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Handling Injustice

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on the surface, are menial infractions.

The difference is how they have chosen to deal with it. Walter has been locked up for close to three years and his letters have always been filled with bitterness. It is difficult to talk about hope or God's unfailing love and concern for Walter when he is still bound by the wounds that make it impossible for him to let go of past injustices.

On the flip side, here's a paraphrased section from Donnie's last letter to me: *God has got me here, or at least He is using this time for my good. I was spinning out of control on the streets and I needed a big kick in the head. Yea, the kick hurt, I would rather be someplace besides prison but I'm learning I can't do it on my own. I know we have talked about God before and I never really acted too interested but I do believe there must be a God because that is the only way I can explain the peace I feel about being in such a cruddy situation. Pray for me that I would use this time wisely.*

I'd like to say that my faith resembles Donnie's but I realize I'm more like Walter. I'm often bound up by my own hurt and shame when things go wrong and miss how God is trying to transform me.

It is a blessing and a challenge to walk along side the youth here at New Horizons. To watch them as God strengthens them and they begin to let go of the brokenness and injustices and cling to the hope that is in Christ. And to be present when they are unable to see past the ugly lives that so many of them have lived and the injustices they have experienced and get stuck in the bitterness and shame that is so easy for all of us to fall into.

** To protect their identity, names were changed for this article*

Sign Up Today for May Training

If you are interested in volunteering with NHM or simply want to learn more about youth involved in street culture, our training is a great place to start. The 20-hour training covers topics including street culture, prostitution, chemical dependency, relational counseling, spiritual formation and theology of ministry at NHM. All three sections must be completed in order to volunteer in a direct-service role.

Saturday, May 15 8:30am-6pm
Wednesday, May 19 6pm-10pm
Saturday, May 22 9am-6pm

To register by phone, please contact Sarah Murphy-Kangas at ext. 110, by email she can be reached at sarahmk@nhmin.org. Registration is \$50 and partial scholarships are available.



Handling Injustice; a Lesson Learned from the Youth

By Richard Enstad
Counselor/Case Manager

In the last few months my time has been consumed with corresponding to youth that are in prison. It has been a challenge to support them as they come to terms with their convictions, the part they played in them, the amount of time they are facing and to help them sift through the unjust system that put them there. It has challenged me to see how I personally deal with injustices and frustrations. Let me share with you two stories in particular.

The first youth, Walter*, is doing six years because of a petty theft that went awry. He and a friend tried to steal some CDs and were spotted by a security guard. There was a physical and verbal altercation that involved a car jack that Walter threatened to use on the security guard. Because of the verbal threat to the guard and a prior assault conviction on his record from age 13, Walter received the maximum sentence available.

Donnie, the second youth, is doing 2-3 years for possession and attempt to distribute an illegal substance. The portion of speed on him was not enough for the prosecutor to try him for "attempting to distribute illegal drugs." However, because of a prior conviction they wanted to give him the maximum sentence possible. His overworked public defender, from what I could tell, did not fully

Lace'em Up for New Horizons!

We're counting down the days until the 14th Annual Walk-a-thon on June 19, 2004 at Seward Park bordering Lake Washington. If you haven't had the chance in the past to participate, this is your year! We've got lots of exciting things lined up to create a fun-filled day.

Sign-in will begin at 10 a.m. for walkers to turn in pledge sheets and donations. Each participant will receive a New Horizons 14th Annual Walk t-shirt. KCMS Spirit 105.3 and their live remote van will be joining us to cover the event. At noon, everyone will be served a refreshing lunch complete with grilled hamburgers, hot dogs and all the trimmings.

Every pledge-raising participant will be eligible to win great prizes including Cinerama tickets, golf for four at the Wing Point Country Club on Bainbridge Island (carts included!), a pair of box seats at a Mariner's game, Wild Waves tickets, Taproot Theatre tickets, music CDs and more.

