

ANNUAL REPORT 2019

INNER HOPE
youth ministries



hope through relationships

one story of impact



Kayla grew up without the guidance and love of parents. Her mom passed away when she was young and her dad was absent. Although a few relatives tried to fill some of the void, her needs were neglected. She often felt alone.

"My childhood was full of abuse, neglect, drug addicts and alcoholics. This type of lifestyle was all I knew. I remember wishing that my mom would show up and save me, but she never did. When she did show up, she would smell of alcohol, and didn't stay long. I remember being molested in a park by a stranger and the cops being called. I ended up getting slapped on the face and yelled at, as I ruined a 'smoke session.' I was suicidal from a young age.

I used to hate all the adults who were responsible for protecting me and guiding me. Now I come with love and understanding. I understand that they too had a lot to heal from. That they drank and used drugs to run from their childhood. That is not going to be a norm I pass down to my children. I don't want them to grow up needing to heal from their childhood. **Here is where it ends.**

Inner Hope has been patient with me on my journey of how I connect being an Indigenous mother and Christianity. All my life I was told to hate the white man. Not to trust Christians. I was told terrible stories about how Christians are oppressing Indigenous people. Inner Hope has been patient while I figure it out. They walk alongside me in this time of confusion. I need someone to love me in times that are not so loveable. Every day is a struggle of how I can be an Indigenous woman but still connect to a Christian organization. Inner Hope chooses to stay. They don't abandon me in a time of need.

If I can say one thing about how Inner Hope has made a difference in my life, it would be stability. My kids know that they are safe and at home when they are at the 'church house' (their name for the community house). They help with creating yearly traditions – something I never had growing up."

Kayla is now a receptionist for the Ministry of Child and Family Development – the same office where her old social worker still works. She runs a parent support group at Inner Hope.

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vision & mission

Inner Hope Youth Ministries' vision is youth and families equipped to live healthy lives and to empower the next generation.

Our **mission** is to walk alongside youth and families in East Vancouver nurturing **hope**, **belonging**, and **transformation** through:



SUPPORT

Promoting positive community engagement and loving youth, young adults and families in practical ways



DISCIPLESHIP

Guiding children, youth and young adults in a relationship with their Creator



LIFE SKILLS

Mentoring youth and young adults to develop the skills needed to build their futures



HOUSING

Offering safe, stable and supportive homes for youth, young adults and their children

CORE VALUES



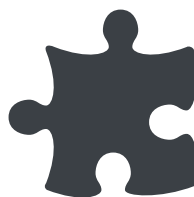
FAITH

We value sharing the love of Jesus and believing in His transformational power.



COMMITTED RELATIONSHIPS

We value long-term relationships with youth, families, and supporters.



COMMUNITY

We value journeying together as a community of diverse individuals who love and care for one another.



INTEGRITY

We value living with honesty, transparency, reliability, and stewardship, knowing we are accountable to God, those we serve, and those who support us.

a letter from jenny



When I reflect back on Inner Hope's journey in 2019, I am overwhelmed with thanksgiving. I am thankful for God's healing in lives and freedom from addiction for some of our community members. I am thankful that five young adults and a newborn baby had a caring, stable home to live in. I am thankful for a dynamic, committed staff team who often went above and beyond. I am thankful for volunteer mentors who found creative ways to demonstrate love to teenagers who have gone through a lot of challenges in their lives. I am thankful for donors who gave, often sacrificially, providing the financial provision to meet all of our commitments in 2019. On a personal note, I am thankful for a successful surgery last fall and the resulting freedom from pain and am also thankful that my mom's cancer treatments have provided her with extended time on earth.

My thankfulness does not come from an absence of challenges. Life in the inner-city is a roller coaster ride. During our weekly staff lunches each person shares their highs and lows. We walk with our community through highs and lows too. A Community Advisory member's daughter is murdered while a young adult is accepted into college to pursue her dreams. A family of six youth and children are apprehended back into foster care. An aunt gains custody of her niece and brings her home out of foster care. One youth encounters Christ's love and gets baptized, while another youth falls into patterns of addiction and ends up on the street.

How do we choose joy in the midst of pain, trust in the midst of inadequacy, and hope in the midst of failure? The truth is we have to make a choice, we have to step out in faith, believing that hope and love are more powerful than evil and destruction. The Bible says, *"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."* (Romans 15:13) and *"we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope."* in Romans 5:3-4.

