

Inner Hope

Youth Ministries

February 2008



FACTS & FIGURES

In the past 6 months we have averaged hosting

**141 visits,
118 meals,
31 sleepovers,**

beyond those who live in The House...

...per month.



PRAYER CORNER

Thank You

- Mina got a job
- Inner Hope finished 2007 with all bills paid
- Strength and joy
- Merissa; TWU student staying at 'The House'
- Friends and volunteers

Requests

- Current Residents—Jeanne, Bryan, James
- James needs \$5,000 to finish his semester at Trinity Western
- Right match of youth to fill up The House
- Time management in prioritizing; efficiency in task completion
- Approval of summer student grant applicaion
- Need additional

Dear Friends and Family,

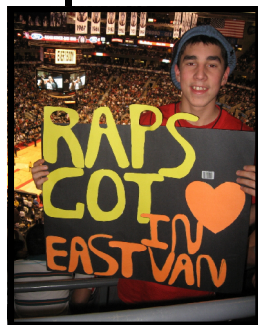
I, (Carla), was bound and determined to get this newsletter out by the end of February! Nothing was going to stop me. Even when I realized with seven days to go that I was now responsible for producing T4 slips and a summary to the government by February 29th, followed by the realization that Workers Compensation probably needed money and an application from us, I was not deterred. And then the vacuum cleaner broke, right when we started catching our mice and discovering a few friendly bedbugs, and it was all over for the newsletter deadline. One would think in this East Van world of death, drugs, addiction and violence that a broken vacuum would not be something to stand in my way, but as is so often the case it is not the crisis moments that break us, but the daily mundane. I'm so glad God cares about our mundane as much as He cares about our crisis.

January marked our one year anniversary of "getting serious" about starting Inner Hope. It is nothing short of a God thing how far we have come since then. The World Vision training we have been participating in has been very helpful in laying a strong foundation for us as an organization, and the resulting research and assignments have certainly confirmed the need for supportive youth housing in Vancouver. We are currently working towards creating our Life Skills Development program, which will service youth living both in and out of the home. Our desire is to teach youth life skills and offer them the support and stability they need in order to live full lives

Learning to love and let go is a constant lesson in our lives here at The House. Many time we pour ourselves into a youth for months, only to have them suddenly move out and return to their former way of life. It is so difficult for our youth to learn and accept a new way of living, and yet as I talk to youth we have supported over the years, so often I hear echos of the many seeds planted. One former resident, in expressing resentment at the way her boyfriend was treating her, burst out with "I'm not used to being treated [badly] anymore, I lived with you guys!" How encouraging to know that our youth have a new picture in their heads of what life can look like if they choose to change. We pray over and over that their hearts would choose what their heads now know.

Thanks again to each and every one of you who have come alongside of us in our ministry. For those of you putting us on the quarantine list, we want to assure you we have buried our mice in the local landfill, (except for a couple of resilient ones in Jenny's closet), and poisoned our two bedroom friends into extinction (and almost ourselves as well). So come on over; Bryan would love to show off his Provincial Championship medal!

Jenny Shantz & Carla Dickinson



Looking Back....

- Christmas at The House *Friday Dec.21*
- World Vision Canada training Part II *Jan 29.30*

Looking Forward...

- Kaleo Missions Team visiting *March 21-29*
- Grade 12 Graduations *May/June*
- YWAM Mexico Mission Adventure *Aug.10-22*



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