

REFLECTIONS - THE FRAGRANCE OF GRATITUDE



Recently, my daughter treated me to a lovely birthday meal at the new Thai restaurant in Dundas. Our family had celebrated the event earlier in the week, but this was her special day with Dad. On the way home, we stopped at the garden centre. Knowing of my love for plants and flowers, my daughter picked out a lovely hyacinth in honour of the occasion.

Arriving home from work several days later, I noted a sweet fragrance permeating every room in our home. The aroma came from Pamela's hyacinth, her gift of love and gratitude to her Dad. The Thai meal was history, but the fragrance of love lingered on.

At Mission Services we stress the importance of a grateful attitude. We are particularly thankful to all of our dedicated partners who help make it possible to reach out to Tom and many others, providing opportunity and hope. Christ has called us to bless those in need, leaving a fragrance of love and gratitude wherever we work and serve.

Our Mission partners have also blessed us in return with their thankfulness. One partner recently wrote:

"We wish to thank you for the phone call in recognition of our gifts. We have never received a call from any other charities we support. We appreciate your gratitude for our support of your fine works."

Another partner shared that although they were sympathetic to the crisis in Haiti, they knew that many others would be sending their funds overseas. The donor stated that they preferred to give their money locally where they could see their donation being used right in their own City. Mission Services was grateful to hear of this partner's loyalty toward their local charity.

Yet another partner, who had been a faithful monthly supporter, had changed his credit card information and not renewed his monthly donation. We called him to thank him for his giving throughout 2009. The donor responded with a call of thanks and asked to renew his monthly support.

We are filled with thankfulness and gratitude this season for the faithfulness of all of our Mission Services partners. Thank you for your generous support.

Blessings,

Edward (Pastor Ed) Raddatz



CALENDAR OF EVENTS - SPECIAL EVENTS ARE POSTED AT WWW.MISSION-SERVICES.COM

Easter Dinner at the Jamesville

April 4, 2010 at 5pm

To volunteer, call 905-528-4211 x106
Or email volunteer@mission-services.com

Mission Services & Hamilton Community News Annual Charity Golf Tournament

May 6th, 2010

Register online or call 905-528-4211 x108

CHANGING LIVES

Mission Services is a Christian, non-profit, charitable organization serving men, women and children in the greater Hamilton area in response to basic human needs and supporting them in reaching their potential, thereby fulfilling God's call to act justly, show mercy, and offer hope.

PROGRAMS & SERVICES

MEN'S SERVICES OPPORTUNITY CENTRE

- Men's Residence/Jamesville 2
- Hot meals & clothing
- Medical & Social Service Referrals
- Transitional Housing
- Housing assistance & individual case management support

Suntrac Addictions Treatment Centre

- Individual & group treatment for men experiencing addictions
- Group recovery management (aftercare)
- Discovery House
- Group counseling & individual case management

WOMEN'S SERVICES OPPORTUNITY CENTRE

- Inasmuch House
- Safe shelter for abused & homeless women & children
- 24 hour emergency crisis line 905-529-8600
- Individual case management & crisis care
- Public Education Workshops
- Child & Youth Programs
- Support Services & Housing Referrals
- Transitional Support Program
- Individual case management for women in the community experiencing abuse

Child Witness Programs

- Therapeutic groups for children who have witnessed abuse

EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING OPPORTUNITY CENTRE

- Marty Karl Centre
- Skills Training - Janitorial and Food Services (includes WHMIS and Food Handling Certification)
- Life Skills Workshops
- Job Placement Services

Hamilton Employment & Training Centre Inc.

- Catering Sales & Contract Service
- Janitorial Contract Service

COMMUNITY SERVICES OPPORTUNITY CENTRE

- Emergency Food Assistance
- Christmas Care
- Financial Trusteeship & Personal Management

MISSION SERVICES Opportunity Centres

- TO SUPPORT THE WORK OF MISSION SERVICES:
- Call: 905 528-4211 (Mon-Fri, 8:30-4:30)
- 1-877-542-2732 (After hours)
- Donate online at www.mission-services.com
- Visa or MasterCard accepted
- Charitable Registration No. 119043206RR0001

P.O. Box 368, 293 Wellington St. N., Hamilton, ON L8L 7W2



MARCH 2010

SERVING THE GREATER HAMILTON AREA SINCE 1956

TOM'S HOPE FOR TOMORROW

"People who succeed are people who turn their lives over to God"

Tom has a problem, alcohol addiction, but it is a challenge he is eager to face with the help of Mission Services and you.