As you read the stats and stories within, I hope you will be encouraged by the many ways Inner Hope has been a conduit of love, mercy and justice in East Vancouver this past year. You may have heard of the saying, "slow and steady wins the race" or "less is more." Inner Hope does not strive for big numbers or scaling up our services, but rather we strive to be faithful to the community of families who we journey with for the long haul. A couple of weeks after the Coronavirus outbreak shut down our city, I called each parent of the youth in our Boundless mentoring program to check in and see how they were doing practically, financially, and health-wise. It's been encouraging to see our team respond in creative ways at these unprecedented times. We look forward to next year's report when we can share what God has done. I am happy to report that each youth, young adult and family we support continues to be served and loved on. That is what Inner Hope is: a community and a family where each life matters.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jennifer Shantz".

Jennifer Shantz
Executive Director

program highlights

TOTAL SERVED: 269

58 children (0-12), 67 youth (13-18),
50 young adults (19-24), 94 adults (25+)

All our programs fall under the service umbrellas of support, discipleship, life skills, and housing.
Many individuals were served by more than one, as our goal is to develop deep relationships with youth and families in all areas of life.

SUPPORT, COMMUNITY LIFE



We were not meant to live life alone!
Inner Hope walks alongside individuals in their day-to-day lives. Our community events are often the entry point for connecting with youth and families.

- » Individualized support: **240**
(hospital visits, one-on-one connection, advocacy, rides, birthday celebrations, help moving)
- » Community engagement: **159**
(individuals who attended an event)

DISCIPLESHIP

Inner Hope provides opportunities for connection with our Creator through Bible study, one-on-one spiritual mentorship and summer camps and retreats. We also partner with Reality Church in Vancouver, integrating our youth and families into the Reality family.

- » Total individuals served: **83**
 - » Attended bible study: **7**
 - » Received one-on-one discipleship: **19**
 - » Attended summer camp/retreats: **74**



LIFE SKILLS



Pasta-making workshop

Inner Hope supports youth and young adults in gaining the skills they need to thrive through Boundless, our teen mentoring program, and through our Post-Secondary life skills program.

BOUNDLESS [AGES 13-18]

- » Total served: **44**
- » Matched with a mentor and set goals: **22**
 - » **2,541** hours of mentoring
- » **12** life skill workshops attended by **63** individuals
(mentors, youth and guest speakers)



Annual pumpkin patch tradition!

POST-SECONDARY [AGES 19-24]

- » Total served: **20**
- » Formal participants: **16** *(those who developed an education / employment plan)*
 - » **1,158** support hours
- » **11** social events and **3** workshops

HOUSING

Our housing exists for inner city youth and young adults in East Vancouver who desire a safe, supportive home environment with live-in adult support and mentoring.

THE HOME

- » Total residents: **6**
- » Total guests: **62**
(family & friends)
- » Meals served: **2,925**
- » Average number of life skills practiced per resident: **18**



House Parents and residents in Whistler

volunteers

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Leon Vose

Board Chair

Retired IT Asset Manager

Denise Fong

Secretary

Museum Registrar

Jen Close

Treasurer

Research Program Manager,
Neonatal Intensive Care Unit

Rebecca Janke

Member

Parent Consultant & Adoption Social Worker

Carrie Peters

Member

Retired Scientist

Barbara Schmidt

Member

President,
Jordan Development Corporation

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

June Rose

Parent

Liz Adams

Parent

Tristan Gibbs

Resident

Clifford Ryan

East Van Community Member

Sandra Delorme

Parent

Kayla McDonald

Parent

Justin Lapointe

Past Resident

Iziah Delorme

Boundless Participant

Yvon Pepion

Parent

Tyson Martin

Boundless Participant

VOLUNTEERS

[TOTAL: 129]

Board	7
Community Advisory Committee	10
Support, Community Life	56
Discipleship	11
Life Skills, Boundless	35
Life Skills, Post-Secondary	12
Housing	22
Other	23

*47 volunteers
served in multiple
program areas.



