



Upon this bare land will grow a six story 36 unit **FAMILY CENTRE**. It will enable many families at risk to avoid passing on the cycle of failure many parents inherited. Kids will be given supports and encouragement.

- Seventeen years ago 'Ruth and Naomi's Street Ministry' was started and began to grow.
- Five years later the ministry was consolidated with a Board of Directors and the name changed to 'Ruth and Naomi's Mission' reflecting the larger range of services offered.
- Five years after that in 2010 the Dry Cleaners building was purchased on the current property, however it quickly proved inadequate to the growing needs of the community.
- In 2012 the current building was opened, enabling a *Residential Recovery* program.
- 2014 saw a new 16 bed 30 day *Step In Shelter* with renovations to the ground floor.

Today the original staff of two has grown to 24 (full & part time).

We thank God for this growth to meet the needs of today and tomorrow.



Architects rendition looking north from Princess Ave

It will contain 36 apartment units on 4 floors. The units will offer low income rentals for at-risk and homeless families. The lower two floors will provide wrap-around services such as medical, dental, counselling and other supports. There will be a Day Care and a range of courses offered, including parenting, anger management and basic Christianity.



We would like to draw your attention to our valuable **STAFF TEAM**. Each plays a different role in serving some of the most needy in our community. They are trained and dedicated in dealing with difficult and challenging frontline situations (see 'Just another day at the mission' overleaf).

"Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain."

We invite you to **PRAY...** especially for the Staff and the Family Centre. We also invite you to consider supporting Ruth and Naomi's Mission at this challenging time, with a financial donation... www.ranmission.ca

Just another day at the Mission... One evening my church care group and I were serving the main meal to the 100+ Guests. My friend Laura noticed a young woman that had an extremely swollen finger, so much so that the rings on her finger were cutting into her flesh with puss oozing from it. I went and spoke to 'Layla' to convince her to come with me to the hospital. It was not so easy. She refused. Laura and I left the Mission that night with heavy hearts knowing that the finger would become so toxic as to threaten her life. We prayed. The next day at the Mission I searched for Layla. Although initially unable to find her, I was told "a young lady is waiting for you because you promised to take her to the hospital". It turned out that the pain was so bad that night she couldn't sleep and remembered having spoken to me. God was answering our prayers! But Layla panicked on the way to the hospital. She swore, cursed and called me all kinds of names. I was praying out loud for her (we must have looked quite a sight!)

In emergency we waited most of the day, Layla wanting to bolt any chance she got. The ER doctor saw her (after five hours). The prognosis for the finger is not good, it will have to be amputated.

Somehow through all Layla's psycho-babble and talking about her past, we discovered and contacted Layla's foster mother. She was able to come to the hospital and love on Layla, and is working hard at getting a plan in place to help get Layla the recovery help she so desperately needs.



Staff member
Karen Hoepfner

Just another day at the Mission, you never what will come of it!



Nathan (28) has been in the Residential Recovery program for 11 months. His application to the program has been exceptional, especially considering his background. **Both of Nathan's parents were alcoholics and drug addicts.** "I remember every couple of days the cops coming because of violence between my parents," he said.

"I was 12 when I realized what was going on. I started to smoke weed and drink.

I was suspended from school nine times for using weed [cannabis]. I dropped out of school in Grade 9." At age 19 I tried cocaine, pretty soon after that I blew by job. In my early 20's I started doing 'speed', I also met a woman and had a daughter. It really gave me 'hope' that I was worth something, so I gave up drugs. The problem was I didn't work out why I did them, and importantly I didn't believe in God back then.

I thought the drugs were just a result of a bunch of stupid decisions. I relapsed.

I was shocked to see myself treating my girlfriend just like my dad treated my mom"

Nathan came to RAN Mission with a new determination to get to the root of his life failures and drug use.

"This time was different, I released my drug use was caused by underlying issues. The program has helped me understand some of these. Faith in God came alive to me and I started to pray and read the Bible. I see myself doing the full program [up to 18 months], getting my Grade 12 and setting some career goals - one step at a time."

community information meetings

As a community we have never encountered such visible social need. Shopping carts full of personal possessions, used needles laying around and people with the unmistakable look of 'neediness'.

- What are we to make of all this?
- What is being done to address this?
- Why are people in such a state?

RAN Mission will be hosting quarterly Community Information Meetings at the *Neighbourhood Learning Centre* (Chilliwack Secondary) All are welcome.

Thursday JUNE 22 6:30 - 8:30 pm



community garden opens



May 6 saw the opening of the Garden. We celebrated with a BBQ this year! All 56 plots are taken (with a waiting list).



a word ... from Dr. John Gray

As a Counsellor I deal with personal crises a lot. People respond in one of three ways: Fight, Flight or Freeze. There is a crisis in our community. We cannot be passive to the drug overdoses and deaths. They demand a 'fight' to help those trapped by addiction. Let's work together in fighting FOR people trapped by addiction in our community; not fight AGAINST them. RAN Mission is on the front-line of this crisis and with your help, together we can make a difference.

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