

Reflections



The weather this winter has really bounced around. One day our spirits soar as we bask in almost spring-like weather, then Old Man Winter is back with a fury. It reminds us of the unsettled economy. One day our hopes soar with positive financial news, and the next we face another challenge.

When the economy worsens, donors' budgets get squeezed and life for our clients also becomes more difficult. So the dilemma faced by the Mission is how to meet a greater demand with less money.

In such conditions, the normal reaction would be: "I'm sorry, we have reached our quota; we will try to find you another place to go."

I am reminded of a certain story of Jesus and his disciples. There was a special occasion when He and His disciples needed time away from the crowds and they had planned a retreat. The surprise came when five thousand people found their way to the private retreat area.

As the crowds grew and the day wore on, the people became hungry, tired and possibly unruly. The disciples were frazzled. After all, they had spent the day trying to keep order plus arrange for some form of sanitation. The need was great and the lines grew larger. The disciples just wanted to tell the crowd, "Go away, we don't have any food." However, food was found. Just one boy's snack was available and a miracle was performed for more than five thousand that day.

When presented by a great need and a tight budget, we like the disciples could wish that the demand would just go away. As you partner with us, Mission Services can continue to do the work of Jesus and witness His provision each day.

We thank you for your support and prayers.

Edward (Pastor Ed) Raddatz

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Community Dinners at the Jamesville

March 27, 2011 at 5pm May 22, 2011 at 5pm

Easter Dinner at the Jamesville

April 24, 2011 at 5pm

To volunteer, contact Kellie at 905-528-4211 x106

Special Events are Posted At www.mission-services.com

MISION SERVICES CHRISTMAS CARE MAJOR SPONSORS



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CHANGING LIVES

Mission Services of Hamilton is a Christian organization whose purpose is to serve people and fulfill 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

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



MARCH 2011

SERVING THE GREATER HAMILTON AREA SINCE 1956

Coming Out of the Cold

It may be cold outside, but there is always warmth and hope at the Mission.

You know it as a place for life-transforming programs and services. When the temperature dips to minus 15 degrees Celsius, our guests see it as a place for life-saving shelter. At this point, Mission Services is notified by the Health Protection Division of the Public Health Services that a cold weather alert has been issued and how long the freezing temperatures will last. During a Cold Alert, once all the beds at the shelter are full, floor mats are provided to accommodate any overflow of guests.

Glenn Forrest, Director of Men's Services says, "We are always prepared to provide hot, nutritious food for our guests. The Cold Alert only reinforces in us the desire to ensure our guests are accommodated in a warm, friendly environment!"

This year has been particularly cold and with your help, Mission Services has been a beacon of hope, warmth and love for many men passing through our city, especially with a number of Cold Alerts this winter.

Your faithful support and prayers help Glenn and his shelter team provide safe, warm shelter to a growing number of men living on the edge of society.

Whenever you hear the **Cold Alert** announced by the media, please know that your support is making a difference in the life of a cold and hungry person at Mission Services. Hope begins with a warm, safe bed and hot nutritious meal!



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

Christmas Care Needs Skyrocket

Christmas Headquarters at 50 Murray Street West experienced a **55% increase** in the number of people requesting Christmas Care when compared to last year. With your help we were able to meet this need, providing thousands of people with Christmas Care including gifts of Hampers and Hope!

Staff and volunteers combined their efforts to coordinate pick ups of hundreds of new toys for children and thousands of pounds of food.

One donor, Mary, gave because she received Christmas Care for her and her children when she came to Canada nine years ago. Now she is happy to give in order to help someone else.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who took the time to support our efforts and ensure that Christmas 2010 was a blessing to so many people in need.



Photo: The team at Medline collects toys for Christmas Care.

Books Distributed to Children at Christmas

Brent Kinnaird, from Inspire Marketing, decided to give books to the children at Mission Services in lieu of Christmas Cards to his clients. He also promised to match any book donations that his clients were willing to make! The resulting boxes of children's books made excellent additions to our Christmas Care Hampers, promoting literacy and creativity. What child doesn't like a good story?

Support from the community at Christmas has always been crucial for our Christmas Care Program. Toy drives and food collections from community businesses, churches and individuals help Mission Services provide the food and toys needed to fill our Christmas Care Hampers.

Thank you to everyone who helped us make Christmas so special this year. We truly could not do it without you!



Photo: Abby helps to drop off books and toys at Christmas.

Leave a Legacy

Mission Services has been a place of love, warmth and hope to everyone who has entered our doors since our founding in 1956. We have been blessed with a number of faithful supporters who have provided us with the financial means to help transform lives for over 50 years. I speak often with these long term donors and they ask me how they can continue to support our ministry after they pass away.

What better way is there to ensure that your preferred service or program continues in the future than providing Mission Services with a gift in your will or estate?

It is important to note that Mission Services does not endorse any particular bank or financial advisor. Our role is to ensure that once you have spoken to your family and a lawyer, the gift you leave to Mission Services is directed accordingly.

I invite you to visit us and tour the program or service you have supported for many years. In this way, you can be assured that we are worthy of your continued support.

Please call me at 905-528-4211 x130 to arrange a convenient date and time for your visit.

Sincerely, Barry Coe
Director Community Relations & Development



Golf Announcement

2011 Charity Golf Tournament - May 5th, 2011

Hidden Lake Golf Club - 1137 #1 Side Road, Burlington, ON

Register at www.mission-services.com



A New Face for the Share 'N Care Program

The second floor of 50 Murray Street has been transformed into a giant clothes closet as part of a new outreach by our Community Services Opportunity Centre team.

A welcome area has been set up for our guests who are then ushered into our Share 'N Care room to select items of clothing and shoes free of charge. Mission Services receives thousands of pounds of gently used clothing items from community churches, businesses and individuals each year.

The clothing is changed seasonally with fresh items arriving daily. Coats, jackets, pants, shoes and mitts are organized into men's, women's and children's sections. A selection of small household items is also available.

Director of Community Services, Victory Cyr, is pleased with the clothing room concept and the positive impact it is having on the people we serve. Victor said, "A number of our clients appreciate the opportunity to choose some clothing items while they are here visiting the food bank."

Share 'N Care is open on Wednesdays, 9-11am and 1-3pm. No appointments are necessary. Guests can visit the Share 'N Care room once per month.

In time, we intend to have Share 'N Care open the same hours as our food bank: Mondays 9-11am, Wednesdays 9-11am and 1-3pm and Fridays 9-11am.

Donations of gently used clothing and nearly new small household items are accepted at 50 Murray Street West, Monday through Friday, 9am to 4pm.