2019 STAFF & CONTRACTS

Jenny Shantz
Executive Director

Mark Ang
Boundless Coordinator

John & Jenn Johnstone
Cultural Mentors

Diana Squires
Director of Programs

Samantha Gardham-Hers
Post-Secondary Coordinator

Courtney Alexander
Summer Intern

Dara Barbour
Development & HR Coordinator

Nicole Brindle
Respite Worker (P/T)

Karen Toews
Summer Intern

Irene & Nate McCready
House Parents: Jan - Aug

Abigail Kelly
Volunteer Coordinator (P/T)

**Additional casual and short-term support not included*

Francis Awando & Georgia Omwa
House Parents: Aug - Dec

Donny Melanson-Gomez
Discipleship Coordinator (P/T)



Professional Development

- **Lessons Learned from Reconciliation:** Mini-Conference
- **Effective youth engagement & parent-school partnerships:** Series of webinars
- **Self Care:** Led by Colleen Fuller
- **Motivating Change - Strategies for Approaching Resistance:** Crisis & Trauma Resource Institute
- **Labour & Employment Law:** Canadian Professional Management Services
- **Indigenous cultural competency:** In-house training for summer intern using "8th Fire" DVD documentary
- **Addiction & Youth:** Crisis and Trauma Resource Institute
- **Microsoft Excel:** LinkedIn Learning
- **Shared Spaces: Foundations for Dialogue and Engagement Between Indigenous and non-Indigenous People:** Simon Fraser University
- **Health Precautions:** led by Larissa Alexson
- **Trauma:** Webinar via Foster Parent Summit
- **Coaching Fundamentals:** Canadian Professional Management Services

highlights of 2019

John and Jen Johnstone partnered with Inner Hope as cultural mentors

To address the Calls to Action from Canada's Truth & Reconciliation Commission we committed to ensuring our home is supportive of our residents' cultural heritage. Part of this response is to make sure residents have Indigenous adults connected to The Home - as role models and mentors.

John and Jenn are on the board of the Lower Fraser Valley Aboriginal Society. John is Stó:lo from Leq'a:mel First Nation and is a 60's scoop survivor. They are learning the upper sto:lo halq'emeylem language. They seek to bring reconciliation between First Peoples and the Church through education, prayer and the facilitation of bridge-building encounters.



More community members accessed post-secondary education

- A mom completed her Bachelor of Nursing; the 5th bachelor degree in our 13-year history! She now has a job at Surrey Memorial Hospital and is training our staff yearly in health precautions.
- A father began his Bachelor's at Pacific Life Bible School.
- Three young adults began programs at Trinity Western University, Capernwray Bible College and BC Institute of Technology.
- Other young adults successfully applied to VCC for baking and Langara for general studies beginning in 2020.
- Past residents attended programs at SFU (teaching), Capilano College (film) and NVIT (criminal justice).

Advocacy and support helped families reunite

40% of our community members spend time in the foster care system due to generational cycles of trauma and addiction (mostly stemming from the Residential School legacy and impacts of colonization).

- In 2019, we were thrilled to support three young women as they took a niece or nephew out of foster care. Years of support and mentoring from Inner Hope had led to significant growth and stability for these women.
- In one situation we helped a young woman find a lawyer. Three staff/volunteers journeyed alongside her through a year of court hearings before she was granted temporary custody of her niece.
- In another situation, we provided a character reference and childcare to help an aunt gain custody of a nephew a few days after he was apprehended into custody.

It has been tremendously rewarding to see how years of mentoring have made an impact in the midst of systemic challenges.



stories and quotes

Below are some stories and quotes highlighting the impact Inner Hope had in 2019 by the grace of our amazing God!

When I was in treatment, Inner Hope gave me an opportunity to move into their housing. From there on they supported me with my recovery. Also, just becoming an adult and learning how to be independent. Inner Hope gave me a home, a bed, and support all around. The support staff - like the House Parents - have definitely supported me a lot - like bringing me out to meetings.

- Resident



Inner Hope helped me out a lot with trying to figure out how to take a kid out of foster care: trying to find a lawyer, trying to figure out what all these documents meant to get a kid under your own care. All these papers, all these hours in a courtroom and just so much waiting and waiting. Inner Hope stuck by me the whole time until I was granted guardianship.

- Parent



My wife and I have committed to serving Inner Hope's Boundless youth program. I was matched with my mentee last fall. He had exceptional needs, but my wife and I immediately saw amazing potential. Through his commitment, he has flourished! We look forward each week to sharing dinner, catching up, talking basketball, playing chess, and working together toward his next accomplishment.

