

Good Samaritan



news

For special friends of Covenant House

We have moved into **our new building!**

Our new building at 1302 Seymour Street was completed and we have moved in. The young people have been thrilled to have more space, extra services and, as we have heard many times, wifi!

Thank you for being part of our family and for supporting the young people in their choices to create a more positive, fulfilling future.

Here are a few highlights of our new space:

Our Drop-In Centre has increased its space by 68% and is now on two floors at 1302 Seymour Street. We have expanded our services to include a laundry room and showers. Youth



A warm welcome from staff at our new building.

workers are also on-hand to teach youth these important life skills.

The young women at our Crisis Program moved into our new building on Seymour Street. The women's Crisis Program staff planned a warm welcome celebration with decorations, cakes, candles and cheers. The youth are very happy to have this new, safe place to live.

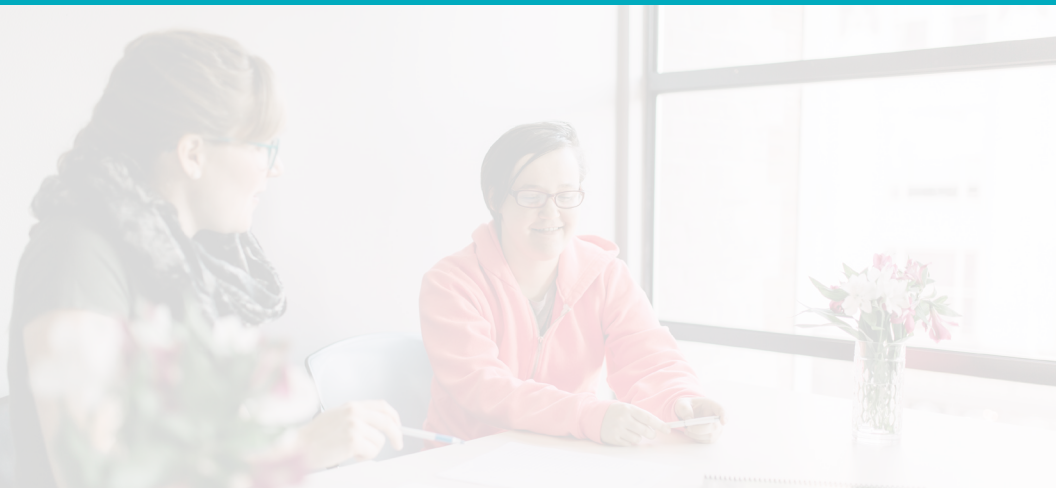
With gratitude,

Krista

Krista Thompson
Chief Executive Officer



Our new laundry room.



“Hey, you know, I used to stay here
when I was younger.

**You guys really
helped me out.**

You’re doing really great
and important work!”

Written by Cara, Youth Worker at our Crisis Program

Some nights at Covenant House Vancouver are as peaceful and quiet as a night in any home. Others can be a relentless exercise in immediacy that see us managing crises both inside the Crisis Program and out. On one such night, after some intense conversations and interventions with our youth, I had to call an ambulance for someone living on the street who needed more help than we could provide.



He was well known and had been back to seek help many times because of the trust and familiarity we had established with him. Although we were doing all that we could to support him, it was becoming discouraging to notice that his situation did not seem to be improving. At the same time, within the Crisis Program it was a busy night with many youth needing support. By the end of it all, I could feel myself worn thin, contemplating whether I was truly making a difference or effecting any positive change at all.

In this frame of mind, and sometime after calling the ambulance, I stepped out of the building to ensure everything had been handled and that the youth had gone with the paramedics. Upon opening the door and stepping out, I startled someone passing by. Nobody else was around as it was very late, and I turned to re-enter the building after seeing that all was quiet.

That was when the man walking by spoke to me. "Hey, you know, I used to stay here when I was younger. You guys really helped me out. You're

doing really great and important work!" He turned and carried on down the street. I was surprised and taken aback.

