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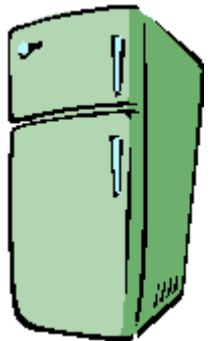
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Many of the young mothers that we support either choose to keep their babies, or wait until after they give birth to put them up for adoption. Amy is a shining example of youth being equipped to make mature and careful decisions. I was blessed to be part of it!

Since Amy and I met six months ago over lunch and a movie, she has continued to progress and grow into the person that God intended her to be. It has been a tremendous blessing for me to see her come off of drugs, quit smoking, and make a decision that will better her life, the life of her baby, and greatly bless the family whose prayers she and her child have answered. I am really looking forward to our relationship growing in the coming months.

WISH LIST.....

NHM is in need of a residential refrigerator in good condition for our staff kitchen to keep food and beverage items cool. We also are in need of Men's and Women's jeans with a waist size of 32" and over as well! Your support is greatly appreciated!



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

INSIDE LOOK



New Horizons Ministries Quarterly Newsletter

April 15, 2005

Changes.....

*Contributed by Erica Owens
Urban Ministry Intern*

As the Urban Ministries Intern at New Horizons Ministries part of my responsibility is to assist in the support of our youth by performing case management duties for them. Several weeks ago I was blessed with the opportunity to take two of our youth out to lunch and a movie with another NHM staff member. During our time together I learned that one of the girls, Amy*, was pregnant and would soon become a single mother. I was grateful to God to hear that she had stopped using drugs since she learned she was going to have a baby, and that she was slowly working to quit smoking cigarettes as well! We wanted to be as supportive as possible, so another staff member and I hosted a baby shower for Amy. As the shower came to a close, Amy told us how appreciative she was

for all of the support she had received. I had no idea that our relationship would continue to grow as it has, and that Amy would change so dramatically.

Some time after the baby shower Amy's heart was changed and she made one of the most difficult decisions I could imagine. She decided to give up the baby for adoption. Amy realized that despite how much she wanted to have a child of her own, she just wasn't prepared to care for this little one's needs. This showed tremendous growth and maturity. I learned later that Amy was adopted herself and that the relationship that she had with her own mother was less than ideal. However, Amy was able to set aside her own experiences and recognize that giving the baby to a loving home would be best for both of them.

Amy began the adoption process and found a Christian family that was child-

less and prayerfully pursuing the adoption of a child. The couple shared similar parenting philosophies that Amy did which made choosing them as the parents a much easier task. The gentleman is a youth pastor and his wife will happily become a stay-at-home mother when the adoption is complete!

A week after confirming with this couple that they would be the parents of Amy's child her labor was induced and she gave birth to a beautiful and healthy baby girl! Praise the Lord!

Walking through this process with Amy has opened my eyes. Several other staff that know Amy have shared with me that this is the first time a youth being served at NHM has chosen to give their baby up for adoption prior to giving birth.

(continued on back page)

Sign Up For May Training!!!

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

Saturday, May 14

9am - 6pm

Saturday, May 21

9am - 6pm

To register by phone, please contact Sarah Murphy-Kangas at (206) 374-0866 ext. 110. By email, she can be reached at sarahmk@nhmin.org. Registration is \$50 and partial scholarships are available.



**Save the date to
WALK!!**

June 4th, 2005

@

Seward Park!

**Come and walk with
New Horizons Minis-
tries to help raise
money for homeless
teens in Seattle!**

**Contact Edward
Fedele with questions
or to receive an ad-
vance registration
packet!**

EdwardF@nhmin.org

206-874-0866 x. 133

NHM welcomes 3 new staff and and 1 new intern!!



New Horizons Ministries is pleased to welcome 3 new staff members that joined us in March! We would like to introduce them to you as well!

Rudy Renfro joins us as the Information Technology Coordinator and will be here to leverage his skills and talents from 20 years and counting in IT! Rudy is currently working to finish up his degree in Computer Science Engineering, and attends Emerald City Bible Fellowship in Rainier Valley.



Ryan Fouts will be working as the Life Discovery Intern while completing his degree in Psychology at Seattle Pacific University. Ryan is originally from Kansas and looks forward to gaining outreach experience while serving here at NHM. He'll be heading up the Youth Advisory Board as well as taking on a number of other projects. Ryan will intern with us until August 2005.



Edward Fedele joins the Development Team as Development Manager. He spent 5 years in the financial services industry managing corporate projects and human resources. Edward has provided resource development support for prison ministry organizations and looks forward to utilizing this experience at NHM! He attends Mars Hill Church in Seattle.



Don Bell also joins the Development Team as our new Gift Process Manager. Our former Gift Processor, Jen Ross, has chosen to stay home with her beautiful new son but will continue as a volunteer part-time. Don comes to us with a strong history in business, finance, accounting, and customer service. When you need to make changes to your mail or donation information, Don Bell will be your contact, DonB@nhmin.org, 206-374-0866 ext. 124.



Reflections from a Self-Care Volunteer

Contributed by Tiffany Acker
Self-Care Volunteer

Most of my conversations revolve around clothes, and I don't mean shopping for them! As a self-care volunteer at New Horizons Ministries (NHM) I supervise the area in the drop-in center where street youth can take showers, do their laundry, and obtain clothing and hygiene items. After the doors of the drop-in center have been opened, and the bustle of sign-ups and lunch or dinner has passed, there is much more time available for me to talk with the youth that we serve.

Helping our kids to find clothing that matches the patch on their jeans, or is perfect for the interview they have coming up, or at best just fits, is one of the greatest joys that I experience as a Self-Care Volunteer at NHM. Appearances are especially important to young adults and street youth have very few resources to draw upon for creating and/or maintaining their self-image. This is one of the tangible ways that I can help them.

There was a girl we'll call 'Rachel,' eagerly searching for a shirt and tossing hangers all over the place anticipating finding exactly what she wanted to wear. Fortunately, I had just brought in all of the clothes that were donated as part of Seattle Pacific University's clothing drive. I ran back to the storage room and searched for a shirt that would be cute and that I knew would fit Rachel well - and I found one! Rachel's face absolutely lit up. It wasn't only because of the shirt that I was holding up, but because I had taken the time to look for *her*, caring about *her*. Later on that morning, I took to searching for some pants that would fit Rachel as I had heard her mention that there were no good pants for girls her size. Again, as chance would have it I came across the perfect pair. I told her boyfriend who was standing next to me that these would look great on Rachel and he ventrued to shout through the drop-in center that 'Tiffany found some pants for you!' Her smile reached all the way across the room. I wondered when was the last time that someone cared enough to take the time to help Rachel feel better about the way she dressed? How long had she gone without hearing that she was pretty? Clothing may seem like a superficial consideration for some, but in the case of many of our youth it is related to much deeper issues.

Being a self-care volunteer has broadened my perspective on humanity and the love of Christ. This story is just one example of how I have grown in my own faith through loving and serving street youth in the way of Jesus.

3/23/04

The light was blinding when I
woke up this morning.
I had forgotten where I was.

Oh yeah, another cold night
passed as I awake in my
friend's car.

I guess it could be worse.

Walking around all night with
nowhere to go,
no place to lay my head,
no place to call home.

Not to worry I tell myself,
this is a test of my will,
probably a good lesson.
This is how I have to look at
things.

No time for negative thinking.
Gotta keep my head up,
Try to stay above water.

But in my heart I'm drowning.



again?

But, I guess it could be worse.

So I thank the Lord for my
blessings, and muster all the
strength I can.