

*Faith is the courage to act when doubt is warranted.*

–William James, *The Sentiment of Rationality*

We all need hope. The belief that things can get better.  
In a year of disasters, both man-made and natural,  
optimism is hard to come by.

At WestCoast Children's Clinic, our kids contend with circumstances  
that, to many, defy optimism.

Aisha sometimes sleeps in bus stations. She's 16.

She claims her therapist as her "safe place."

"The hour with you," she tells her, "is the only thing I look forward to."

By the end of the day, they locate shelter for the night.

It's not enough, but it's a start.

At WestCoast we build hope.

Create space for new possibilities.

And increase our kids' odds of growing up with more choices.

Not fewer.

Our kids persevere despite adversities that would lead many to give up.

They go to school. Find places to live. Make friends.

Learn to build relationships with people who will support, not harm them.

Find their own strengths.

It doesn't happen automatically.

Aisha is working with her therapist to find housing.

In a month, she'll have a permanent place to live.

Now she's signing up for school.

There will be doubts.

But her therapist will be with her along the way.

To remind her how far she's come.

And how far she can go.

We see 1,600 kids each year.

Children with potential to change the world.

Kids can't do it alone.

They need communities that believe in them.

And, like Aisha, have the courage to act on hope.

Join us.