We have formed a close friendship. We have learned that he is driven and pushes himself to rise above his next challenge. He has become a true leader within his family, circle of friends and classmates. He reminds us of God's illuminating hope.

- Boundless Mentor

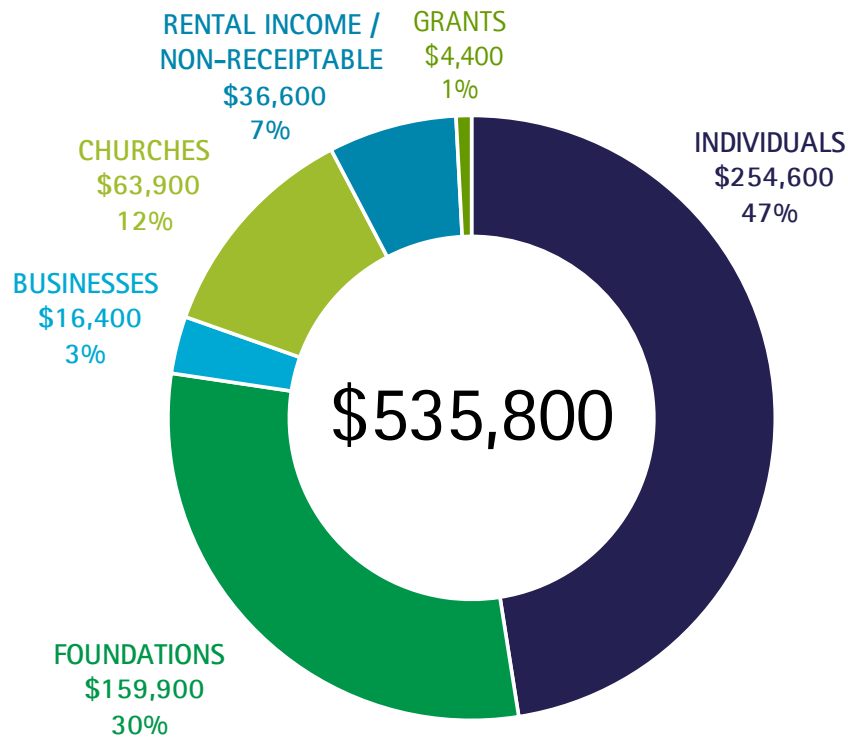
The Inner Hope community made a difference by providing the stability that I needed: from the continuing support of me graduating from the Boundless Program, to the Post-Secondary Program, to my long-term relationships with the volunteers.

