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**Our Mission** "To be a bridge between those that have, and those that have not"



As the number of "recently homeless" individuals living in poor conditions in communities continues to grow, we are there to help. There exists a critical need for outreach programs and services offering a beacon of hope and care to those individuals who are drowning in depression, despair and poverty. Lifeline's Urban Outreach Department specifically focuses on serving the needs of these people who are down on the streets of Abbotsford and Aldergrove with the Blue Bus feeding program. If you are aware of an unmet need for the homeless, please contact us.

Due to the mobile and street-based nature of Lifeline's Urban programs, staff and volunteers interact directly with the disadvantaged in their own environment. This provides a level of familiarity, comfort and credibility with those being served and often leads to relationships based upon trust. This is a key factor in addressing the complex issues behind poverty, homelessness, unemployment, mental illness and substance abuse. These relationships that are built open doors for people in need to receive appropriate referral that will help them take the final steps to changing their lives. As a reputable and benevolent organization, Lifeline Outreach Society is able to offer individuals hope, despite current circumstances; a hope that is desperately needed in our community.

#### **Purposes of the Society**

- to witness and share hope, faith, love, and Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- to operate our programs with good ethics and professionalism, always glorifying God.
- to train and equip men and women to be disciples of Jesus Christ in caring for those
- to help the disadvantaged in a tangible way meeting their physical, emotional, and
- to maintain and uphold biblical principles, our goals, our mission, and our Statement

### Wavs vou can help

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Send in a donation, checks payable to "Lifeline Outreach Society" Volunteer your time, we need you to:

Help do food pick-ups, Pantry and Clothing Workers, Cooks and preparation help, Outreach Workers, Marketers, Promotional and Spokes Personnel Prayer warriors and more...

Please call Dave Poulette if you wish to help or need more info. 604-728-7551

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### "To be a bridge between those that have, and those that have not"



"And if you give yourself to the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then your light will rise in darkness, your darkness will become like midday" Isaiah 58:10

# Lifeline Newsletter

SERVING SINCE 1988

VOLUME 2. ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2014

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Introducing Shawn

**Group Volunteers** 

Filipino Outreach

Thank you from the

Purposes of Society

## **Homeless Project**

With the lack of safe afford-

able housing suitable for women

It is such a blessing to hear about the different focuses, efforts, strategies and plans that are being developed in many townships and cities to aid those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness with resources and safe, warm accommodations to live in.

The largest focus has to be on the great need of increasing the supply of affordable housing dedicated to those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness in the different districts as well as possible rent subsidies, faster placement, multiple outreach services, Mental Health and Addiction Services,

employmen training and counselling services

Housing for seniors, men, and those who are addicted or have mental illness is so very necessary but my concern is for the

single women with children who's numbers have increased exponentially over the last few years. As the 25 years of serving the less fortunate have passed by, we have seen a great increase in the number of women and children that come to the bus for hot meal, groceries and clothing. At one time I would estimate around 20% of those joining us on the streets were women and children with 80% men. . . but as the years have gone by I can now estimate that 40% to 45% are women who for numerous reasons are in need of our assistance in order to keep their household functioning

and children and no plans of addressing the need for these families or individuals... women and families are forced to register themselves on wait lists for social housing buildings without the ability to pre-screen them to see if it is located in a suitable or safe neighborhood or if the building itself is suitable and safe for them to move into (as it stands majority of the accommodations are of substandard living conditions)

Because women and children do not 'fit' into the homelessness programs, there is a lack of

able living accommodations and improving how individuals are matched to housing units, can ensure individuals and households that they have safer and lies to grow up in as well as roof over their heads because they cannot meet the financial in childcare is needed for the on the government for their finances and will build greater

and children do not 'fit' into the homelessness programs



now to make services and programs

work for women and children. The conditions of homelessness for women are different than those of men: women experience more episodes of homelessness. yet the plans being made are primarily focused on homeless men and not geared to women and does not address childcare issues or housing families. Because it is more expensive to provide homeless services to women and children, homelessness services seem to be male focused

