

“Unconditional love given in a non-judgemental way.”

The “parts” of ourplace

Ourplace drop in centre - 713 Johnson

- Office
- Coffee Bar
- Outreach workers
- Clothing & toiletries room
- Outreach programme
- Individual assistance:
 - advocacy, referrals, emergency medical aid,
 - transportation to detox, visitations to home,
 - hospital or jail.

Ourplace - 919 Pandora

- Administrative Office
- Soup kitchen 2 meals a day, 6 days a week
- Rooms: 22 short term furnished rooms for men
- Small clothing room & toiletries
- Counselling services

Donations:

(Please, no household items, large or small.)

WE DO NEED: Towels, Clothing- seasonal garments, trousers, shirts, under garments, footwear, belts.

Bedding- blankets, sleeping bags, ground mats.

Toiletries- feminine hygiene products, razors, toothbrushes, tooth paste, deodorant, brushes & combs. - Knapsacks, backpacks, small tents.

Non-perishable foods: Canned or other dry packaged foods, coffee.

Ask Vickie

Dear Vickie,

Sometimes when I am working my shift, donations of food items come in, and other volunteers will put things in their own bags which I assume they take home. I do not know how to deal with this situation and it continues to frustrate me. Advice?



Dear Gentle Reader,

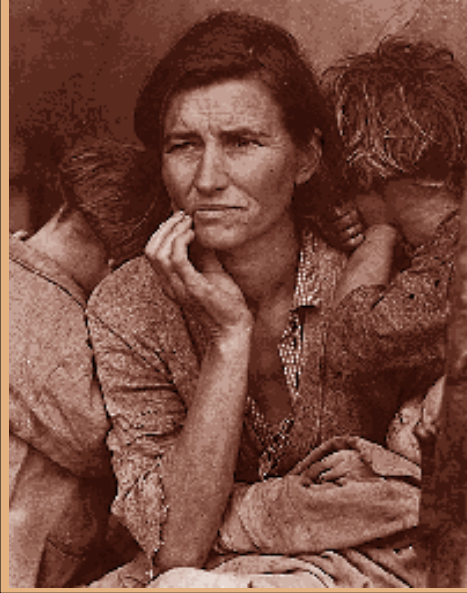
Availing one-self of the generous food donations on the part of volunteers is not such a terrible thing, when you consider that many volunteers or their friends are needy also. However, I think we can all agree that our “street-family” should be the “first-line” recipients of such items.

Why not deal with the situation by suggesting that they wait until the end of the day, when left-overs could be put out on tables for the workers at the drop-in centre? That way, we could all feel better that the most needy among us have had a full opportunity to choose what they need

Next month's question:

As a volunteer worker, I am very interested in the unification of the two parts of *ourplace* in the Fall. Originally, they were different, for reasons I don't know. How can I best assist in making this a smooth transition?

1937 or 2007?



As we move into the new era of expanded facilities and weekend hours, we must find many new volunteers. At present, it is very difficult to meet our time commitments

All members of the ourplace family are asked to make a special effort at this time to find new helpers.

You don't know until you ask!

Especially needed are:

1. Drivers willing to **pick up bread** from local stores and deliver it to the drop-in centre both on weekends and weekdays. Back-up driver volunteers are also needed.
2. Workers are needed **every day** from 7am until 3 pm.

Call:

Pandora Street Soup Kitchen: Cheryl at 388-7112
or Johnson St. Drop-in Centre: Bob at 385-2454.

Thank you Frances.

Seeing the volunteer, so positive, energetic and so willing; it inspires me to keep pressing forward. Frances has most recently updated the drop-in's volunteer data bank. Administratively it is such a helpful tool, at times the excitement of the progress leads me to realize how far behind we are (but hey, one step at a time!) Being physically separated (the kitchen, the drop in) presents some challenges and we are so looking forward to joining our two groups to one team. In spite of personalities or opinions we will become a team. This is much bigger than any one of us and I strongly believe that the new “ourplace” will bring us all closer together. Unity is not uniformity - we are as unique as our finger prints and this diversity will aid us to reaching many. Team work will foster and unity will grow from the fact that we have unity of purpose.

Bob Frank Volunteer Coordinator

Safety Corner

All volunteers have a desire to please and accommodate, but we must be careful not to let it cloud our common sense. At *ourplace* Pandora, family members often hold up coffee cups for refills. To avoid accidents please be assertive and insist that the cup be placed on the table before pouring. If you get bumped from behind there is a better chance of the coffee going on the table instead of down the back of a neck!

Happy March Birthday to Volunteers:

Al , Peng-SeaLin, Gail , Hope, Pat, Barbara,
Scott, Sean, David, Dennis

Supporter of the Month

The [Yets for Pets Street Clinic](#) is put on and financed by Greater Victoria Animals, Crusaders. Many thanks to the attending vet and vet tech who donate their time to this monthly event: Dr. Kam Brar and his assistant, Jenn, and the GVAC volunteers: Carol, Diane, Aileen, Vivian and Carol.



Our place

The Open Door and Upper Room, coming together in the Fall.