As I returned to the Crisis Program to continue my shift, I noticed how meaningful it was for me to hear from someone who has been through Covenant House and come out on the other side. While the stress from that night had by no means been lifted entirely, I felt grateful for the coincidence. Although this interaction was brief and may seem small, it gave me a renewed sense of purpose. It was the reminder I needed that the youth staying with us will make it through, come out on the other side, and have better futures because of it.

“ Although this interaction was brief and may seem small, **it gave me a renewed sense of purpose.** ”



Join the Sleep Out Movement



And Raise Critical Funds For Homeless Youth!

Across Canada and the U.S., dedicated men, women and children are Sleeping Out to raise critical funds and awareness for homeless youth. Participants spend the night sleeping on the street with only a sleeping bag and a piece of cardboard to ensure homeless youth in Vancouver have a safe place to stay.

You're invited to join one of the Vancouver Sleep Outs to raise critical funds for youth in need:

Sleep Out: Executive Edition

– November 21, 2019

Sleep Out: Professionals Edition

– February 20, 2020

Sleep Out: Entrepreneurs Edition

– April 2, 2020

Sleep Out: Mothers or Daughters

– May 28, 2020

Sleep Out: Student Edition – Any
time throughout the school year

Our heartfelt thanks to all of our sleepers and their supporters!

To join the Sleep Out movement or to learn more, please contact:

Kim Wing

Associate Manager, Special Events

604-901-0183

sleepout@covenanthousebc.org

www.sleepoutvancouver.org

P.S. Please share with anyone you think would be interested in joining the Sleep Out Movement.



Biking Mount Seymour in Support of Covenant House

Now in its third year, the Covenant House Real Estate Cycle challenges cyclists to conquer Mount Seymour in support of Covenant House Vancouver.



Created by Taylor Ryan Executive Search Partners, the event brings together cycling enthusiasts from the real estate industry to raise funds for Covenant House. Participants ride 12km and over 800 vertical metres up Vancouver's toughest mountain road - Mt Seymour. The event has raised over \$40,000 since its inception and has seen more than 50 participants take on the challenge.

Covenant House is grateful to the Taylor Ryan team for both the time and hard work that goes into their event. The challenge is on again in September

as participants push themselves to the limit in support of Covenant House's programs and services.

Taylor Ryan's cycling event is a great example of one of the many ways the community can support Covenant House. If you have an idea for a fundraising event, feel free to contact us with any questions.

Mark Savard

Development Officer - Community Giving

Direct: 604-901-0070

Office: 604-638-GIFT (4438)

savard@covenanthousebc.org



Help homeless youth have a *joyful* Christmas



We are very grateful to have donors who support us in many ways. If you are looking for a unique way to help our young people, volunteering and supporting our Christmas initiatives are a fun option.

We work hard to make Christmas and the holiday season special for our young people. Here is how you can help:

1. Volunteer to help sort donations or assist with other seasonal tasks, contact Tobi at 604-901-0161 or volunteer@covenanthousebc.org.

2. Support our Youth Christmas Programing with needed items, seasonal outings, gift cards or monetary donations. Contact Cory at 604-757-6064 or ckaban@covenanthousebc.org for details.

.....
Please note we are looking for specific items during the Christmas season.

For more information, including a list of our needed items please call Cory at 604-757-6064 or visit www.covenanthousebc.org.



Your Legacy Matters

We are extremely grateful to the almost 400 thoughtful individuals who have included Covenant House Vancouver in their Will. As an organization that is 95% community funded, donor support through legacy gifts is essential to our young people.

Legacy gifts help fund all our services for youth, from Street Outreach to Drop-In, to our short-term residential Crisis Program and our longer-term Rights of Passage transitional housing. With your help, these programs are changing the lives of so many of our community's youth.

If you are considering including Covenant House Vancouver in your Will, we'd love to hear from you.

For more information on how you can leave your legacy in our community, please contact Celia Campos at 604-757-6068 or ccampos@covenanthousebc.org





1302 Seymour Street

Vancouver, BC V6B 3P3

www.covenanthousebc.org

Tel: (604) 638-GIFT (4438)