

NEW STAFF

Katherine Savage, Boundless Coordinator



Born and raised in Toronto, Ontario, Katherine moved to B.C. to attend Trinity Western University where she is set to graduate in December 2014. During her time there, she got involved in Youth Extreme, a youth group operating out of New Beginnings Church in East Vancouver. Falling in love with the youth, she coordinated the group and eventually ended up on staff at the church. Additionally, Katherine spent two summers with Urban Promise serving as the Program Director for a summer camp in a government housing project in Toronto. Katherine has also been on several missions trips, including Florida, San Francisco and Honduras. She has a passion for leadership and desires to empower others to lead. We're super excited to see Boundless grow under Katherine's leadership!

Ben & Deirdre Stevens, House Parents

Originally from Steamboat Springs, Colorado, Deirdre moved to Langley, BC in 2004 where she completed their Human Services program. It was in Nansana, Uganda where Deirdre interned in a community development project where realized she wanted to continue to learn how to serve while living in community. Since 2009 Deirdre has served at a variety of community organizations alongside women and youth in Colorado and British Columbia.



Ben was born and raised in Kathmandu, Nepal where his family served for 15 years. He has been in leadership positions at Trinity Western University and also during summers at Camp Qwanoes. He has also spent years in the world of construction, first residential and later industrial, and thoroughly enjoys building things. Ben will be finishing his Civil Engineering degree at University of British Columbia (UBC), while Deirdre will be a full on House Mom for our youth!

RESPIRE SUPPORT

Mark & Merissa Ang, Respite House Parents



Both Mark and Merissa have been involved with Inner Hope since the beginning. The House was a home base for Mark during his time at university when he became a volunteer, as well as a summer intern in 2012. Merissa has also been a long term volunteer and lived in The House for a short time.

It has been very exciting to witness their marriage and now the birth of their first child, Abigail. We are very blessed to have them step forward and offer their skills and experience as respite support in the new home. Their understanding of the youth and the community, as well as their passion for transformational change is so evident. It is wonderful to have them model healthy family life and, of course, the youth love having a baby around the home! 🏠

With thanks to all our supporters, for without your financial support we would not be able to walk alongside youth as they develop into responsible adults.



WWW.INNERHOPE.CA

inner hope youth ministries' mission and goal is to providing hope and belonging to at-risk youth through ...

- housing
 - support
 - life skills
 - discipleship
- providing a safe, stable home, free of drugs, alcohol and abuse

helping youth in practical ways in their everyday lives

mentoring youth as they develop the skills needed to build their futures

guiding youth in a relationship with their Creator



Hope Through Relationships

A Season of Growth

Fall 2014



BEN & DEIRDRE

Inner Hope's second site purposed solely for our housing ministry has officially opened! Ben and Deirdre have moved in and are excited to begin their lives as the first House Parents in our new home. There has been an incredibly smooth transition in the opening of the home. Donations have literally arrived at our doorstep and we are overwhelmed at the generosity of our supporters. Ben and Deirdre only had two weeks to set up the home before the first resident moved in! Our third resident moved in this past weekend and we continue to have youth inquiring about the opportunity to live in a supportive Christian home environment. God is so good.

Welcome Fall!

Over the years we have found that September is the most productive month for our youth. There seems to be two catalysts for this. First, many of our youth attend Christian camps or service trips in the summer and return with a renewed commitment to grow in their journey as followers of Jesus and live a life that honours their Creator. Secondly, many of our young people see the beginning of a new school year as a fresh start. We are amazed at God's timing in providing a house, caregivers, as well as the furniture and finances needed just in time to open at the beginning of the new school year. Thank you for continuing to walk alongside us in this journey. The stories found inside are a result of your partnership with us. I hope you are encouraged and will join us in anticipation of new opportunities ahead. We look forward to expanding our community support programs at our community space (The House) and witnessing transformation in the lives of the residents who have moved into The Home.

