



The Lobby

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## Project Homelessness: And I Know...

Created by Venture Theatre and AmeriCorp/VISTA.

written by Shad Scott and Ryan Gage

directed by Christie Anderson

This new play, written by Shad Scott and Ryan Gage, tells the beautiful story of three sisters (Izzy, Molly, and Emma) living at the Women and Family Shelter in Billings. The play is inspired by interviews with real Billings Youth collected by AmeriCorps VISTA volunteers Jessie Obee and Amy Dixon. The play follows the girls' emotional journey through homelessness and the relationships they foster while at the shelter. It is funny, intense, and will touch your heart.

[Buy Tickets Now!](#)

### Times & Shows

April 19, 2013 8PM

April 20, 2013, 8PM

April 21, 2013, 2PM

April 26, 2013, 8PM

April 27, 2013, 8PM

April 28, 2013, 2PM

May 3, 2013, 8PM

May 4, 2013, 8PM

May 5, 2013, 2PM

May 10, 2013, 8PM

May 11, 2013, 8PM

May 12, 2013, 2PM

### "Project Homelessness"

This journey has been a collaborative effort between Venture Theatre and the Billings Metro VISTA Project. The play, And I Know... is inspired by interviews taken from local homeless children and young adults, and it is intended to raise community awareness and funds to combat youth homelessness and poverty in the Billings community.

The AmeriCorps VISTA program is dedicated to combating poverty and homelessness in the United States. In 2009, the Welcome Home Billings initiative was adopted as a community-wide effort to end homelessness in Billings. VISTA presence at local non-profits is a key component of this effort.

In 2011, an AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer collected interviews with local homeless adults and collaborated with two Venture-based playwrights to create an original work about local adult homelessness. The monologue series, "A Heart Without," was so successful that then-conservatory director Sarah Butts, Lynn Al, and Billings Community Development Office Manager, Brenda Beckett created two year-long AmeriCorps VISTA positions at Venture dedicated to creating and implementing a full-length play documenting the stories of youth homelessness in Billings.

Jessie Obee, from Madison, Wisconsin, and Amy Dixon, from Billings, began their year of service at Venture in July 2012. They collected interviews with children and young adults, which Venture playwrights Shad Scott and Ryan Gage turned into a full-length original production. The play is also intended to raise scholarship funds for underprivileged kids to attend Venture conservatory classes as well as foot some of the cost of the 2014 Billings Community Connect, an annual event dedicated to bringing local homelessness service providers under one roof.

"Project Homelessness: And I Know..." opens April 19, 2013. It is possible for local non-profits to buy-out the black box theatre for a performance. The cost of a theatre buy-out is \$910 (\$13/ticket. )

If you have questions about the production or are interested in a buy-out, please contact [Jessie](#) or [Amy](#).

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