Something new this year – every person who raises \$400 or more will receive a pair of Mariners tickets for a select night this summer at the ballpark, complete with hot dogs and soda!

the Walk

LACE 'EM UP FOR NEW HORIZONS!
New Horizons Ministries' 14th Annual Walk-a-thon

If you're ready to sign up now just go to our website, www.nhmin.org, and look for the registration page. We'll send you pledge sheets and information brochures you can give to those who are sponsoring you, so they can learn more about New Horizons Ministries' services to homeless youth. If you prefer to register by phone contact Kerri Hodge at ext. 133.

understand what was happening thought he could win if they went to trial. He pled not guilty, they went to trial and he lost. Had Donnie been advised by his lawyer to plead guilty he would have done 3-6 months in county jail. Instead he is doing 2-3 years at Shelton prison.

Although the infractions are different, there are similarities between Walter

and Donnie's cases. Both of them had public defenders that were overworked and did not take the time to fully inform them of all their options. Neither of the youth had any family or friends walking with them as they waded through the humiliating legal process, and both of them are doing an extraordinary amount of time for, what

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Deck the Walls this Summer

We're excited to announce we'll be installing a mural on the south wall of our building in August. We are working with a professional mural team who has done work with youth and communities throughout the world. The mural is set to be complete by August 26 with an unveiling ceremony scheduled for August 27, 12:30-2:00 p.m. Please call Leslie at ext. 116 for more info.

WISH LIST

WANTED: Preparation help with the summer mural project. We need a work group to help prepare the wall (scraping and priming) before the project begins. We also need access to free or low-cost scaffolding. Call John James at ext. 102 if you would like to help.

WANTED: Microsoft Office 2003 Professional (2 copies) and Microsoft Windows XP Professional (2 copies).

WANTED: New bath towels and small sewing kits

The Late Night Outreach closet got infested with moths! Please help us restock it.

WANTED: Apple cider packets, granola bars, cup o' noodle soups, large umbrellas and small bottles of propane fuel for Coleman heaters. Please mark any of these donations for "LNO."

All donations are tax-deductible and can be dropped off at our building anytime Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Discipleship Goes Hand in Hand with Prayer

By Michael Cox, Chaplain

Martha's Lesson From Jesus

Luke 10:38-42

As Jesus and His disciples were on their way, He came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what He said. But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!"

"Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "You are worried and upset about many things, but only one thing is needed, Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."

We want to be like Mary

The discipleship program, headed by a team of four including the on-staff chaplain, uses Jesus' teaching to Martha and Mary as a guide. Often the temptation is to work and do. The desire to communicate our Lord's love can often get in the way of what He is already doing. The role of the discipleship staff is to discern what is going on with Jesus today, at this moment. To do that, we must ask several questions. *Am I in step with the Spirit now? Is my will and my time surrendered to him now? And does this relationship engage my whole self – heart, soul, mind, emotions, creative outlets, loves and desires.*

The Work of Discipleship is Prayer

We are the staff that pray. We pray and fast together once a week. We pray for youth, we pray for staff, we pray for everything that God's will tells us. As we spend more time in prayer we find our actions and words become more blessed and pleasing to the Lord. The activities that we use to communicate God are only received as His will when we approach Him with nothing but praise and worship. Separating our agenda from His is a constant pruning of our dead fruit.

The Lord is Creative

The Lord challenges our perception of what the youth can handle or what they will respond to. For Ash Wednesday I passed out candles and read a poem about Jesus fighting evil and keeping the beasts away. We had a moment of silence and asked God to take away the things that oppress and haunt us and that we may have something to fast or sacrifice to him. The youth were listening in a way that can only be described as "with new ears."

God is truly living and active. He loves to be prayed to and prayed with. If you are interested in receiving my monthly prayer letter which addresses the spiritual needs of our youth and staff please send your postal mailing address to michaelc@nhmin.org or call the New Horizons' office to be added.