Seeking and attaining an increase in the number of suitbetter environment for their famisecurity of them not loosing the burden of the household. Affordable education, programs and aid women to go through the educational process, which in turn will be a step up out of dependence

self worth and confidence for these women to raise their children

Recently I read a report about how many cities in the USA have already passed a law that it is illegal to feed the less fortunate because it enables them to stay in the city so by stopping the giving to the those in need, it will force them to move to other cities and thus lessening the burden of the unsightly which decline the standards of their establishments in their regions . . . How absolutely shameful and ungodly these actions and thinking are. am thus all the more grateful for living in a region that has compassion on their fellow man and for realizing that for thousands, it would only take the lack of one or two pay cheques for them to be in the same situation hundreds of less fortunate people already experience. Janice Poulette

### 2013 SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Lifeline celebrates its 26th year of service with the BLUE BUS.
- Lifeline has it's own new Centre.
- Lifeline reaches out to those in the Philippines
- "Fruit of the Spirit" is demonstrated in practical and tangible ways.

We wish to thank and acknowledge the GPE branch of the Ministry of Housing and Social Development for their generous contributions of \$18,700.00 for 2014. This has improved our ability to serve the homeless exponentially and has allowed us to expand to two locations thus helping more people with the outreach of hope, provisions, love and

# **Christmas Dinner**

What an awesome privilege it was to brighten the Christmas season for hundreds of people with a Christmas bag full of toiletry items, small gift, candy, gloves / toque or



scarf and message about Christ. All 260 people walked

bag of groceries and a beautiful full ham/turkey dinner with all the trimmings to enjoy. During this cold season the clothing that was distributed was greatly appreciated as well as the love that was shared to all from all the volunteers who so

raciously came to help. It is because of the generous donations that were given

was made possible and for that we are eternally

that this

grateful.

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# **Introducing Shawn Nolan**

Week after week. God has put it on the hearts of many wonderful people who come and help this ministry be effective on the streets. They give of themselves sacrificially with steadfastness, even when the job at hand is not pleasant. It is our pleasure and desire to acknowledge and thank them for their wonderful contributions



lolan

The journey which eventually brought me to my knees is a road paved in grace and love that my heavenly father through the salvation of my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ has abundantly poured on me. constant prayers that my parents earnestly prayed on my behalf is a big

part that has allowed this process to bring me full circle. The challenges Gods allowed in my life is his refining process of molding me into a person willing to allow his will to live though

I was born and raised in the Abbotsford area where I played baseball, football, and basketball attending MEI school and then graduated at Abbotsford Senior Secondary in 1987.

I met my wife in 2001 in Mazatlan, Mexico I am now married 12 yrs to my lovely wife Catalina with 3 beautiful children, Krista 9, Lauren 6 and Sean Jr. 5. We attend Northview Community Church. Catalina home schools our 3 children, and as a family we enjoy our small farm, skiing, baseball and serving in our Aldergrove / Abbotsford community. I am currently Vice President of the Longshore & Warehouse Union, Local 502 which I have been apart of for 25 yrs.

I have been with Lifeline since 2006 starting first as a volunteer and then accepting a nomination onto the board of directors which I've sat on for 6 yrs.

### Shawn Nolan Lifeline's faithful Board Member

Reflecting on my time spent with Lifeline brings me to a place of humbleness and connects me to the spirit Jesus shared when he spread the Good News here on earth. Life is full of opportunities and choice and I whole heartily thank the Lifeline organization for the opportunity to serve and continue to do the work of my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and to be able to do so with dear friends and my own family is an answer to my prayers.

In closing I want to say God is always faithful, trust in him alone and he will bless you and direct your path.

Yours eternally.