- Post-Secondary Program Participant

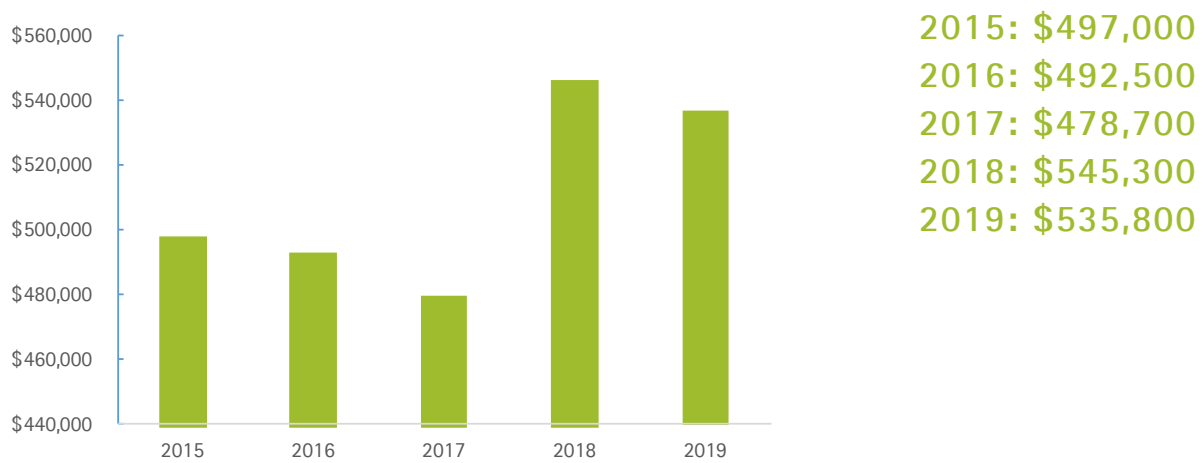


income

2019 REVENUE & DESIGNATED FUNDS

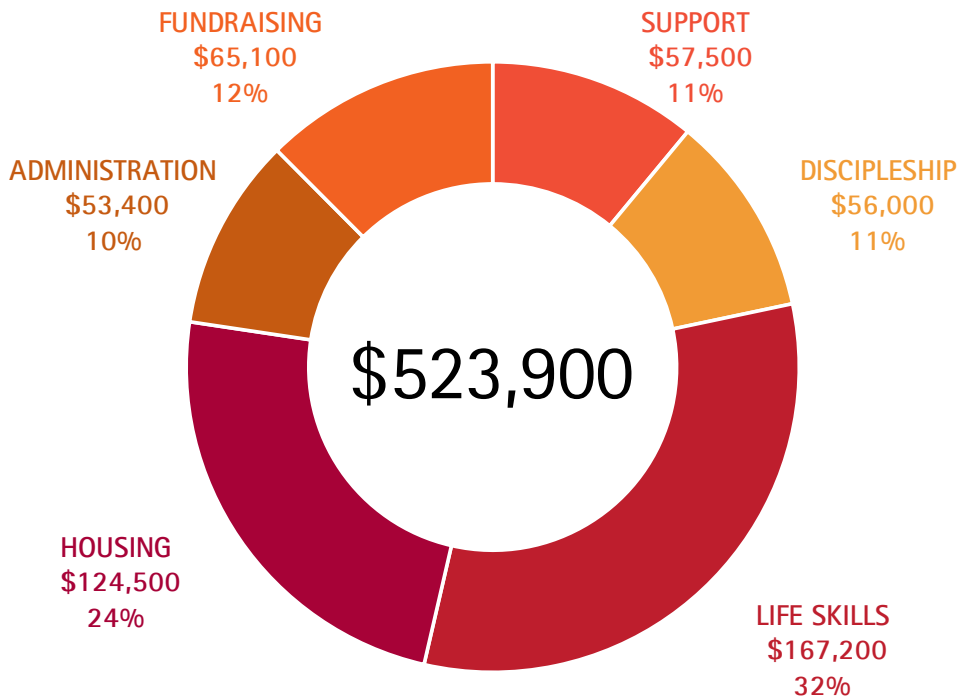


Revenue Growth



expenses

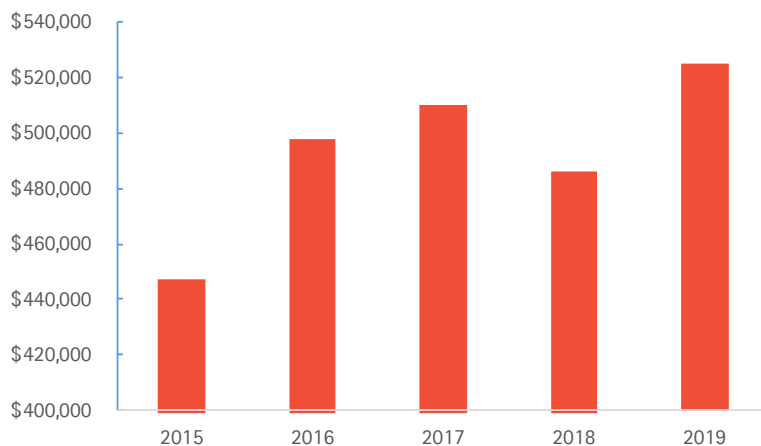
2019 EXPENSES



FINANCIAL SUMMARY

TOTAL INCOME
[\$535,800]
-
TOTAL EXPENSES
[\$523,900]
=
\$11,900
put into
contingency fund

Expense Growth



2015: \$446,000
2016: \$496,500
2017: \$508,700
2018: \$485,200
2019: \$523,900

partnerships & networks

FORMAL PARTNERSHIPS

Reality Church - In 2017, Inner Hope signed a formal partnership agreement with Reality Church. The goal of the partnership is to integrate Inner Hope youth and families into the Reality Church family through authentic, committed relationships and discipleship resulting in a supportive, inter-connected community and long-term ongoing transformation for individuals.

