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We are on the Web
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How Will You Help?



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 who need our help.
- to help the disadvantaged in a tangible way meeting their physical, emotional, and spiritual needs.
- to maintain and uphold biblical principles, our goals, our mission, and our Statement of Faith.

Ways you can help

- ★ Send in a donation, cheques 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

“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 4, ISSUE 1

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The Task at Hand

By Pastor David Poulette

I pray this letter finds you dwelling in the joy of the Lord... Look to each day as if it were your last, making the most out of every opportunity donated to us by our Lord and Savior, Jesus. Believe in the promise he sees within you and transform lives through the power of Christ's life continually working within you.

We at Lifeline would like to invite you to join us in our

endeavors to loosen the grasp which satan has upon today's society, thus allowing the Spirit of God to spill over upon those desperately seeking His salvation. It is important that we do all we can in the fellowship which God has granted to us believers to further his kingdom, and this is what our mission strives to do. However, this is not difficult to accomplish due to our Father's wondrous grace in allowing his sons and daughters to merely bow before him and hold up their needs and desires! As it exclaims so beautifully in *James 1:17*, "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning." Praise be to our Shepherd for there is no chance of him averting his gaze from

People are hungry, desperately starving for hope and a promise of love and goodness.

our finite forms.... We might run and we might hide, but at the slightest turn of our heads it is his gaze with which we are penetrated.

I would like to encourage you today, as our fellow believers, to lift up holy hands in prayer as Timothy admonishes, not doubting to any extent the

ability of God to provide, and therefore bringing our mission to the feet of Christ. We have experienced God's goodness through numerous ways – countless gifts of clothing, food, and the building which we are presently working in.

It is wondrously encouraging to view the effects that our ministry is having upon the people of the streets of Aldergrove and Abbotsford. Jesus' blood truly serves as a cleanser and a bleach, bathing scars caused by physical, emotional and mental abuse in his mercy. People are hungry, desperately starving for hope and a promise of love and goodness. Through a haze of drugs and alcohol, many find it hard to see clearly the truth of the gospel, and others are consumed by doubt. Please pray that through the volunteers with which we are co-operating, our testimony of words and actions might be

sincere and derived straight from the power of the Holy Spirit. It is only possible for people to come to the Lord if they are convicted. Plead that humility and realization of sin might fall upon those to whom we minister, for it is only then that they will fall into repentance and be baptized with forgiveness.

Prayer is also necessary where the volunteers are concerned, for our work is exhausting. It is necessary that we as missionaries, continuously "Look unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God" (*Heb.12:2*) Once we compare our trials and temptations with the ones Jesus went through, life is put into perspective; it becomes a mysterious joy to be able to receive a few splinters of the cross that we might ultimately gain righteousness. If you indulge upon this request, keep in mind our physical, emotional and spiritual needs, that through the holiness of Christ, this might be achieved eventually within each of our lives.

May God's loving arms enfold you and his grace overwhelm you as you rejoice in each new day which he provides for us, his children.

Lifeline's Partnership with the Mennonite Central Committee in Abbotsford

What a blessing MCC has been to the outreach program of Lifeline and to those who are served in the Abbotsford region. Through their committee, they have enhanced the work that we do in many areas, financially, physically, spiritually and with like minded focus, together we have been able to affect the relationship with the people who join us. This last year we have seen volunteers come out to bless through worship, children's cen-

ter, face painting, prayer, referrals, hair cutting, taking on completely one serving day a month which includes the preparation, distribution and clean up in totality. Ron, Jane and MCC team have been so loyal and faithful to the task at hand and have done a fabulous job. We are so excited to have amazing people from the South Abbotsford Church join us as well in the mission to serve in this ministry and look forward to what God will do through

us all as we work as a team doing His mission. **Phil 2: 1-2 Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind.**

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2016 SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *The Task at Hand*
- *MCC Partnership*
- *Choose Homelessness?*
- *Lifeline Philippines*

We wish to thank and acknowledge the GPE branch of the Ministry of Housing and Social Development for their generous contributions of \$20,000.00 for 2016. 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 friendships.

