

BOUNDLESS UPDATE

Several people have responded to our need for mentors in the Boundless Hope program during the past few months. We have added 6 new mentors to our team, and 7 youth now have people in their lives who are dedicated to helping them grow and reach their goals!

In November, we had an enjoyable Creative Writing workshop with a local writer, Ahna Phillips. She shared with us from her own work and provided writing prompts for the youth to exercise their own writing skills.

In December, we look forward to our workshop which leads into an annual evening Christmas dinner and party. The theme of the workshop this year is Cooking, and the youth will actually be participating in the creation of our Christmas dinner!

Thank you for your continued support of this program. We are still seeking volunteer mentors. If you know of anyone in the Vancouver area who would be able to give time weekly to building a one-on-one mentoring relationship with a youth, please advise them to contact Bethany at bethany@innerhope.ca.



VISIT US at MISSIONS FEST JANUARY 27-29, 2012
missionsfestvancouver.ca

CURRENT NEEDS

Looking for creative ways to give towards Inner Hope? Here are some of our biggest current needs:

- **one night table**
- **one night table lamp**
- **four desk lamps**
- **\$25,000 by December 31, to meet our expenses for 2011**
- **Boundless Hope mentors**
- **prayer (e-mail office@innerhope.ca to be added to our prayer team; we will be re-starting our monthly prayer updates in January)**

AFTERNOON OF HOPE

Join us at the
House of James in Abbotsford

on
February 19, 2012
3-5 pm

Tickets: \$20
Contact Jenny at 604-767-1357 or
e-mail office@innerhope.ca

Live Music Local Artwork Pottery



www.innerhope.ca

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

housing ● life skills ● support ● discipleship

INNER HOPE
youth ministries

Winter 2011

NOW READY TO GIVE BACK!

In January of this year, Jordan met Kyle, our Life Skills Coordinator, at a youth retreat. Kyle invited him to become a part of Boundless Hope, our life skills program, and became Jordan's mentor.

Since then Jordan has obtained his driver's license and recently completed his final high school math credit. He is also thriving at a local church, volunteering with leading their kid's program as well as recently being baptized.

This coming January, Jordan is leaving for Katimavik, a volunteer youth-service program where youth leave their hometown for 6 months to participate in community projects. Jordan is excited to be placed in Eastern Canada and looks forward to working with others from across the country.

His calm countenance and ease with people will surely lend themselves well to this program and we look forward to seeing him succeed there.



JORDAN

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Dec 10 **Boundless Hope Christmas Party**
- Dec 17 **House Christmas**
- Jan 14 **Boundless Hope Workshop**
- Jan 27-29 **Missions Fest Vancouver (come visit our booth)**
- Feb 19 **House of James Afternoon of Hope**

GIVE A GIFT OF HOPE THIS CHRISTMAS

Give a gift that will change the life of a youth at-risk this Christmas. Choose a gift from Inner Hope's Gift Catalogue. If you want to give on someone's behalf, fill out their contact information on the insert provided and we will send a card to your honouree notifying them of your donation on their behalf. See the Catalogue insert within for more details.

With gratitude to all our supporters. Your generosity enables us to walk alongside youth, and help them envision hopeful futures, especially during this season of hope.
With special thanks to 

The 16-year-old held out his hand towards me, his fingers loosening their grip on some bills. With the help of his Boundless Hope mentor he had recently gotten his first job, and was enjoying being able to provide for himself the things that his mother could not, or would not.

Earlier that day he had spoken of the shopping trip he was going to take with that money. "Can you take this so I don't spend it?" he now asked. "It's for the church in Mexico," he continued. "The one we worked with this August. I just figured they have so little; they could use it a lot more than I can."

Astonished, I reached out and received his gift, humbled and challenged. This was not money that was left-over; this was a sacrifice. This would entail more going without, for a young kid who has already, by most of our standards, done way too much going without.

Christmas. A time of giving. A time of sacrifice? Definitely. *For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son.* Let's celebrate this Christmas season with giving and sacrifice, motivated by a 16 year old's gift, but more importantly by God's gift of the birth of his Son.
- Carla Dickinson, Co-Director

CHRISTMAS REFLECTION

Inner Hope Staff (L-R): Bethany Nickel , Carla Dickinson, Jenny Shantz, Kyle Belton



STAFF & BOARD DEVELOPMENT

We have seen significant developments within Inner Hope this past fall. It was an honour to welcome Bethany Nickel as our fourth full-time staff person mid-September. She worked with us as an intern last summer and during the school year. In her full-time position, she has taken on various roles: Volunteer Coordinator, Administrative Assistant and House Support.

