

## HIGHLIGHTS OF 2019

**TOTAL SERVED: 269**  
(58 CHILDREN, 67 YOUTH, 50 YOUNG ADULTS, 94 ADULTS)

### VOLUNTEERS: 122



"My time at Inner Hope has been a season of growing and learning. I have loved in a way that I have never loved before."

### EVENTS: 28 ATTENDEES: 159

**9 CELEBRATIONS**  
BIRTHDAYS, BABY SHOWERS, SOBRIETY MILESTONES



### INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT: 240

**ONE-ON-ONE MEETINGS, ADVOCACY, HOSPITAL VISITS, RIDES, HELP MOVING**

"Inner Hope helped me figure out how to take a kid out of foster care: finding a lawyer, figuring out what all these documents meant."



### LIFE SKILLS

#### BOUNDLESS YOUTH

MATCHED WITH MENTORS: 22

MENTOR HOURS: 2,541

TOTAL SERVED: 44

#### POST-SECONDARY

PARTICIPANTS: 16

SUPPORT HOURS: 1,158

ONE-ON-ONE COACHING

SESSIONS: 54



### SERVED IN DISCIPLESHIP: 83

SUMMER CAMPS & RETREATS: 74

BIBLE STUDY: 7

ONE-ON-ONE DISCIPLESHIP: 19



### HOUSING

"I was homeless for eight months before I found Inner Hope. When you're in shelters, you're in survival mode, always sleeping with one eye open. I don't have to do that anymore. It's really healing for me." - Resident at The Home



RESIDENTS: 6

GUESTS: 62

MEALS SERVED: 2,925

### JOIN OUR PRAYER TEAM!

Prayer is one of the most important ways you can support us. To receive our monthly prayer letter, visit [www.innerhope.ca/pray](http://www.innerhope.ca/pray)

### GO PAPERLESS

Help us save on printing costs! To switch your newsletters to email, just ask. [office@innerhope.ca](mailto:office@innerhope.ca)



## LOVING OUR NEIGHBOURS IN THE EVERYDAY MOMENTS

Our ministry is critical to the health of our neighbours. This is never more evident than in times of crises like the one we are experiencing today. What sets this ministry apart is walking with entire families through the everyday moments of their lives. Inner Hope is there through highs and lows - celebrating milestones, sharing burdens, and giving support with every resource available to us.

With the COVID-19 crisis, Inner Hope's support is ever-changing. Several of our youth and parents have been laid off work. We work with a community that experiences lower immune tolerance and many of our community members live in high density situations (due to the housing prices in Vancouver). Anxiety is very high at this time. Several people have been reaching out with concerns about rent, child care, and getting groceries to loved ones. Our work does not stop during a crisis - rather it changes form. We are currently working to address our community's rising needs while ensuring our critical programs and services continue - as safely as possible.

Currently no members of the Inner Hope community have been diagnosed with COVID-19. Staff are taking precautions: working from home as much as possible, supporting most individuals online or by phone, cleaning facilities daily and canceling all in-person group gatherings.

Our community members are also reaching out with encouragement. If you've been following Inner Hope on Facebook, you'll have seen the encouraging videos that our community have been sharing with us - and each other: two of our youth just started new jobs, one mom is using her time in isolation to spend quality time with her children and quit smoking, and two young people are taking the time to practice baking. Supporters have also reached out to provide our community with essentials like thermometers, kleenex boxes, toilet paper, soap and sanitary gloves. It is such a blessing to see so many people reacting with hope and kindness in the midst of turbulence.

Today, we want to share our hope with you, and thank you for the part you play in this community. May the peace of the Lord be with you today.

**"CAST ALL YOUR ANXIETY ON HIM BECAUSE HE CARES FOR YOU."**  
1 Peter 5:7

[WWW.INNERHOPE.CA](http://WWW.INNERHOPE.CA)

HOPE THROUGH RELATIONSHIPS  
Spring 2020 NEWSLETTER



A mother from our community is using self-isolation to spend quality time with her kids - and quit smoking!

YOU ARE INVITED

# AGM

INNER HOPE'S

# AGM

ANNUAL COMMUNITY MEETING

APRIL 29 2020  
7-9PM

REALITY CHURCH  
808 19<sup>TH</sup> AVE, VANCOUVER

HEAR POWERFUL STORIES OF IMPACT.  
MEET OTHERS INVOLVED.  
PRAY WITH THE COMMUNITY.

MAY CHANGE TO ONLINE FORMAT.  
PLEASE RSVP IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN EITHER  
IN PERSON OR ONLINE

RSVP TO [JENNY@INNERHOPE.CA](mailto:JENNY@INNERHOPE.CA)

## WHAT'S INSIDE:

Hear some personal words from the team!

