John moved to the Lakes Region after his parents divorced three years ago.

He was an introverted kid who struggled with anger that sparked from his parents divorces and the difficulty of moving to a new town at the age of 10.

After spending time at the Boys & Girls Club after school, he found a mentor in site director Jim Holmes.

After gaining John's trust, Jim encouraged him to share his feelings.

This helped John get through bad days and come out of his shell.

It wasn't long before John participated in community service programs and would speak to everyone he met about the shelter.

John has become a strong leader in the program.

United Way fights for the health, education and financial stability of every person in every community.

Learn more at www.graniteuw.org.