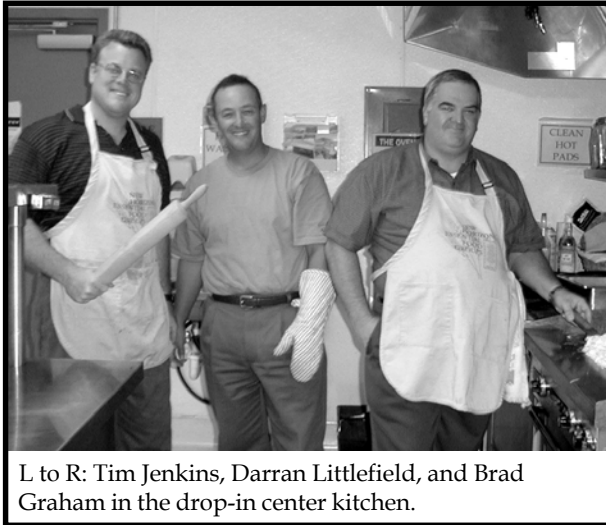
Volunteer Spotlight

Point B, Breakfast Food Group

By Kerri Hodge
Development Events Manager

Once a month you'll find a handful of staff from Point B, a project leadership consulting firm, standing over hot griddles and breakfast trays. It was just about five years ago that Tim Jenkins and a few of his colleagues began volunteering to serve breakfast on the second Tuesday of every month at New Horizons.

Jenkins, a co-founder and partner of Point B, learned about New Horizons from a business contact that had just left his job at Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center for a counseling position at New Horizons. "Originally about four of us started serving," said Jenkins. "Then we decided to expand our reach within the firm, and we started inviting our associates to serve by



word of mouth. We've probably had 30 different people participate in serving breakfast."

"People want to serve. They're so busy; they have a hard time figuring out how they can serve," continued Jenkins. "They'll jump at the chance, saying 'this is so convenient for me.'"

"We personally enjoy the interaction with each other [in the food group]. It's a time before the doors open to have an hour to socialize," Jenkins said. "The other thing we learn is that in two hours you start a project and completely finish it and feel like you really accomplished something."

Gayle Fox, a Senior Associate at Point B, said she came away with the satisfaction of knowing there are places out there like New Horizons. "I was surprised how many kids showed up the first time I was there," she said. "You know, we see kids out there on the street and for most of us that's our only experience with them."

According to Fox, instead of writing a check to an invisible organization, "It was nice to actually have purchased the food that goes right to who I'm helping."

Ways To Give

We are so grateful for the many, many supporters who give to New Horizons each month.

Did you know you can have your gift automatically deducted from your account on the date of your choosing, without having to remember to write a check every month? Contact Jen Ross at (206) 374-0866, ext. 128 or by email jenr@nhmin.org to arrange it for you.

It's that simple.

More Breakfast Food Groups Needed

Fresh scrambled eggs. Toasted whole wheat bread. Scrumptious sausage and tasty hot hash browns. Topped off with a glass of OJ and milk. Sounds like a great way to start the morning doesn't it?

Four mornings a week the drop-in center is open at 10 o'clock ready to welcome homeless teens; unfortunately a hot breakfast is only available once a week. Without the support of a volunteer morning food group the menu is cold cereal.

Right now the dinner calendar is filled, but we need many more breakfast food groups. The commitment as a food group is one meal a month for a minimum of six months. It can be as few as two people or as many as six. Food groups have been any combination of people; from friends to co-workers to Sunday school classes. Food groups are responsible for purchasing the food they serve (allowing for as much creative meal planning as desired) and can easily spend less than \$100 to feed the 20-40 mouths during the morning shift. Breakfast is served at 10:00 a.m. with clean-up wrapping up at 11:15 a.m.

Food groups are not required to attend New Horizons' training because they are not in direct service with the youth, although the lead person for the food group must obtain a food handler's permit, which New Horizons can help you get. For more information on becoming a breakfast food group, contact Hospitality Coordinator Naomi Yonemura at ext. 130.