

THE OPEN DOOR AND THE UPPER ROOM

919 PANDORA AVE., VICTORIA, B.C. V8V 3P4

VOLUNTEER'S NEWSLETTER

www.ourplacesociety.com

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Bruce More - Editor

Our E-mail addresses: 713 Johnson St: volunteerourplace@shaw.ca 919 Pandora Ave: opsoc@telus.net

ourplace

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



Why I Volunteer:

- To help others.
- To help a cause I believe in.
- To do something I like to do.
- To Develop my ability to relate to and care for others.
- To give something back to the community.
- To feel I accomplish something.
- To achieve personal growth.
- To enjoy meeting people and new friends.
- To offer my skills in a new setting.
- To learn new skills"
- To gain work experience

Dictionaries define a volunteer as "one who offers a service or duty of his or her own free will. Voluntary work is given freely, without compulsion; it is intentional and, in most interpretations, unpaid. It is, in fact, a form of philanthropy involving time and talent instead of money. But volunteer time does have a measurable dollar value in terms of service performed."

Donations:

WE DO NEED: yarn; towels; footwear; clothing-seasonal garments; trousers; shirts; under garments & belts, Bedding-blankets, sleeping bags, ground mats. Toiletries-toothbrushes, feminine hygiene products, razors, deodorant, brushes & combs. Knapsacks, backpacks, small tents.

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

Ask Vickie

Is it possible for me to volunteer in other areas, to try them out? For example: Reception? Clothing or some other area?



Dear Gentle Reader,

Getting to know other areas of *ourplace* is an excellent idea. More than ever in the new facility we will be challenged to work together from our widely varying perspectives. To familiarize ourselves with the tasks of others, walking in their shoes (but not literally eh?) for a time can only help our "cause".

Of course from a practical point of view, this needs to be carefully scheduled with the supervisors of the areas involved.

Next month's question:

Why does the drop in centre close for memorial services? Can volunteers be notified earlier of these events?

Supporter of the Month

Many thanks to <u>Ritva</u>, the lady that donates the toilet paper roll-ends & towels from a local hotel (It is policy to put a new roll in each room every day). Ritva also makes Toques and head bands (up to 77 this week alone!!)



Information:

Volunteers wishing information about any aspect of their work at *ourplace* are encouraged to call 385-2454 or 388-7112. A volunteer team leader will be happy to call back and help in whatever way possible.

Safety Corner

Summer is here and it is time to wear sandals....but not while working at Our Place sites. It is recommended that closed toe, sturdy shoes with non-slip soles be worn in all areas.

Happy June Birthday to Volunteers:

Brenda B, Audrey D, Gerard D, Daniel Mac, Mary R, James S., P. VanDyke

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

Neighbour, sibling, colleague, retired friend... You don't know until you ask!

Memorials

Family members we have lost in 2007:

Joseph SingBell, Jan. 12

Laurent ('Birdman') Phillips, Jan. 17

Alvin Constant, Jan. 24

Lynn Pendersen, Jan 25

Matthew 'Butch" Amos, Jan 25

John Sequin, Feb 12

Gracia Tracy, Feb 13

Edward Novicki, Mar 23

Christine "Chrissy" Horne, April 4

Deanna Van Der Kant, April 4 Willie Mowers April 10

Wendy Wasik April 16

Tony Valentine, May 11

Kevin Nagel, May 21

Mike Dorris May, 22

Conrad Bambrick, May 30

Patrrick Brophy, June 08.

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: 7am until 3 pm.

Call:

Pandora Street Soup Kitchen: Brian or Peter at 388-7114 or Johnson St. Drop-in Centre: Robert at 385-2454.

"Unconditional love given in a non-judgemental way."