



Volunteer



"People who are homeless are not social inadequates. They are people without homes." - Sheila McKechnie

Our Student Volunteers

Our Place has been very fortunate to have the support and assistance of junior and high school students who have volunteered in our dining room over the years. And this past school year has been no exception. Students have joined us from a number of local schools, including Belmont Secondary School, Central Middle School, John Stubbs Memorial School, Maria Montessori Academy, Mount Douglas Secondary School, Pearson International College, Stelly's Secondary School, St. Michael's University School and Spectrum Community School. Kudos (and a heartfelt thank-you) to all of our student volunteers!

Plans are underway to enrich the experience for our student volunteers next year by organizing educational sessions, tours and special assignments — a banana split anyone? — as part of their volunteer placement.

Volunteer Coordinator

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or 250-388-7112 Ext. 243

Personal Belongings

Volunteers are reminded (and strongly encouraged) not to bring personal belongings and valuables with them when they come in for their volunteer shifts. Unfortunately, thefts do occur every now and then, and we are unable to guarantee that your personal items and valuables will be safe here. If you do need to safely secure any belongings, please visit the clothing room, where lockers are provided to volunteers.

Nametags

We ask that all volunteers wear a nametag when they are volunteering for us. We strongly encourage you to use your first name only when you are volunteering for Our Place. Starting July 1, nametags will be available in the program area in which you are volunteering. Please note that you may only wear your nametag when you are actually volunteering. As well, you may not wear your nametag as a representative of Our Place in the community. Thank you for your support!

Ask Vickie



How many breakfasts are served on average at Our Place??

Since February 1, 2010, our nutrition bar has been serving a hot and nutritious breakfast to our inner-city family from 7 a.m. until 8:30 a.m., Monday to Friday. On any given day bowls of oatmeal and plates of pancakes or french toast, complete with maple syrup, are on offer. The number of people served has been steadily climbing, and we are now serving between 250 to 300 people each morning.

Next month's question:

What summer fun will be available for our inner-city family and volunteers over the next couple of months?

The Ourplace Library

Since the opening of the new building, Ourplace has had a paperback fiction library of over 1400 volumes. From the outset, this has been a most popular resource and we are happy to provide this service to our family. The books are not checked out or tracked in any way. It is an honour system in which family members are asked to take no more than 2 books at a time and to bring them back to the return shelf when the reader is finished. We recently acquired a large number of books from the Times-Colonist Book Sale last month and we will continue to try to maintain a good selection of best selling author titles.



"What difference does it make to the dead, the orphans, and the homeless, whether mad destruction is wrought under the name of totalitarianism or the holy name of liberty or democracy?" - Gandhi