

A HEART FOR RWANDA

This summer two of our young women, Erica and Morenda, are doing something extraordinary. They have committed to 18-months in "The Elevation Experience" – a leadership development program with Youth Unlimited. As the focal point of their learning, the ladies are preparing for a two-and-a-half-week trip to Rwanda. They are leaving on July 10th.

The goal of the trip is to see lives changed— for those who are visiting and those in Rwanda. It is a program that celebrates cross-cultural relationships. The Experience focuses on issues of poverty, social justice, and God's heart for both.

We are so thrilled to see a couple of our young women, who grew up in challenging circumstances, go out with hearts full of love to bless others who also face challenging circumstances. Both young women have been participating actively in the meetings and extra fundraisers on their own initiative. We would love to support them in their journey.

Will you pray with us that, as they travel, they gain more insight into God's heart and grow in their relationship with Him as they bless others.



Morenda (right), with Janine, at a Qwanoes Retreat
Erica (right), with Diana, at The Ride for Refuge

SUPPORT INNER HOPE THIS SUMMER

As you probably noticed, we have a lot going on in summer. However, summer is a time when donations are low while program costs are high. Would you consider giving a one-time gift to Inner Hope or joining our monthly giving program to have a long-term sustainable impact?

innerhope.ca/donate

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 promoting positive community engagement and loving youth, young adults and families in practical ways
- discipleship guiding children, youth and youth 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

RIDE [OR WALK] FOR REFUGE

SATURDAY OCTOBER 5

YOU CAN:

- **Start a team.** Recruit your friends and have a blast!
- **Grab your bike and join a team!** Select the 10K, 25K or 50K cycling route.
- **Grab some shoes and get ready to walk!** There's a 5K walking option

+ **There are over 30 locations across Canada!** So you can Ride in your community!

rideforrefuge.com/charity/innerhope



THE HOME - A TRANSFORMATIVE SPACE

MATTHEW 25 : 35

For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home.

The Home is a space where young people can thrive. The people who choose to live in The Home come from a variety of circumstances. This past year alone we have housed young people coming out of hospital, a treatment center, a shelter, and a night on the street. We have had a resident with a newborn, residents who are defying addictions, and residents who are facing mental health challenges. Our residents come to us with one thing in common – they are desiring more stability in their lives. The Home – and the wonderful House Parents who create the nurturing family-style environment – provide that stability.



This year we want to highlight one of the residents who is thriving in The Home – Kesley. This spring Kesley worked tirelessly to upgrade his high-school courses at NEC (Native Education College). He has a dream of becoming a Trauma Counselor and his work these past few months has paid off in a big way! We are thrilled to celebrate his recent acceptance into NVIT (Nicola Valley Institute of Technology) to start a Bachelor's of Social Work.

Here are Kesley's words about his experience in The Home.

"INNER HOPE provided me with housing when I was in need. When I first came in, I was coming from a treatment center and willing to go to any length for myself to achieve my goals. It put me with people my age who I could connect with. I was able to socialize with people who were positive and doing something with their lives rather than just being surrounded by people who were partying all the time. Now I'm in a healthy mindset mentally and have support in becoming a young adult."

HOUSE PARENTS NEEDED!!

This Summer we are looking for House Parents. This is a live-in opportunity for a couple called to a full-life integration approach to ministry with vulnerable youth.

One Parent is employed with Inner Hope full-time. The other is employed with Inner Hope but may have other employment or be in school. The move in date is mid-August.

If you, or someone you know, would be interested in this role check it out at innerhope.ca/houseparents or contact us. We'd love to hear from you!

WHAT'S INSIDE:
A Hope and a future

CAMP TIME HAS BEGUN!

It is only the end of June and we have already had three camp retreats this year! As usual, we're amazed by the wonderful blessing that camp is to our young people and their families. Camp gives our community an environment where they can draw close to God and create a spark that grows for the rest of their lives.

The young adult retreat, held in May at Camp Qwanoes, gave our young adults time to bond with each other and with Samantha, our Post-Secondary Coordinator. In fact, the group wanted to do every activity together. There were also plenty of personal "wins" - like seeing a young man, who had been bullied through his entire adolescence, thrive in a loving social environment.

Another wonderful thing about the camps this year was that it gave Donny, our new Community Discipleship Coordinator, a time to begin building relationships with the young men and women that we walk alongside. At Waymaker retreat in June (a partnership between North American Indigenous Ministries and Interact Ministries), Donny had a blast playing basketball (which he also coaches) with the boys. Amanda,



Mark, Donny and the boys after bazooka ball at the Waymaker retreat



Sam and the young adults at Qwanoes

our past Discipleship Coordinator, was also able to attend this retreat to help with the introductions.

Our time at Family Camp at Qwanoes this year was really meaningful for those involved. For one father, who has recently re-committed his life to God and is growing by leaps and bounds in his faith, it was the first time in four years that he was able to spend an entire weekend with his three daughters who are living apart from him. For another father, it was an opportunity to reconnect with God and introduce his child to the camp he attended growing up. For a couple of families, it was their third year attending camp together and family camp has become the highlight of their kids' year and a chance to strengthen relationships in a loving environment. We look forward to seeing how the seeds that were planted will grow in the years ahead.

Please pray for continued blessing on our week long camps this summer. Our staff and volunteers are working hard to coordinate a summer of blessing and fabulous fun. We hope to give you great updates in our next newsletter!

A HOPE AND A FUTURE

JEREMIAH 29:11

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."



FAMILY TIME!!!

@ CAMP QWANOES!!!



LET'S CELEBRATE THESE GRADS!!

Graduating from High School, College. or University is a big step for anyone, but it is a huge step for our community. Every year, in June, we gather to celebrate our friends who "beat the odds" in East Vancouver.

The reality is, for our community, many never graduate from High School and even fewer complete a college or university program. Often when we celebrate grads of any variety, they are the first to walk the

stage in their extended families.

So grad is huge at Inner Hope! Friends and family members celebrate the fantastic graduates at our annual grad party at The House. There are gifts, speeches, laughs. and a ton of joy.

We love to celebrate our grads. They have worked tirelessly to get where they are today and we look forward to, and pray for, a future that is full of good things for them.



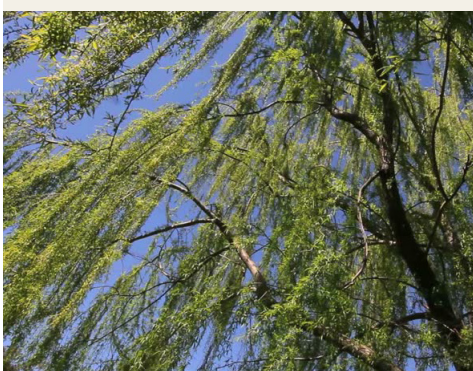
LARISSA (LEFT)
Graduating from Langara with a Bachelor's of Nursing



JORDAN (MIDDLE)
Graduating from Burnaby Central with his High School Diploma



YVON (MIDDLE)
Graduating from Native Education College with his High School Diploma



WILLOW
Graduating from Ideal Mini School with her High School Diploma