Bakerview Church - In 2015, Bakerview Church initiated a 5-year funding partnership with Inner Hope as a 50th Anniversary project. Their annual support covers a significant portion of our discipleship costs.



Day Camp at Reality Church

NETWORKS AND FINANCIAL SUPPORTERS

Schools

Britannia Secondary, incl. Streetfront
Capernwray Bible School
Pacific Life Bible College
St. Regis Secondary School
Trinity Western University
Vancouver Community College
Whytecliff Agile Learning Centre

Churches

Bakerview MB Church - Abbotsford, BC
Bethel Baptist Church - High Prairie, AB
Citylife Church - Vancouver, BC
Granville Chapel - Vancouver, BC
Mountainview Christian Fellowship - Vancouver, BC
New Beginnings Church - Vancouver, BC
Reality Church - Vancouver, BC
Richmond Baptist Church - Richmond, BC
Richmond Chinese Evangelical Free - Richmond, BC
St. Andrew's & St. Stephen's Presbyterian - North Van, BC
Tenth Church - Vancouver, BC
Valley Crossway Church - Abbotsford, BC
Willingdon Church - Burnaby, BC

Camps/Retreats

Camp Qwanoes
North American Indigenous Ministries (NAIM)

Service Agencies

Bladerunners
Cyrus Centre
Creative Solutions Counselling, Colleen Fuller
Early Psychosis Intervention Program (VCH)
Ministry of Children and Families - Youth Office
Urban Native Youth Association (UNYA)
Vancouver Aboriginal Child & Family Services Society
Youth Unlimited

... and many more

Businesses

Costco Wholesale
East Gordon Development Ltd.
Ecclesiastical Insurance.
Okamura Dental
RJ Kruisselbrink Medicine Professional Corp.
Sanctus Ventures Corp.
TNT Global Accounting Group
Vancity Bank
Village Bikes
Wilson's Big O Tires Ltd.

Foundations

Dragon Fire Charitable Foundation
F & E Strumpski Foundation
Hamber Foundation
Joyful Living Joyful Giving Foundation
Rina M. Bidin Foundation
Tamara Foundation
2 foundations prefer to remain anonymous

collaboration for change

Ending Poverty Together

In 2019, Inner Hope joined close to 40 Christian, Canadian, non-profit organizations to collaborate on an initiative to address poverty. Ending Poverty Together is a resource website where you can learn about what poverty is, its impacts, and how Canadian charities are addressing poverty in Canada - and across the world; encouraging greater collaboration. Please take some time to browse the site.

endingpovertytogether.org

This collaboration seeks to answer the following questions:

How do we solve the problem of poverty?

For decades Canadians have been asking this question and courageously committing themselves to living out the answer as best as we can. But, we often end up with the unintended results of duplication, overlapping, working in isolation, reinventing the wheel, or leaving unfilled gaps. Sometimes we don't know where to begin.

Start by asking, "What is poverty?"

Ending Poverty Together sees poverty as a brokenness in our relationships—with God, Self, Others and Creation.

As Christians, we believe God created a good and harmonious world but human rebellion brought brokenness and evil into it. And this affected everything and everyone on the deepest level. It triggered an endless cycle of poverty.

Today, our broken relationships are in need of reconciliation.

Ending Poverty Together is a place where Canadians can collaborate, explore ideas, and share experiences.

It is an honour to be one of the collaborators of Ending Poverty Together and to partner with them in this critical work of addressing issues of poverty right here in Canada.

Shelaine Strom is the education lead for Ending Poverty Together, as well as for Food Food for the Hungry. We are very appreciative of her work to build the partnership with us and so many other great agencies.



**ENDING POVERTY
TOGETHER**

endingpovertytogether.org/collaborators/inner-hope-youth-ministries/



Ways to Partner:

Become a **Board Member** (3 open positions)

Become a **Volunteer** (we need committed mentors for our youth, games night volunteers, and individuals with kitchen reno experience)

Become a **Friend of Hope** (seeking 11 new monthly donors)

Host an **awareness dinner** to introduce friends and family to Inner Hope

Participate in our 2020 **Ride for Refuge** event

Address:

Inner Hope Youth Ministries
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Vancouver, B.C.
V5V 5C8

Contact:

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