

Strategic Plan

2018 2020- A note from Jenny

One of my highlights of 2017 was developing a new strategic plan to guide Inner Hope for the next 3 years. A lot of prayer went into this.

The intensive process involved gathering input from staff, board, youth, parents, donors, partners, and social service workers. We researched Vancouver's social, economic and political climate. We reviewed the strengths and weaknesses of each of our programs, analyzed our finances, and compiled a budget. Thank you to all of you who were involved in this process.




Inner Hope has committed to 3 core strategies in the next three years.

Please pray with us as we seek to honour Christ as we faithfully serve youth and families in East Vancouver.

Critical Issues In Our Community:

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1.
A lack of
supportive
housing. | 2.
Low education
& employment
rates in the
Aboriginal
community. | 3.
A gap in
services for
young adults. |
|---|---|---|

Inner Hope's Greatest Strengths:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
|  |  |  |
| Our holistic,
faith-based,
wrap around
approach. | The compassion
and care we
provide through
long-term,
committed
relationships. | Our stable
community
presence. |

Inner Hope's weaknesses have been cash flow and maintaining staff health/guarding against burnout.

Core Strategies 2018-2020:

1. Expand Inner Hope's financial capacity; positioning for long-term stability and growth.
2. Strengthen Inner Hope's culture and HR support; growing as a Christ-centered, diverse, supportive community that leads to growth in participants, volunteers, staff and donors.
3. Grow the quality of services; increasing Inner Hope's impact on CORE participants.

GO PAPERLESS

Help us save on printing costs and be good stewards by receiving our updates electronically! To get our newsletters by email, send us a note at: office@innerhope.ca

JOIN OUR PRAYER TEAM!

Partner with us in prayer, one of the most pivotal and foundational ways you can support us. To receive our monthly prayer letters, visit: www.innerhope.ca/pray

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
discipleship
life skills
housing

- promoting positive community engagement and loving youth, young adults and families in practical ways
- guiding children, youth and youth adults in a relationship with their Creator
- mentoring youth and young adults to develop the skills needed to build their futures
- offering safe, stable and supportive homes for youth, young adults and their children

WAYS TO PARTNER

FRIENDS OF
hope

We have a goal of carrying 100 Friends of Hope this year! Will you help us reach this goal?

Friends of Hope is our monthly giving program. By joining, you help provide greater stability for our programs.

Without our community of monthly donors, our programs could not exist. We are so grateful for everyone who is already a Friend of Hope.

Want to get involved? It's easy! Either visit Inner Hope's website at innerhope.ca/friendsofhope and sign up online or fill out the form enclosed with this newsletter and indicate you would like to give monthly!

We are currently at



Friends of Hope

INNER HOPE
youth ministries

Spring Reflections

I've been reflecting lately on Malachi 3:10 (I know, Malachi – how often do we spend time there?) where God promises to pour down blessings on us as we give and serve Him. In the past couple of months, His provision has been so evident in many areas of Inner Hope.

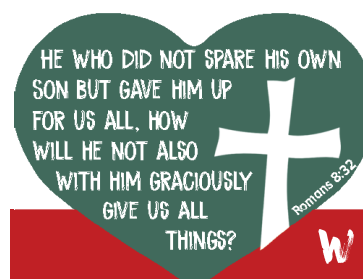
Walking into our community space each day is a joy for me—I lay what I have before Him, and I'm blessed as I see how He's changing lives and providing for all of our needs. I've seen it happen countless times for staff, and most especially for the participants in our programs.

On January 21st, we had the exquisite delight of witnessing Madison's profession of faith at Reality Church and baptism in the (icy!!) waters of Kitsilano Beach. Madison has lived in The Home since December; you might recognize her from our Friendship Month video series on Facebook.

As I write this, we're in the Lenten season, anticipating Easter. Already the days feel brighter and the skies bluer. I hope that you, sitting with this letter, will be reminded of God's love for you and that you will be filled with that hopeful anticipation of the joy that Easter brings.

With gratitude and hope,

– Diana Squires, Director of Programs



WHAT'S INSIDE:

Stories of love from Inner Hope

HOPE THROUGH RELATIONSHIPS
SPRING 2018 NEWSLETTER

WWW.INNERHOPE.CA



A Changed Life

"Inner Hope found me in a really dark place and cleaned me up when I didn't really know how to do that for myself. I've tried many times but it just never worked, so I think the only thing that was missing was definitely Jesus and His church.

