

I want to share with you a story of what God is doing in the life a youth we serve! This is written by one of our staff members. Please read and be inspired!

### **A Life Transformed**

Submitted by Audrey Baedke, Transitions Coordinator

In June 2008, a young woman moved to Seattle and came to New Horizons Ministries. She was motivated to leave the streets and thankful for Seattle's many resources. After working with a Youth Advocate, she found housing and started our Adaptive Life Skills Mentorship Program. She grew up in an abusive "Christian/Catholic" household and was resentful of God. But as she worked with New Horizons staff and through the Mentorship Program, she heard scripture and a gospel that differed from the angry and temperamental God she was grew up with.

She faithfully completed the program, but spent the mentorship graduation in jail. While she was in jail, she attended a Catholic church service. She felt moved by the Holy Spirit and decided that she did not want to reject Jesus any longer. When released, she returned to New Horizons where she was celebrated and prayed for.

Recently, she has been working closely with staff as circumstances in her life have changed. I invited her and her boyfriend to church with me. I met them at New Horizons and we walked to church. After church, we talked with a couple of volunteers from NHM and church members. The group was interested in eating together, so we all walked back to New Horizons to make a meal.

When looking in the kitchen, we found a variety of ingredients. This young woman wanted to make pasta and her boyfriend wanted to make breakfast burritos. They decided to take the lead and began making lunch while my friends from church and I supported them. They were skilled in the kitchen and delicious smells soon filled the Drop-In Center. We set the table and when the food was done, we sat together, ate a warm meal and praised this young woman and her boyfriend for the blessing they gave us. My eyes welled up with tears as I thought about was happening.

For the past year, this young woman and her boyfriend have been served countless delicious warm meals by generous "church people". Today, not only did these youth prepare the meal for "church people", but today, they are those generous church people. These two youth have experienced the New Horizons mission statement to love and serve as Jesus and now live that mission themselves. God is so good!