A Publication of Streets Alive Mission · Changing lives for over 25 Years

EMPOWERING PEOPLE

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CREATING AGENTS OF CHANGE

Streets Alive Mission has always had a saying. "If we can get people into the presence of God just one time, that person will be changed forever". Everything that's done, the sandwiches that are handed out, the clothing that people can access, the programs that are run, everything is done with the intent of getting people into God's presence so that their lives can be changed.

Every staff member and volunteer wants to see lives being changed. Every dollar donated goes to programs that work toward that goal. The sandwiches given out on our mobile unit provide sustenance for another day, giving another chance for that person to make a choice to save their own life. A.S.K. Learning Centre is all about changing for the better, learning skills and information to make better choices and have more options. None of these things are possible without people like you who give of their time and treasure. By giving of these things and creating agents of change through the programs, you find that you yourself have become an agent of change as well.



UPDATE TO KAYLA'S STORY

So there has been a lot of movement in Kayla's life since the last newsletter. She finished her high school equivalency, and tested well on college entrance exams. As such, she was accepted to the college for the fall 2015 semester and is beginning her diploma program in Business Administration. Sadly, in the middle of her preparations for school, her father passed away. However, she still wanted to attend summer camp as a leader and was able to access the support and help she needed during this difficult time. After hearing about Kayla, a donor came forward and paid in full for her entire first year of college, including books, and a separate donor bought her a brand new laptop. The work that God is doing in Kayla's life is amazing, and it's being done through donors and volunteers who are willing to be agents of change in the lives of others.



AGENTS IN TRAINING

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you..." Matthew 28:19-20a

From the outside, he looks all together. He has a supportive family, a lot of friends, he's a part of school activities, he seems like he has it all. He struggles to fit in, able to wear the mask needed for each role, never knowing who he really is. "Friends" at school are not true friends, when encountered on social media. Family is supportive, until you become an inconvenience. School activities are great, until you are drowning in commitments and a desire to please. Where to turn? Self-harm is rampant, drugs and alcohol are easy to obtain, and everything leaves him empty, broken and alone. This is the story of numerous youth at Epidemyc, looking for hope.

Today's teenager deals with more pressure than ever before. At Epidemyc, we reach the kids who don't fit into regular social structures. Each is a bit different, whether that's because of broken homes, abuse, anxiety, addictions or any other of a myriad of reasons. Youth come to Streets Alive Mission to find hope and a place to fit in. Jesus changes the path, gives peace to our chaos and gives purpose to our step. Youth experience God's love in a tangible way and are empowered to be the light in their world. Often they are the single light in a dark place. Life does not become easy, but they learn where their strength comes from. They become agents of change in their homes, schools and workplaces.

AN AGENT'S FIRST MISSION

Every year, Inner Works Church packs up every person who wants to attend and busses them down to Popson Park for our annual River Baptism and Barbeque. The event is always hosted the Sunday after youth camp, so we can include those who came to the camp, and there are always several teenagers who gave their lives to God during the week that want to take the next step and get baptized. This year, there were 15 people who wanted to take the next step in their walks with God.

Baptism is an important part of Inner Works. It's a big and powerful step in a lifelong journey, and we make it a big deal! The whole church walks down to the riverside and cheers, hoots, and hollers whenever someone comes back up from getting baptized. It's one more way agents of change are made and sent out into the world.



WITNESS PROTECTION PROGRAM

Every day, men and women pass through the doors of Parkside and Segue Homes. Their situations can vary wildly. Some come from stable home lives, and a tragedy or unforeseen circumstances have forced them out of their homes and into a life they never envisioned. Others have the most horrific stories, childhoods filled with abuse and neglect with their caregivers lost long ago to drug addictions. All of them are broken and hurting somehow.

The caregivers in the homes aren't there just to enforce rules and maintain order (although that can be a vital part of the job sometimes). They're there to spend time with each and every person in the home, drawing alongside of them to set goals and make sure those goals are reached. If someone is struggling, the caregiver is there to give strength and counselling. We want every person who passes through the doors to leave changed, stronger and surer of themselves and their place in the world.

THEREFORE, if anyone is in **CHRIST**, the new creation has come:

The **OLD** has gone, the **NEW** is **HERE!**

HERALDING HOPE FESTIVAL

We are very excited to announce our new Christmas fundraiser event, the Heralding Hope Festival! On December 1st at the Galt Museum, we would love to have you join us in an evening of Christmas festivities. There will be carolers, hot apple cider, and the smell of fresh roasted chestnuts in the air. There will be activities for the whole family, and the opportunity to invest in the life changing programs of Streets Alive Mission throughout the evening.

For more information, please call Marie at 403-320-1159.



SAYING GREEN

With the frequent increases in postage, we find our communication costs steadily rising. We also realize that for many people, email is a much preferred method of communication. With that in mind, Streets Alive Mission is developing an e-newsletter that will hopefully be available beginning in September 2015.

If you would prefer to receive communications from Streets Alive Mission via email, please indicate below.

	Yes, please sign me up!	
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