As our Life Skills Program is based on each youth being matched with a volunteer mentor, our need to increase our recruitment of volunteers and provide them with a greater level of support had become critical. Already Bethany has recruited and screened 8 new volunteers and is currently supporting over 20 Inner Hope volunteers.

In the role of administrative assistant Bethany has taken over the responsibility of communications (website and newsletters) as well as providing administrative support to our directors. Two evenings per week she continues to work in "The House" supporting residents and doing household tasks.

COMPLETING FREEFORM

The Inner Hope leadership team is nearing completion of an 18-month leadership development course called FreeForm, hosted by World Vision, who provides us with the grant that allows us to run Boundless Hope. The course is designed to equip organizations like Inner Hope to fulfill our shared mandate - the mission, vision and values entrusted to us. Through FreeForm, we look at Inner Hope's capacity in human resources, long-term strategy, financial management, program development, and team leadership.

We've been led through some challenging and fruitful discussions, and have been highly encouraged with the teaching materials, the dialogues with other organizations who are journeying with us through the course, and with the way World Vision places emphasis on discernment through every step. Our last assignment will be a comprehensive 3-year strategic plan, which will require much work and prayer. This will provide a clear action plan for stewarding our time and resources well.

"The life of a non-profit organization is built on the teamwork, listening, learning and leading that is also required to play great jazz.

Both are journeys of the heart that start with a spark of inspiration that moves you to take action. Truly soulful sound emerges from the combination of improvisation (freedom) and sound theory (form)."



As Bethany has relieved Carla and Jenny of some of their duties, it has allowed us to do some restructuring of job roles.

Recently, the board approved new job descriptions and job titles for Carla and Jenny. In mid-January Jenny will begin her role as Executive Director and Carla will take on the responsibilities of Program Director. This decision came out of months of dialogue and was ultimately based on their abilities and passions.

We are also pleased to announce the addition of our seventh board member. Corrine Funk joined our board team in November and we are pleased to have a representative from the Abbotsford community where many of our long-time supporters are located.

- Karen Giesbrecht, Board Member



getting ready to take the tubes down the hill in swimsuits!



four boys mixing up some music on our DJ's turntables

MT. BAKER SNOW CAMP GATHERING

What do snow tubing, a New Mexico DJ, arts and crafts, worship, games, Jesus and First Nations youth all have in common? Red Soul Rising's annual Snow Camp Gathering at Mt. Baker in Washington of course!

This powerful weekend provides opportunity for First Nations youth to connect with youth and leaders from their culture who are also seeking to live their lives following the path of their Creator God. This years' speaker, Moses Botello, a talented jamming Indigenous DJ, spoke passionately from his heart about how Jesus has been transforming his life over the last 10 years, and how this impacts the relationships and injustices in his life.

Inner Hope brought 16 youth and leaders from East Vancouver, including 2 leaders who attended the gathering as youth participants in the past. It was awesome to be able to check in with many of our "Mexico Team" youth, and see continued growth in their lives. Our thankfulness is coupled with a recognition of urgency as we remember that at least three of our prior East Vancouver Snow Camp participants have passed away due to substance abuse over the years. The opportunity for a changed life is not one that can wait, which is why events such as these are so essential for our youth.

THE HOUSE

Although we have significantly expanded our programs for youth in the community, Carla and Jenny continue to reside at "The House" and support up to 5 youth and children who desire to live in a stable, drug and alcohol free, family-style home. As well as supporting house residents, "The House" allows us to regularly support dozens of community youth who visit, stop in for a meal, do their laundry, pick up mail or store their belongings in the garage when they are in transition.

This fall we provided housing to 4 full-time residents and 1 part-time resident (in dorm for the college semester): specifically, a young mom with 2 children and two single young women. Two of the young adults are attending full-time college programs while one is completing a three-month job training course.



Carla Dickinson, co-Director, and one of our youth get ready to take on the slopes

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