

LOOKING FORWARD



Many of you know how exciting it is to see your son or daughter enter college or university for the first time and the satisfaction that comes with knowing that they are one step closer to becoming stable adults who are capable of supporting themselves and their future family. Each year we have the wonderful opportunity to watch some of our young people begin post-secondary education. I find it even more exciting because there are so few people in their families who achieve this milestone. When a youth comes from a family who has been in the welfare system for two or three generations, helping them access education not only opens doors for their future, but brings them a step closer to breaking the cycles of dependency and poverty. This year, three of our young adults started college: one is playing on the basketball team at Northwest Indian College and two are beginning their studies at Langara College in Vancouver. In addition, we have one young adult in her third year at Briercrest in Saskatchewan and one interning at the Youth With A Mission base in Oliver, BC. We are incredibly grateful for the amount of support many of you have given to these young adults -- from providing babysitting services, to funding for a babysitter, from picking a student up at the airport to transport her to college, to encouraging them through Facebook messages and offering homework help. We look forward to continuing to work together to support youth in following their dreams. 🏔️

With thanks to all our supporters, for without your financial support we would not be able to walk alongside youth, and be there for them as they develop into responsible adults.



Bike Challenge Update: 75,282 Feet Climbed & \$20,000 Raised!



It was a great honour this past spring to have Mike McDonald initiate a bike challenge fundraiser to support Inner Hope's Boundless Life Skills Program. As an Indigenous lawyer in Vancouver, Mike is very familiar with the challenges many of our youth and families face. His desire to train for an upcoming bike tour coupled with his heart for transformational change in the lives of at-risk youth spurred on the idea to use his biking as a way to raise funds for Inner Hope. Eight bikers met Mike at The House to bike with him on his final day and dozens of Mike's friends and Inner Hope community members gathered at Locarno Beach to celebrate his accomplishment. Mike reached his goals of climbing 75,000 feet of elevation in 30 days and raising \$20,000 for Inner Hope!



mikesbikechallenge.wordpress.com

www.innerhope.ca

inner hope youth ministries' mission and goal is to providing hope and belonging 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



Hope Through Relationships

Summer of Blessings

September 2013



CELEBRATIONS

Celebrations have become a big part of our monthly calendar at Inner Hope. One of the ways we show support to the youth in our community is to recognize them on their birthdays. When finances are limited or parents are weak in their budgeting skills, birthday parties often fall by the wayside or are delayed until the next cheque arrives a week or two later. We want each of our core youth to know that they are valued and their life has purpose. As our young people grow older, baby showers have also become a common occurrence and one of the ways we support our young women in their transition into motherhood. This year, celebrations took on a whole new meaning. In the last six months, two of our young adults were married! Healthy relationships and commitment to family are values that we strive to teach and model. It is an honour to share in these important milestones in the lives of our young people.

an update from jenny

Inner Hope continues to grow and flourish and find our niche in the East Van community. With growth often come challenges. This past year – our sixth year as an organization – we have faced numerous obstacles and growing pains. A verse that I have come to appreciate is Philippians 4:13, “For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.” Thank you all for your prayers during this season. After much transition, we landed in September with an amazing staff team of six highly talented individuals who are dedicated to serving this community. I am also grateful for a strong board of committed individuals who we were able to rely on for wisdom, accountability and integrity as we made important decisions. Please join me in reflecting on a summer packed with goodness and the excitement of young adults entering college and moving towards greater stability.

- Jenny Shantz, Executive Director



2013 Board Team - Carla Dickinson, Linda Smythe, Corrine Funk, Jenny Shantz, Carrie Peters, Karen Giesbrecht, Derrick Dar, Peter Legg (missing Leanne Warawa)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Sept. 21 - Boundless FUNshop
- Sept. 21 - Games Night at The House
- Oct. 19 - Boundless FUNshop & Games Night
- Nov. 22 to 24 - Snow Camp (Mount Baker Retreat)

SUMMER 2013

summer goodness (and a new van)



This summer was jam packed full of community life: camping, waterpark adventures, biking the seawall, Qwanoes, barbecues, campfires, movie nights and countless ice cream trips filled the sunny days and fun nights. With our community growing and not all staff having their own vehicles, transportation grew to crisis levels as we entered summer. Thankfully, our prayers were answered and an amazing eight-passenger minivan was donated which allowed more youth to be part of summer fun and community life. It is truly beautiful watching youth finding a place to belong at Inner Hope.



DISCIPLESHIP



“ I had the joy of being at Camp Qwanoes on Vancouver Island for a week this summer with our youth, a place that is very near and dear to many of their hearts. They love Qwanoes not only because of the heaps of love and care that they receive there, or the number of thrilling activities to partake in, but because Qwanoes is a place of spiritual growth and learning for many of them. This year, two of our youth decided to follow Jesus! Another one asked some big questions about God and at the end of the week, said he would read the Bible in the next year. Another stated at fireside that she was letting go of years of bullying and putdowns. All of our youth sensed God's spirit, who was so present that week. Praise Jesus for using Camp Qwanoes to pursue and love on His children! ”

- Sarah Hartung,
Program Support & Volunteer Coordinator

• NEW STAFF •

ange wu

BOUNDLESS COORDINATOR



Hi everyone! I'm Ange, the new coordinator for the Boundless Life Skills program. I just completed my Bachelor of Social Work through the University of Victoria in April, and I am so excited that God has now brought me to Inner Hope. I have been blessed

with many opportunities to work with people around the world, from all kinds of backgrounds and walks of life, but youth in Vancouver have always held a special place in my heart. I'm looking forward to walking alongside the Inner Hope youth and their mentors as they build relationships and do life together!

“ ”

gillian tiessen

HOUSE PARENT



Born and raised in Southwestern Ontario, I've only recently moved out to Vancouver to work with Inner Hope. I have a variety of post secondary education but at the end of the day, my real passion is working alongside young people, helping them

realize and reach their God-given potential. Prior to moving here, I spent over two years working in foster care in Ontario. In my spare time, I enjoy spending time with family and friends, reading, and playing board or card games. I am so excited and blessed to be part of the Inner Hope team!