Shawn Nolan

# Thank you to Group volunteers



less that inspiring. Many come to share and it is our hope that more churches in our own back yard will see

The experience of different groups coming to help with the Lifeline Urban Outreach is an amazing gift

Over the last 25 years, Lifeline has been so blessed with the help of many, many group volunteers who come from around here in the lower mainland as well as all over the world to reach out to the people in the Fraser Valley. We have had those who help serve, lead in worship, do drama, dance, flagging, prayer, prophetic words, shared their testimonies and reached out with friendship evangelism. Their servant hood has allowed us to get caught up with the heavy work load of running a food bank and their dedication to

Christ has been nothing churches in our region have

> the potential for ministry that is available through Lifeline's feedina

program and use their gifting to share the love of Christ with those who gather for hot meal, groceries, and friendship. The impact that happens to those who

serve and for those who receive is

astounding and we have heard many testimonies from both sides as to how God touched their lives in a substantial way. Lifeline wishes to thank all of the hundreds and hundreds of volunteers that have come to share at this ministry. Your help has made all the difference in doing

this work for the Lord and we pray that God will bless you 100 fold for your help.

If you or anyone in your church, or any of your church groups would

like to join in with the work we do . . Please contact us, we would be nappy to arrange a schedule for you to come

Many hands make light work

Please drop by to see the Centre for yourself at Unit #12 26157 Fraser Highway, Aldergrove. We would love to see you

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# **Our Filipino Outreach Receives a New Transport Truck**

### The Philippine Lifeline Outreach **Ministry Feeding Program**

is excited to announce the arrival of their newly acquired multicab

Because of the generous donations that we received here in Canada for the "multicab", the team in the Philippines were given the finances necessary to purchase the long awaited vehicle so desperately needed for the transporting of the groceries and hot meals to all targeted areas. Be it right in town . . . or the more isolated regions that surround the area of Tupi, the feeding program now has the ability to take even more

supplies... as well as transport the volunteers who come, to hundreds of people in different areas as they are reach out so faithfully with the healing, accepting love of God



and

rejoice

We thank God for abundant provision with our

fellow servants of God in what He is has done and what He is about to do in these precious lives. The harvest is truly ripe and the workers are there at such a time as this to serve with all their hearts in fulfilling the commission of the Kingdom in their land. Thank you so much to all who donated to this cause, may God bless you 100 fold for your wonderful offering.

The Lifeline Multicab hard

at Work reaching more people in further remote reaions with the aospel hot meal, groceries and the love of Christ

The uniqueness of having a portable cooking facility enables the team to serve a fresh hot meal right there where they are ministering. Some of the meals consist of rice and chicken, noodle or macaroni soups or spaghetti



Hundreds of people receive nourishment physically, spiritually and emotionally through the hot meal, groceries,

prayers, teachings and the love given abundantly through this outreach. Many

have changed their lifestyle to serve Jesus and in dedicating their lives, will win others in receiving our Lord and Savior



God has blessed the ministry with numerous volunteers and Pastors from many different churches who

come out to share the gospel with the people gathered welcome

those

who wish to come to their churches for bible studies and fellowship



strong. . . Reaching hundreds

of children and their families

with hot meal and groceries

and the love of Jesus

# A LETTER FROM THE HEART

HI there:)

I just wanted to contact you and your staff because I cannot thank you enough for what you do for people and their family. I hope you realize that all the hard

work you put in is very much appreciated. Even though life can throw some curve balls and not always go as planned, you and your

team make it that much easier. The

thanksgiving dinner you put on in Abbotsford last Sunday was unbelievable. A WHOLE turkey dinner with all the fixings AND pumpkin pie all done on a bus is mind blowing! I just wish for all you to know that

you are savings peoples lives and putting a smile on their face at the same time. From the groceries, to

hygiene products, to the clothes, to the prayers you send us, truly is a blessing. No judgment and such big hearts to share, rain or shine you are there for us. If there only were a few more kind people like you in the world....Thank you sooooo much !!! I wish you had more recognition because you deserve it. Good Karma will always be with you. Thanks again xo Kelly