



unsung hero

Anthony Flynn

34 • participant, 2012 Vinnies
CEO Sleepout

Anthony says that to truly commit to a cause, he needs to understand it first. The joint managing director of Kennlyn Properties spent three months volunteering with Rosies Friends on the Street Mission ahead of this challenge. "Homelessness seems to come back to three main things: financial instability, the breakdown of a family unit and mental health issues," says Anthony. "You can go from hero to zero within months. Everyone I've met has been an everyday person, thrust into a shocking situation." For Anthony, the stigma of mental health issues, and our reluctance to discuss them, presents the biggest challenge. "People close to me have suffered mental health issues, and have received love, support and compassion, whereas homeless people often have none of that." So far, Anthony has raised more than \$29,000 for the St Vincent de Paul Society, ahead of the sleepout on June 21. "I used to walk past homeless people and think, 'Poor guy, but what can I do?', but now I know I have the resources to make a difference."

SHARNEE RAWSON



www.ceosleepout.org.au

IN RECOGNITION of Anthony's efforts, he will receive a dessert and coffee voucher for Freestyle Tout, www.freestyletout.com.au