

The Ourplace



Volunteer

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Bruce E. Moore - Editor

"Ourplace" is the Alliance of
The Open Door & Upper Room
919 Pandora Ave, Victoria, BC V8V 3P4

Ask Vickie

What is the Peers Helping Peers (PHP) program?

Peers Helping Peers (PHP) is an incentive program offered to volunteers here at Our Place Society.



Members of the PHP program receive a small monthly financial incentive. These incentives are awarded based on the availability of funds, a volunteer's demonstrated commitment to their volunteer placement and the recommendation of the manager (and/or lead staff person) of the volunteer's program area. A workshop is being planned to provide more information on the PHP program and expectations of volunteers working under the program. Please stay tuned for more details!

Next month's question:
How do I become an Our Place volunteer?

February Statistics

Volunteers worked a total of 1,874 hours during the month of February, for an average of 93 hours and 34 volunteers per day. The time and commitment volunteers make to Our Place Society is truly what allows us to open our doors to our inner-city family each and every day. Thank you!

Volunteer Gatherings

The next volunteer gatherings have been scheduled for Tuesday, April 21 at 2 p.m. and Thursday, April 23 at 10 a.m. Coffee, tea and light refreshments will be served. These gatherings are a valuable opportunity to check in and to discuss what is working well and what is not working so well. Please join us!

How to reach your Volunteer Coordinator

antoINETTE@ourplacesociety.com
or 250-388-7112 Ext. 243

Please give Antoinette as much notice as possible if you are going to be away and need replacements.

Donations

As we move into colder and wetter weather we are in need of new or lightly used basic adult clothing. **SOCKS**, underwear, more socks, fleece or heavyweight tops and jeans, socks again, seasonal jackets. Musical instruments and **art supplies**, boardgames, alarm clocks, toiletries, sleeping bags, blankets and coffee mugs. Our library is in need of good **paperback fiction**. Please contact reception by phone at (250) 388-7112, extension 221 or by e-mail at admin@ourplacesociety.com for any questions regarding donations.

We are always looking for new volunteers

In addition to our ongoing efforts to recruit volunteers for the dining room and the nutrition bar in the drop-in centre, we are also currently looking for volunteers in the following areas: * Hygiene Area *Clothing Room. If any of these current opportunities is of interest to you, please contact 388-7112, extension 243 or volunteer@ourplacesociety.com.



May Training Dates

Our Place will be closing its doors on May 21 and 22 in order to provide an opportunity for staff and volunteers to gather for some much-needed training and team-building activities. Further information will be provided in the days ahead, and all current volunteers will be invited to attend.



Danielle S.

I would like to introduce you to Danielle S. Danielle began volunteering in August of 2008 and has quickly become a regular (and highly valued) presence in our dining room and at our reception desk.

Danielle brings a tremendous amount of energy, enthusiasm and commitment to her volunteer work with Our Place. She is blessed with a friendly and welcoming demeanour, and her infectious laughter and engaging personality are guaranteed to bring a smile to all.

Danielle recently had an opportunity to speak to a group of students at Stelly's Senior Secondary School about volunteering at Our Place — and in French! Danielle appreciated the opportunity to practise her mother tongue, to talk about the Our Place volunteer program and to share her personal experience as a volunteer. Danielle recounts that you could hear a pin drop as she spoke. The students were touched by her words, and many (including the teacher) asked if they could volunteer right then and there. Thank you, Danielle, for all that you are and for all that you do for Our Place.

Unconditional love in a non judgemental way