Inner Hope Youth Ministries' mission is to walk alongside youth and families in East Vancouver nurturing hope, belonging and transformation through support, discipleship, life skills, and housing.

- 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 a safe, stable and supportive home for youth, young adults and their children

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## AN UPDATE FROM JENNY



It seems like yesterday that Inner Hope endorsed our current strategic plan and began moving forward on the goals we set. We recognized that we needed to slow down and strengthen our foundation as an organization before seeking to expand further. This was vital in order to increase our long-term sustainability. The critical nature of this led us to recently add an additional year to our 3-year plan.

When gathering input from dozens of stakeholders in 2017, it surprised me to see almost all of the recommendations received falling within three categories: expanding Inner Hope's financial capacity, strengthening our organizational culture and HR support, and growing the quality of our programs and services.

These three tenets of the plan are circular and all impact one another. Increased financial support allows us to invest more in programs and staff retention. Increased staff and volunteer health will improve their performance and ability to serve our



youth and families. Growing our program quality will provide more stories of transformation that will draw more funding.

The numerous achievements and milestones of our first two years include:

- Hiring cultural mentors to enhance Indigenous cultural integration in The Home and provide mentorship for staff
- Strengthening the housing program by improving the training plan for House Parents and the move-in / move-out procedures for residents
- Securing a staff health benefits provider to better support our team
- Hiring a staff person dedicated to help with fundraising to allow front-line staff to focus on supporting youth and families
- Growing our monthly donor team from 79 to 98

Thank you for journeying with us over the past two years. We have come this far thanks to people like you!



## STEWARDSHIP YOUR FUNDS WISELY

One of the first questions some people ask before donating is, "How much do you spend on overhead?" This is important to know, because it shows how far your donation will go toward directly benefiting the people who need it. Every year, around 80% of Inner Hope's funds go directly to community programs. We have always kept overhead lean - leaner than most, actually. Yet there are costs that climb each year, such as the cost of living in Vancouver for our staff, who already earn much less than their peers.

As a leader, I am committed to taking care of those who are in the trenches every day carrying out Inner Hope's mission. Overhead costs are how we do that.

Think about the difference these things can make. Functional internet, so we can work efficiently (ditto for the young people who drop by to study). Bookkeeping to pay our hard-working team and process what we spend on our youth! Insurance to keep everyone safe. Financial audits for integrity, honouring those who've entrusted us with their resources. A portion of rent and internet for the community space that blesses so many people. Postage and printing to communicate with donors like you.

Would you agree that these things are important? They help an organization thrive and stick around a long time - retaining employees to build long-term relationships with this community. As you know, those relationships are what sets Inner

Hope apart. On behalf of the team, I am so grateful for your faith in us as you give financially and pray for God's provision in our budget. Here's are some ideas if you want to help keep overhead down:

- Switch from printed newsletters to email, if that works for you
- Network with people who provide maintenance, cleaning, or promotional printing services, and see if they'd like to donate these to us (for a tax receipt).
- If you know someone who's thinking of donating, help educate them about where administrative costs go!

Thanks for your continued support - we wouldn't be here without you.

- Diana Squires, Director of Programs

## LOVE FROM THE STAFF

For me personally, Inner Hope is my best work experience yet. The last two years I've filled the role of HR, Communications, and Development Coordinator for Inner Hope. This is a workplace where love is tangible and support is available when it is needed.

I love our focus on community - we have staff lunches, prayer and connection times. I also love our focus on growth. I am always learning! I have been to several training sessions to make me better at my job. My discussions with Jenny, from our prayer letter to how reconciliation looks in our city today, inspire more tenderness than I could have imagined for the people that we walk alongside.

The care that our leaders show for each of us on the team is something I truly appreciate. I'm a nerd, so I take pleasure in our regular policy updates, strategic plans, annual program plans and individual training plans. I know that these background pieces bring amazing quality to our programs and helpful guidance for our staff. When employees feel supported and have frameworks to fall back on, we can do our jobs well.

I'm going on Mat Leave in June, so you won't hear from me for a bit, but before I go I want to thank you. You have made these last years of my life amazing. Your love for this community is inspiring, and I look forward to many more years of walking with you when I return.

- Dara Barbour

"I've seen Inner Hope grow and blossom in my time working here! I think what we're doing is so needed and that each staff member has been called here with purpose. It fills me with joy to be part of this team."

"I am grateful for the opportunity to be a part of what God is doing here: bringing hope, healing and restoration. Galatians 6:9: And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap, if we do not lose heart."

"I've experienced this workplace to be positive, lighthearted, and peaceful. Surprisingly, because much of what we do is heavy, and uncomfortable. The staff community is exceptionally encouraging, faithful and committed to the work."

- FEEDBACK FROM 2019 STAFF SURVEY