

MEXICO

This August, 16 Inner Hope community members will embark on a life-changing service trip to Ensenada Mexico. For many it will be their first time out of the country or on a plane, and their first time seeing third-world poverty firsthand.

Desirae was one of the participants on our team when we built the 2000th Home of Hope in Mexico in 2006. This year she joins us again. "For me Mexico was when God first planted a seed that never stopped growing," she explains. "It was quite the amazing experience to watch Jesus Christ light up in other peoples' lives. I'm excited for everyone else, the younger ones on the team—to watch how God moves in their lives on this trip."

You can assist us with the cost of our youth learning, growing and sharing through this experience—as they build a house for a Mexican family in need. Each youth has committed to personally contribute \$200 towards the trip. Inspired by the fact that the majority of the world lives on less than \$2.50 a day, they have been saving money primarily through giving up "extras" such as buying coffee, Blizzards, and treats at the corner store, and setting aside the equivalent money for Mexico.

Would you consider giving a financial gift towards our total costs of \$20,000 ?



Evening of Hope
Join us at the
Water Shed Arts Café
20349 88 Avenue, Langley
in support of

INNER HOPE
Youth Ministries

Monday June 6,
2011 ~ 7-9 pm

Tickets: \$20

Contact Jenny at 604-767-1357 or
office@innerhope.ca

Live Music
Local Artwork
from

JUSTPOTTERY
pottery with purpose

Open House

Saturday June 18th
11am – 4pm

at "The House"
RSVP for the address at
office@innerhope.ca

www.innerhope.ca

Housing • Life skills • Support • Discipleship

INNER HOPE
youth ministries

Spring 2011

GROWING HEALTHY...GROWING STRONGER

Carla and Jenny first met Mark when his cousin brought him over to their home to get a meal when he was 14 years old. Mark was living on his own by age 16 and began relying on Carla and Jenny for support in most areas of his life. Mark graduated from high-school in 2005, and completed his Bachelor's degree at Trinity Western University a few weeks ago in April 2011.

Mark studied Art and Human Kinetics and hopes to become a high-school Art and Physical Education teacher. This past year Mark led Youth Extreme, the youth group of which he was once a participant. He is interning at New Beginnings Church this summer for the third time in five years.



MARK

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- May 1 **Inaugural Community Advisory Meeting**
- May 6-8 **Mexico Team Weekend**
- May 14 **Boundless Workshop: Communication**
- May 14 **Volunteer Training**
- June 3 **First Nations High School Graduation**
- June 4 **Boundless Workshop**
- June 6 **Evening of Hope Langley**
- June 18 **Open House**
- Aug 10-20 **Mexico Service Trip**

We are excited about people from the community joining us and sharing their views and challenges !

With thanks to all our supporters, (volunteer, prayer, donations) - your partnership enables us to walk alongside youth, and support them as they gain greater stability and follow their dreams.

Special thanks to



COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

On May 1st, we were excited to host our first Community Advisory Meeting.

Our Board of Directors provides expertise for managing and leading our organization, but we have lacked regular input from the local community who we serve. To fill this gap we decided to gather together with key stakeholders in our community.

Seven people (four youth, one parent, one volunteer and an additional adult community member) were invited to provide their suggestions and feedback on our programs and organizational mandate (our vision, mission and values statements).

It was encouraging to see our community members taking seriously their opportunity to sit on the committee and give back in a meaningful way. The dialogue was very engaging and they decided it was important to meet quarterly in order to provide this integral support and input to Inner Hope. Karen Giesbrecht (board member) and Jenny Shantz will continue to facilitate the meetings and report back to the Board of Directors.

Mission: Providing hope to at-risk youth through:

- Housing** Providing a safe, stable home, free of drugs, alcohol and abuse
- Support** Helping youth in practical ways in their everyday lives
- Life skills** Mentoring youth as they develop the skills needed to build their futures
- Discipleship** Guiding youth in a relationship with their Creator

INTRODUCING OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

During the first four years of Inner Hope's inception, we have had a committed but small Board of Directors. God has blessed us with amazing leadership and provided for our needs. Over this past year board development became a priority.

