it on their own.