Tom, a former newspaper man, currently at **Mission Services Jamesville Residential Treatment Program**, launched the *Jamesville Journal* newsletter for fellow clients in order to promote the positive benefits of Mission Services' Recovery

Program. Tom feels that telling "the unvarnished truth about the ugliness of alcoholism and addiction," helps the men see themselves as their families see them, and makes them even more determined to succeed.

Your partnership with **Mission Services Opportunity Centres** has made it possible for Tom to have hope in returning to his writing career. He has been in other programs but believes that Mission Services' positive, Christian message of redemption and transformation is the difference. "People who succeed," says Tom, "are people who turn their lives over to God." Your support helps us provide Tom with treatment based on Christian principles.

Thank you for supporting Mission Services and giving Tom a chance. Tom plans to graduate from the recovery program and find work. "I want to get back to what I enjoy most," he says, "writing for a newspaper."

For information about our programs and services or to make a donation, please visit our website at www.mission-services.com.



IT'S EASY TO GIVE ONLINE! www.mission-services.com

LOCAL BUSINESS PROVIDES MEALS IN LIEU OF ANNUAL CALENDARS

For the past several years, Integrity Wealth Management in Burlington has mailed clients and friends an annual calendar at Christmas. In his yearly greeting, Phil Evenden, the president, writes, "We do this because we appreciate your business and the trust you place in us."

In November, a representative from Mission Services spoke at Phil's church. When Phil heard that a cash donation of \$3.11 would provide a full-course Christmas dinner for someone in need, he decided to act. Instead of sending calendars and greeting cards this past Christmas, Phil challenged everyone—clients, business associates, family and friends—to help him raise enough money to sponsor 1,000 Christmas meals.

And they did! On December 18, the goal was reached and Integrity Wealth Management presented Mission Services with \$3,110.

Congratulations, Phil! Thank you for providing opportunities for people in need.



Philip Evenden of Integrity Wealth Management presents a cheque for 1,000 dinners to Rick Hiebert of Mission Services.

Photo by Jennifer MacDonald/Snap Burlington

COMING SOON: APRIL FOOD DAY

Hunger never takes a holiday

Remember as a kid *April Fools Day*? It was always a great way to tease your little brother with a tall tale or play a joke on your sister.

At Mission Services, however, April and hunger are no joke. Christmas is long past and often people forget that there are those who require our help on a daily basis. April is also a time of unpredictable weather, showers, wind and wet snow. It's a difficult time to be on the street. It is also a time when food donations decrease.

To help bring focus on the food needs of the hungry and hurting during the month of April, Mission Services is launching April Food Day – all month long – because it's no joke to be hungry and homeless.

For only \$3.11 you can sponsor a hot, nutritious meal for a hungry and hurting person in our

community. Help us provide hope for today and opportunity for tomorrow by supporting April Food Day all month long! It's a meaningful way to usher in a new season of hope! Consider making an online donation every time you shop for groceries.

Thanks for your support.

Meals just \$3.11 each!

DONATE NOW

"IN MY FATHER'S HOUSE THERE ARE MANY MANSIONS..." JOHN 14:2

The fragility of life became real to my family this January when my beloved father in law passed away unexpectedly from a heart attack. Coping with final farewells and funeral arrangements can be overwhelming. However, we were all grateful that Dad had taken the time to file a last will and testament with a lawyer. As such his favorite hymns were sung at his church and his assets will be dispersed as per his wishes.



I invite you today to consider writing your will and considering *Mission Services* as a beneficiary. In this way you can ensure that your favourite program or service will thrive in the years to come. What better way to leave a legacy of love than mentioning Mission Services in your will?

After meeting with your lawyer and speaking with your family, please contact me so that we can discuss which service or program you wish to recognize in your will.

Mission Services Opportunity Centres: Hope for today. Opportunity for tomorrow.

Barry Coe,
Director Resource Development

MISSION Services

Opportunity Centres



Hamilton **Community News**

Charity Golf Tournament

May 6th, 2010

HIDDEN LAKE GOLF CLUB

1137 #1 SIDE ROAD • BURLINGTON, ONTARIO

Register online at www.mission-services.com or call 905-528-4211 x108

THE GIFT OF ART!

In early December, Grade 7 and 8 students at Norwood Park Elementary School on Hamilton Mountain used their artistic talents to decorate Christmas gift bags for use at Mission Services.

Under the artful direction of teacher Madame Gordon, the students painted and decorated dozens of gift bags donated by Bruce Copley of Action Sanitation. On Christmas Day our guests received their Christmas gifts in the beautiful, hand decorated bags. The Norwood Park students were learning about social issues such as homelessness and addiction which plague downtown Hamilton.

It was a meaningful way for a new generation to show compassion for people they may never meet.



Norwood Park School students decorate Christmas gift bags.

Photo by Gord Bowes/Hamilton Community News