Last spring we began developing a comprehensive board members' package. By winter the need to recruit new board members rose to an urgent level when one of our three board members put in her pending resignation. We are very pleased to announce that we have added three new members to our board. Here is a short profile of each of our current five board members.

CARRIE PETERS is our only remaining founding board member and is the current chair of our board. Carrie is a scientist by profession and also enjoys gardening, camping, running and singing in a choir. Her administrative skills have been a great asset as we applied to the provincial and federal governments for nonprofit and charity status.

KAREN GIESBRECHT joined our board almost three years ago. She is working as a dietitian and also has regular community involvements volunteering at a community kitchen in the downtown eastside as well as the shelter at First Baptist Church in Vancouver. She is currently working on her Masters in Leadership at Royal Roads University and is doing her masters research on "mentoring relationships," using the volunteers and youth in Inner Hope's Life Skills program as the participants in her study.

DERRICK DAR is the Managing Director of Liberty Food Store Ltd., a retail supermarket that his family has owned and operated since 1957. He is looking forward to serving as a board member with Inner Hope Youth Ministries. He is also an avid hockey player and a die-hard Canucks fan!

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In April, Carla, Karen and Jenny attended their second residential seminar for World Vision's organizational development course called Freeform. The topics for this seminar included: resource development, financial stewardship and risk management.

We have been extremely blessed to have the opportunity to learn from such a strong organization and gain wisdom from the two facilitators / coaches. Now we are busy working on homework assignments which will culminate in a three year operational plan.



INNER HOPE youth ministries



MELISSA DOTTO recently accepted a role as board member. She has years of experience working with children with Autism, as well as children in foster care and from backgrounds of trauma. She caught the vision for our work when she led a team of college students who served with us for a week in the winter of 2008. We are looking forward to her energy, passion and ideas and commitment to advocate for youth in difficult circumstances.

PETER LEGG is working as the Vice President of Finance and Administration at Vancouver Community College. He also enjoys rebuilding old cars in his spare time. We are looking forward to benefitting from his expertise in administration.

BOUNDLESS HOPE LIFE SKILLS

Dropping by the workshop, it was encouraging to see Desirae, one of program participants, co-leading the workshop with Kyle, our Life Skills Coordinator. The March theme was "cleaning" and Desirae and Kyle had prepared a couple of humorous video clips demonstrating how to clean a bathroom – one demonstrating what not to do and the other how to do a good job.

Desirae and Kyle also set up a mock living room and provided the cleaning supplies necessary to clean the room (a vacuum, a duster, windex). The youth were divided into two groups, and a contest was held to see which group could be most effective at cleaning the room.

This might seem mundane, but many households among the families we work with struggle to make their living spaces a healthy environment, resulting in unnecessary illness and in extreme situations even losing their children to foster care for health safety reasons. Thank you for allowing us to educate these precious young people.

In 2010 our volunteers and staff together spent over 1500 hours of mentoring with youth and most of that was quality one-on-one time!

Our World Vision Canada Regional Program Manager Gary Klassen (L) and Life Skills Coordinator Kyle Belton (R) hand out a completion certificate to a Boundless Hope participant.



1 Year !

We celebrated the first year anniversary of Boundless Hope (our life skills program) at our March workshop. In the first year, 18 youth completed the requirements of a six month session and a number of youth completed two six month sessions. Gary Klassen, our regional representative from World Vision Canada, was on-site to personally congratulate those in attendance and to help Kyle hand out

Currently we need to recruit about 10 additional life skills mentors to keep the program running at full capacity.

If you are interested in serving in this capacity

please contact Kyle at

778-882-5433

kyle@innerhope.ca

Walking alongside at-risk youth; empowering them to live healthy lives.