



STREETS ALIVE
MISSION

EMPOWERING PEOPLE

Summer 2024

Climb Every Mountain

Mountains. We know ‘em, we love ‘em. Majestic. Thrilling. Beautiful. Challenging. Just sitting there, all tall and stuff, waiting to be conquered by those who have to gall, the gumption, the get-up-and-go. Those who look at the high peaks and craggy outcroppings and say, “Yes! That’s an undertaking I want to do battle with and conquer this day”.

I have to be honest with you folks though, I’m definitely more of an indoor girl. The closest I’ve come to climbing a mountain is watching Julie Andrews twirl on top of one on my 94th rewatch of *The Sound of Music*. I mean, why climb a mountain when I could just watch someone else on a mountain, still see those lovely views, and not have to exert any energy?

Continuing my honest streak, this attitude does admittedly also apply to metaphorical mountains. There are a lot of days when I feel as though character growth is entirely overrated, and I can convince myself that I’m perfectly capable of learning from the mistakes of others without having to put in any of the work.

But here’s the thing that I think we all know; of course we can’t. Pictures never do justice to the actual view. Lessons learned for oneself are always the most valuable, and always require time and sadly, usually some pain. I think we can all agree in the end, those vistas and those lessons are worth it. As Mother Superior said in *The Sound of Music*, “Climb Every Mountain”, because without the climb, without the pain, without the exertion, without the battle, we’ll never know – truly know - victory.

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**FAITH AS SMALL AS
A MUSTARD SEED
CAN MOVE
MOUNTAINS.**

Matthew 17:20



DANEIL'S STORY

A Mountain You Helped Him Climb

In November 2022, Daneil joined our Exodus Men's Life Recovery program. In the next 16 months, Daneil completed all four phases of the program and has recently moved back to his family. We asked him to share his story and how your support has changed his life.



What led me to Streets Alive Mission?

Complacency. Growing up, a lot of people told me that I would amount to nothing, so I always felt like I had something to prove. The only way I knew how to do that was through work. The more money you make, the better off you are. I moved up really quick at work. Complacency comes in where you get too comfortable. I think because I'd moved up so quick, it was too much too fast. I got complacent, and I got into recreation drugs. **You know, I thought I was invincible. It turns out that I wasn't.**

I wanted to be better, but asking for help never got me anywhere. So, I went into work one morning knowing that I was going to be drug tested, fail, and get fired for it. I could have called in or switched my shift, but I went anyway. This was my out and I was going to take it. I took the negative road and started doing coke, got into crack, and ended up losing the house. I became a couch surfer, got involved with the wrong people, and an attempt was made on my life. When that happened, I didn't have anywhere safe to go, so I got put in a jail cell for the night. The next day, a couple of loved ones got me a hotel room for the night and helped me make the calls to get into detox. **After some further treatment, I applied for Streets Alive Mission's Exodus Program.**

Now, I'm going back to work and my family.

The difference is that I am going with a better understanding of myself. I've got tools in my box that I can use, and if I start getting an inkling of a feeling or whatever, all I need to do is make a phone call. **It'll be okay.**

You can't learn anything from the top of the mountain, and my whole life I've been at the top of the mountain.

Hitting rock bottom was the answer that I needed to get myself back to reality and take myself off the high horse and onto level ground. I learned a lot about myself. **Being sober and not having anything versus having everything was very eye-opening and humbling. You learn to appreciate things a lot more.** Before, I wouldn't want to see my kids because I wanted to go get high and I didn't want my kids to see that. Now every time I see my kids, it's awesome.

You never truly lose until you start giving up.

As long as you get up and try again, you are a winner.

Your support transforms lives like Daneil's. When you give funds, time, or items, you are changing lives. Give today and bring hope.

Want to learn more about our Recovery Programs?

Visit streetsalive.ca



Upcoming Events

Adventures You Can Join Us On!

STREETS ALIVE MISSION



Wing Ding June 29, 2024

A free, family-friendly event at Nicholas Sheran Park! Come get some concession snacks, see our dunk tank, and take on the Save-On-Foods Wing Ding Wing Eating Challenge!



Exodus Golf Tournament July 19, 2024

Golf for a great cause! Register your team today to support the Exodus Men's Life Recovery Program!



Ride for Refuge October 5, 2024

Get your team together and join us for our family-friendly fundraising bike ride and walk in support of our men's and women's Life Recovery Programs.

For more information or to register for these events, visit streetsalive.ca

A PLANTED SEED

One Employee's Transformative Experience

When I first started working for Streets Alive Mission, I worked on the warming buses. On my very first shift, there were two overdoses at the back. One was in the middle of the walkway. My partner immediately started working on him. It was at least 8 minutes before he was revived. The lady at the back was gone for almost 15 minutes. **While my partner was working on getting him out of the way, I was mentally preparing myself that she was not going to come back.**

When I got to her, we worked tirelessly. I was just about to tell my partner to call the ambulance for a body when she took a breath. She was out for such a long time that we expected her to have brain damage, but when the ambulance arrived we found out she was fine. Afterwards, they both hugged us and were so grateful for saving their lives. **That's when I made the decision to keep doing this.** I have never felt that gratitude before.

2 years later, I walked into the Mission and the same guy was sitting there. I went up to him and he gave me a big hug. We sat down and started talking, and he told me he was ready to change his life. I immediately went over to talk to the recovery staff. We got him into detox that day. Pretty quickly after that, he got into the Exodus Program and is now in recovery. **It takes time, sometimes years of planting that seed before anything grows.**

Urgent Needs: How You Can Bring Hope Right Now

Can you help with anything on our wish list?

- new underwear
- hoodies
- sweatpants
- jeans
- backpacks
- hygiene items
- furniture
- appliances
- water
- non-perishable foods
- financial donations to purchase our urgently needed items

Donations accepted at our RePurpose Donation Centre:

219 12B St. N. (back alley) Monday to Saturday, 9 am - 12 pm, 1 pm - 4 pm.



We are in the process of moving to a new home! To ease our transition, you'll see our new return address on some of our mail-outs:



**P.O. Box 1474
Lethbridge, AB T1J 0N8**

It's still us!



Streets Alive Mission is planning to raise an estimated \$1,200,000 this year on fundraising campaigns. It will cost the organization an estimated \$149,000. The money raised will be used to provide services for those struggling with poverty in our community.

THANK YOU FOR BRINGING HOPE FOR THE FUTURE TO OUR COMMUNITY.

YES ! I believe in Bringing Hope!

I have enclosed a signed void cheque OR please charge my credit card
 monthly gift \$ _____ OR one time gift \$ _____
On the 1st or the 16th day of each month (or the next business day)

Please charge my credit card: # _____

NAME: _____

Expiry Date: _____ / _____ CV# _____ Phone#: _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____ Email: _____

I want to receive my tax receipt **annually** OR **each time I donate**

Authorization may be revoked at any time, subject to providing notice of at least 10 days before next payment is scheduled to come out. I also have certain recourse rights which could include receiving reimbursement if any debit does not comply with this agreement or was not authorized. For more information about Pre-Authorized Debit (PAD) Agreements, or to obtain a sample cancellation form I may contact my financial institution or www.cdnpay.ca.

If you wish to change or cancel your authorization at any time, please contact Megan at (403) 942-5646.

are Bringing Hope to the Hopeless. support the vision of Streets Alive Mission lives of people who desperately need your help. Through your continued financial

By joining the Streets Alive Mission Helping Hands program you invest in the


We value our donors' privacy, and do not share our lists.

Registered Charity #141054502RR0001

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SUMMER 2024



bringing hope