- Jenny Shantz
Executive Director



Mount Baker Retreat 2014

Every year, youth look forward to a snow retreat at Mt. Baker hosted by Red Soul Rising, a division of North American Indigenous Ministries. This is an opportunity for youth to step away from the chaos of the city and learn more about their Creator in a beautiful setting. Would you consider sponsoring one youth for \$85? If so, please send a cheque to the address below.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Oct. 4	Staff Team Day
Oct. 12	Thanksgiving Dinner at The House
Oct. 18	Boundless Workshop & Games Night
Nov. 8	Boundless Workshop & Games Night
Nov. 14-16	Mount Baker Retreat
Nov. 22	Volunteer Training Day

international service trips

Mexico!

"Toni, Carla and I had the privilege of accompanying an amazing group of youth to Ensenada, Mexico. Reflecting back on the trip, it is incredible that in ten short days we spoke at a local church, visited an orphanage and built a home for a family. I watched as God used and developed each of the youth's unique talents and abilities. Whether it was playing with children, dry walling, preaching, encouraging, leading, painting or any of the many talents that these youth possess, they all came together and accomplished amazing things. **Handing the keys over to the family and blessing their new home as a team was incredible.** We got to see a father's dream for his family come true!"

- Marcey Norman
Volunteer and Mentor



Louisa and Destiny in Rwanda



The Elevation Project is a leadership development program created in partnership by Youth Unlimited Vancouver and Rwanda Youth for Christ. It exists to bring together the common challenges of struggling youth in North America and teens living in poverty in the developing world. This past summer, Destiny, one of Inner Hope's teens, had the amazing opportunity to join her Boundless Mentor and leader of The Elevation Project, Louisa, on her trip to Rwanda. Here's what Louisa had to say about their experience:

"**Muraho neza!** Our time in Rwanda brought Destiny and I closer and has reaffirmed the importance of our relationship. I had the privilege of seeing Destiny engage in this experience, grow into herself, be more confident in who she is, build meaningful relationships and grow in her understanding of God. She wanted to know God more through the Elevation Experience and I am certain that she has put a great foot forward towards that goal during this trip. I look forward to the next six months of follow-up wherein the Canadian team will put to practice what we have learned in Rwanda here at home in Canada. Thank you so much to those who have donated to make this experience happen for Destiny. Without your help, these stories wouldn't have been possible. **Yes'ashimwe (Praise Jesus)!**"

- Louisa He,
Destiny's Mentor

local summer adventures

Camping with Reality

"Another summer highlight was a camping trip hosted by my church community group, who have individually and as a group embraced the Inner Hope children and families who are such an important part of my life. Desiring to invest on a deeper level, we undertook a weekend camping trip with the kids who have been regularly coming to Reality Church. Highlights from the weekend at Mt. Seymour included swimming and "Sasquatch" adventure walks, as well as what turned out for most of the 9 children to be their first tenting, camp fire and s'more making experience. Teachable moments abounded and we pray that those moments take root deep in our kids' hearts and minds and grow into new life that bear much fruit."

- Carla Dickinson
Community Manager



Camp Qwanoes

"I went to Qwanoes with both anticipation and nervousness as I did not know what to expect. Would our youth follow the rules, connect with their camp counselors, and enjoy their week? Or was every day going to be a struggle that would leave me exhausted? *Matthew 6: 25-27 says: "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life ... which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?"*

As I watched our youth sing and worship the Lord with their camp counselors while fully adhering to camp rules, I realized how far my fears were from reality. No amount of worry had changed anything. In fact, I was so honored to be a part of their week! I felt like I was harvesting all the time and commitment others had invested in their lives throughout the years. A camp speaker even noted that seeing the growth in the Inner Hope youth from two years ago is astounding. As I watched our youth thrive in the camp environment and worship wholeheartedly during chapel services, it became evidently clear that it takes years to see the impact of walking this journey with them. Though our roles may vary, we are all part of their journeys and it truly takes a community. Thank you for allowing me the honor of walking alongside them.."



Erica at Camp Qwanoes, having some devotional time.

- Kiersten Ballard,
Director of Programs