

## Fall 2013 in Review

The year of 2013 has been a year of growing in depth. By adding a couple positions, our staff have been able to become more focused and are blossoming in their various areas of responsibilities. **Carla Dickinson** oversees our programming team as well as coordinates our discipleship programs. Our partnership with Reality Church is flourishing and we continue to have dozens of community members attending church, **hosting as many as 30 people for lunch afterwards at The House.** **Ange Wu** is thriving in her new role as Boundless Coordinator with **20 youth enrolled.** Our Boundless participants are receiving a growing level of support and many are graduating from high school. **Gillian Tiessen** has also adjusted well to her role as a House Parent. We have temporarily reduced our capacity for full-time housing, but she has been kept busy supporting our newest resident and hosting community guests. 65 different community members visited The House in September and 61 in October. Both months, **over 100 meals were served to visitors.** **Sarah Hartung** passionately oversees our volunteer department. She recruits and screens all new volunteers as well as supports **over 40 volunteers** who give their time in various capacities. Sarah also provides on-the-ground support in The House and coordinates birthdays celebrations for our core youth. **Kitty Chan** and I are working hard to provide the developmental and administrative support necessary for a growing ministry, while I also continue to house parent at The House. ▲

- Jenny Shantz,  
Executive Director

## 50 Friends of Hope Update

We're halfway there! So far, 25 people have pledged to become Friends of Hope. We're needing 25 more partners to reach our goal!

If you haven't already, we invite you to consider becoming a Friend of Hope! Please visit the website at [www.innerhope.ca/get-involved/50-friends-of-hope](http://www.innerhope.ca/get-involved/50-friends-of-hope) or email Kitty at [kitty@innerhope.ca](mailto:kitty@innerhope.ca) for more information.

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.

**World Vision**  
Canadian Programs

### Volunteer with us!



*"Above all, love each other deeply... offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." (1 Peter 4:8-10)*

Being an Inner Hope Volunteer is a meaningful, tangible way to serve God's children and be part of his work in East Vancouver. Sometimes it's building meaningful relationships with youth and sometimes it's serving behind the scenes to meet the needs of the community. It's always about building into the Kingdom of God by sharing life with youth and their families.

Are you interested in becoming involved? We are currently in need of Boundless Mentors. Visit [www.innerhope.ca](http://www.innerhope.ca) or email [sarah@innerhope.ca](mailto:sarah@innerhope.ca) for more details.

[www.innerhope.ca](http://www.innerhope.ca)

**INNER HOPE**  
youth ministries

Hope Through Relationships

### Lives Impacted

Winter 2013



KIERSTEN

Kiersten's love for youth and children naturally drew her to volunteer with us through being a part of Reality Church where much of the Inner Hope community attends. Earlier this year, she became a regular part of life at The House and Sunday Community Lunches. Kiersten takes much initiative to invest in the lives of our children and youth, whether it be inviting them along on snowboarding, snowshoeing or camping adventures, providing childcare for a single mom, attending graduations, birthdays, and extra-curricular performances, or having young ones over to bake cakes and play at a park. "I have been blessed with a love of kids and youth, so much of my time feels more like investing in others, living in community and serving The Lord, as oppose to sacrifice." Her motivation is clearly to serve Jesus and her energy, passion and generosity is such a gift to Inner Hope!

## thank you for your generosity!

December has come and we are excited to celebrate both the birth of Christ and young lives being transformed by HIS love. This Christmas newsletter shares some highlights from each of our four program areas: housing, support, life skills and discipleship. We want to thank you as past or present supporters and volunteers for your role in this story. Inner Hope is having a growing impact on the lives of youth and families in East Vancouver and is very thankful for God's leading and provision in 2013. For the first time in our young history, we are approaching the end of the year in a stable financial position, enabling us to save for upcoming growth! We have some exciting plans for the coming year and invite you to continue partnering with us.

- Jenny Shantz,  
Executive Director



Recently, a friend of Inner Hope blessed The House by donating a butchered cow from the livestock auction at the Pacific National Exhibition!

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Nov. 15-17 - Camp Qwanoes  
Nov. 30 - Volunteer Training  
Dec. 14 - Boundless Christmas  
Dec. 21 - House Christmas

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



# THE BIG FOUR AT INNER HOPE



Inner Hope may look messy at times, but in reality, everything we do is categorized into four focus areas: **housing, discipleship, life skills,** and **support**. When a youth gets plugged into the Inner Hope community, we provide support for them in as many of these areas as possible according to their needs. Be encouraged as you read stories about the impact on the lives of our youth with the help of your support!



## housing

**"The House"** is located in the East Vancouver area, and is a substance free home for youth who desire structure, support and accountability in their lives.

At the beginning of September, Inner Hope helped Selena enroll in school and shortly after that, Selena moved into The House. Prior to Inner Hope, she had spent a lot of time on the streets and rarely attended school. Since moving in, her life has changed in many ways. She has been attending school regularly and is doing well in all her courses! She has also dedicated hours of her free time to her new hobby—making duct tape wallets! Selena is looking forward to the weeks ahead where she will be busy making and selling these wallets as the Christmas season approaches. At The House, we are excited to see Selena continue making positive choices and working towards living a healthy life!



## discipleship

We offer youth ways to pursue discipleship by encouraging them to grow in faith through church attendance, Bible studies, summer camp retreats and service trips.

Though The House is a home to some youth, it is a second home to many more as a place of love and belonging. Many young adults, teens and children attend Reality Church on Sunday mornings and are welcomed back to The House for a meal and afternoon of community and conversation after the gathering. This past October, 25 different individuals attended church and we hosted an average of 19 people for Sunday lunches!

Our life skills programs include post-secondary educational support and Boundless, a one-on-one mentoring program that is also responsible for "FUNshops," monthly workshops that focus on exploring and learning important life skills.



## life skills

Inner Hope is a community that provides round-the-clock support. This includes: celebrations (birthdays, graduations, holidays), practical support (meals, laundry, mailing address), advocacy (court hearings, meetings), and visits (hospital, jail, treatment facilities).

Frankie is a young man who has received significant support over the years. "I joined Inner Hope for one reason only: to get free food. My intention in the beginning was to just take what they had to offer, but I didn't know that they also offered a way to meet Jesus. Since I've joined Inner Hope I can confidently say that I've started to do life differently. From making my bed to the way I talk to others, it is all a product of me joining Inner Hope. It has made a 100% difference in my life as it was not headed in the right direction. Once I met the staff, I realized that instead of blaming others I should take responsibility for my actions. I am now staff at a Discipleship Training School in Oliver, BC with the YWAM base, learning and growing in ways I never thought possible. I know that without their modelling I wouldn't be where I am today and I thank God for all the staff and all the people that contribute to Inner Hope. All because I wanted free food." Inner Hope continues to support Frankie through regular phone calls and occasional visits as we walk with him on his journey to adulthood.

Cassidy was introduced to Inner Hope this past summer by one of our existing Boundless youth. Since then, she has shown tremendous growth. With the support of her mentor, Sarah, Cassidy has improved her time management and communication skills, as well as taken and passed her learner's driver test! In the short time of her involvement, her and her parents have seen significant change in her attitude and motivations. Through Inner Hope, Cassidy has gotten connected in many other areas of the community including Camp Qwanoes (where she began her relationship with Jesus!) and Reality Church Vancouver, where she recently started to bring her family to!



## support

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