Introducing Dave and Janice Poulette

Week after week, God has put it on the hearts of many wonderful people who come and help this ministry to 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.

Dave and I feel so privileged to serve our Lord and Savior in His Kingdom work through Lifeline Outreach Society. When Dave first accepted the calling to serve those less fortunate in 1988 it was with a heart of compassion and personally relating to the plights that can happen to people. As I "married" into his life 2 years later, we



David Poulette MSW, MPCP, PTP
Janice Poulette, PTP
Lifeline Outreach Society
CEO and Executive Director

joined an alliance of hearts, energy, skills and determination in serving those who are less fortunate. We always were very aware that "but by the grace of God, there go I" and that we were living pay cheque and sometimes gift to gift to make ends meet. Seeing how easy it was to become homeless, judgement and criticism were not warranted towards our fellow man and having experienced how brain injuries and illnesses have affected our loved ones, where employment and daily functions can be greatly hindered, we are so very thankful the hand of grace upon our lives and do not take it for granted but have the compassion to help others with their pain and to try to bring hope to their wounded souls through showing the love of Christ to them. Over the years we have seen great things, sad and disturbing situations, God's kindness and mercy, miracles of salvation, changed

lives, hoped renewed, sad faces turn to smiles of gratitude, cold people given warmth, lost people finding a place to belong. Our hearts always has and always will be to help those who are hurting. As we ourselves are encouraged by God and His children, we continue to reach out in strength and even in times of weariness willing to bring heaven to earth to those who will not step foot into a church for comfort. It thrills us to see God not only move on the people we serve but also on those who come to help out. The double edged sword of God's not only can work in an individuals life but also at the same time work in the lives of the one showing His love. God is good, amazing, wonderful and powerful and we are so blessed to be apart of His family. Dave and Janice live in Abbotsford BC and have two beautiful daughters and 12 gorgeous grandchildren children who live close by.

Please join in our quest to reach out.

Why Would Someone Choose To Be On The Streets?

By Janice Poulette

What has happened in a life that they would need the services of the blue bus

The lives that are devastated by dysfunction, lack of love and cruelty is astounding. It really is not limited to those who are disenfranchised but the destruction of ones core and ability does, to a large extent, affect those who have a less fortunate beginning and thus can be taught and modelled for the next generation to follow. When talking to individuals and hearing some of their plight in life, it is amazing to me to see them even functioning at the level they are to survive. When a heart gives up and the belief is that they cannot and will not ever succeed becomes so real and tangible that talking about change and options seem so foreign and the ability to personalize the concept of change is too terrifying, too far reaching, too unattainable that it is meant for someone else, not for them. Some of the issues encompasses:

Serious and persistent mental illnesses, brain injury, tragedy, violence and physical abuse, emotional abused, learned behavior, poverty and thus vulnerability, physical handicaps, unemployment, loneliness

What needs are "living on the street" meeting for the individual

The human fundamental need is to have food, water and shelter and the emotional needs are

acceptance, belonging and purpose. When you have these needs met, then a person is free to explore creativity. Those who are in similar situations gather and when the same people come together a culture or community is formed. Even when the community is what we would find to be unusual, it is none the less a place when they feel welcomed, accepted and they can share with others their strong points. A tent can be the shelter, the events and programs can meet the basic fundamentals needs but the people who understand each other can form the culture where even though it does not offer the best security, it does offer a place of belonging. Because on the streets there is no structure or rules, criticism, judging and expectation to perform is limited and one can feel free from the demands and pressures of society where they find they

The streets are safer than the house I lived in. Here I can find people who truly care about me as a person.