I was baptized at Reality Church, and that was really awesome because I got to publicly declare my faith to a body of believers. I'm learning about what it really means to be a Christian, and all the stuff that comes along with baptism. That was really good for me, it gave me a direction in my life: no matter what circumstance I'm in, to go back to Jesus.

One of my favourite songs has a line in it:

"God feeds His children every day."

Being part of this community has taught me that God is all-loving and He feeds His children every day. I feel love."

– Madison, Home Resident

ON THE BACK:

A Strategic Plan revealed

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FRIENDSHIP MONTH

The Inner Hope team shows love every day to inner-city youth and families in East Vancouver. In February, we celebrated this with our second annual "Friendship Month".

Starting on Valentine's Day the youth at Inner Hope shared stories on video of how their lives were impacted by small gestures at Inner Hope. The videos were amazing! We were awestruck by how God had worked miracles through everyday happenings.

We also asked you to celebrate Friendship Month by showing a small act of love to help us raise \$10,000 – which was to be tripled by matching donors to raise \$30,000. You responded!

Due to your generosity we exceeded our goal and raised \$38,835. Your lavish generosity will be a blessing to the youth and families in our community.

We thank God for all of you! Missed the videos? Don't worry!

You can still watch them at: innerhope.ca/small-act-of-love



Your Small Act of Love x3

Blessings Abounded in February



Valley Crossway church gifted The House with brand-new much-needed appliances – stove, dishwasher, and fridge! The youth, families, staff and volunteers who use this community space regularly for meals and events are very grateful for our new additions!



Music can be heard in The Home! A very generous piano tuner named Gerard Doppenberg just gifted the residents of the house with a new piano! The residents are very excited and one resident in particular is enjoying the opportunity to play. Our new house parents also play, so it has become a home full of music.



Ecclesiastical Insurance's community grant program provided Inner Hope with a grant of \$25,000 for our Boundless Life Skills program.

Two of their staff visited The House to personally deliver the check to Mark, our Boundless Coordinator and one of the youth in the program.

FAITH. COMMITTED RELATIONSHIPS, COMMUNITY, INTEGRITY

SPOTLIGHT: WHERE LOVE ABOUNDS



Christina

"In spring 2017, I participated in the spring cleaning for Inner Hope through my church. I met Ken (Inner Hope's Volunteer Coordinator) and learned about the programs offered here. I really liked what they were doing for the youth and young adults in our local community and I wanted to be a part of it!

What I love the most about the post-secondary program is the people there! I have made so many new friends. I get excited cooking and sharing a meal together. We work on big and small life goals and we check them off as we complete them. I'm so glad to be a part of this group."

Christina's invaluable cooking skills have drawn many young adults to The House for our weekly Young Adult Night.

Josh

Josh is a mentor with Boundless. This past year he was undergoing chemotherapy treatments for a chronic illness. Despite this, Josh began volunteering as a mentor and meeting weekly with a boy in Grade 9. These are his words on what led him to share God's love through the display of such an extraordinary act.

"During my year of recovery, many people supported me. So, seeing that my health was coming back, I thought what better way to use it than by giving it back to others. Inner Hope had a need for mentors so, after praying and seeking God's direction, I decided it was a great opportunity. I was limited in the number of things that we could do but activities as simple as chatting and eating can be just as fun.

If there's a chance that my interactions with my mentee can have any kind of positive impact on his life, I believe it's time well spent. It's also encouraging to see him learn something new or discover an unknown ability or passion. Either way, he's a pretty cool kid to hang out with!"



Youth and families equipped to live healthy lives and to empower the next generation



Nate and Irene McCready

We welcome Nate and Irene as House Parents! They have both worked with vulnerable populations (those struggling with homelessness, addictions, and mental illness) for several years and had been praying about a new ministry call for some time. Their story is amazing.

Nate and Irene actually saw the call for House Parents several months ago. Praying, they felt it would be a great fit, but thought their two dogs who they love, Molly and Unser, would prevent them from taking it. Weeks later, Irene emailed Diana for something unrelated, and Diana miraculously mentioned the position! Irene brought up the dogs, and was assured the dogs would be welcome. Nate and Irene prayed about the position again and knew it really was God's Plan.

"Building relationships with youth and young adults is what is most important to us. We are so excited to have Jesus work through us and create disciples. We are most looking forward to creating a home environment that has Christ at its centre."