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Why does Lifeline continue to reach out

First and foremost, Lifeline's mandate is to share the love of Jesus with those who come. To bring the message of hope and to encourage and show others of their importance and to avail opportunity for them to experience the touch of God and have the Holy Spirit move among them. It does not matter to us that we do not screen

I can breathe and feel calmer outside. In a building I feel closed in and suffocating

those who are in our lineup because we see the hand of God moving on lives as only He can do. The hot meal, grocery bags, clothing and extra goodies are handed out freely to bring them in so that we can have "Church" the gathering of God's people. There are so many reason's why they come, be it a single parent who needs more food to feed their children, the working poor who do have a job but it does not pay enough to pay the bills and eat as well. The disabled whose subsidy does not cover all the costs. The brain injured who find it impossible to function properly in society, refugees that cannot work in Canada, right down to the addicted and yes even those who are scamming and using our kindness to meet unhealthy decisions. We welcome them all for we know that it is not us that will change a life, but Jesus Himself who will bring hope, strength and ability to try a different lifestyle. Will we see change in everyone we meet?

Sadly probably not, but it is for those who can and are willing that we work so hard in the ministry so as to affect a

human soul for the Kingdom. We feel compassion for those who are hurting for we too have had our shares of troubles but the Word promises in 2 Corinthians 1: 3,4 "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God." That is our reason.

Highlights of our Lifeline Outreach in the Philippines 2015

Some of the wonderful ways that the ministry reached out to those in 2015 were as follows. We are overjoyed in being apart of this much needed outreach in the beautiful county of the Philippines. Thank you to those who have contributed to the work we do there. Together we are making a difference in hundreds of lives.

January to December 2015, 540 bags of groceries were given out to the indigenous people in many different regions and barrios where bibles studies, games and food are handed out to families. Only one small bag per family members which can range from 2 to 8 people in one shanty. This meager amount of rice, noodles soup and one can of sardines will be shared among the family by making a soup and finding vegetables to add to the broth so as to stretch it out further where all can eat. Everyone is so grateful and needful of just some staples even though it will not last long. Their hearts are also eager to hear of Our Lord and Savior Jesus.

Outreach Feeding Program



themselves or their sick loved one. When the Lifeline truck shows up with a hot meal, the people clamor to get into line so that they can receive nourishment. Another place that is dear to heart is the schools, So many children go to school hungry and have very little to eat during the day. When Lifeline shows up at their site, it is so wonderful to know that little ones have food in their tummies which mean that they can now concentrate better. This is the same with those living in the barrios which is served. On other occasions Lifeline in the Philippines has given out school supplies to 250 students from kindergarten to college to help with their school year, and in August, 50 pairs of new things were handed out to the good news class of Liberty Bible Church in Polo Molok region

Construction of Church Building

With the completion of the new Church structure in April, weekly services, evangelistic outreaches, bible studies, children's ministry and many feeding and fellowship gatherings have been held. A mass dedication of 30 souls was held for those who received Jesus because of these wonderful outreaches. A Christmas celebration was held and 41 gift boxes were handed out to the new church members.



Summer Daily Vacation Bible School

During the summer holidays, a daily vacation bible school was held in April and May where college aged volunteers ran the program with 60 children attending and accepting the Lord.



Every Saturday a weekly bible study is held at Frankie Manabat's residence where approximately 35 children attend to receive spiritual nourishment as well as a snack. There are fun games and love given by all and is a great highlight for the children in their week.

Two evangelistic film outreaches were held in 2015 where more than 100 attended and were saved. This is a very good evangelic tool

Evangelistic Night



where great results are witnessed. In 2015 500 people were

45 Baptisms



prayed for, hundreds were saved and 45 people were baptized.

To God Be The Glory



Matthew 25:40-40 And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

A POEM FROM THE HEART

MY TESTIMONY

If it hadn't been for the gospel That lifted my feet from the clay; If it hadn't been for a promise I wouldn't be here today

I had traveled through mountains of problems, And journeyed through the land of Haran. With naught but doubt, fears and questions

My life was fruitless and barren.

One day I vowed to the Savior That if He would show me the way, I would yield my life whole hearted No power my heart would stay Years later He spoke to me softly Calling to me by name But to His tender pleading My cold heart remained the



same.

Once more He spoke to me gently And then I did obey.

I gave Him my heart remembering That vow I had made that day.