

Building Hope

By Christie Goering, Abra Greene, Yancey Murphy-Kangas and Leslie Muto

Last July, we added two new programs to our ministry, Life Discoveries and Adaptive Life Skills Mentorship. We have been very encouraged by what we've learned from the youth and how the programs have been progressing. Both of these programs were designed to build relationships, build skills and build hope. Often the youth we work with aren't motivated to change their circumstances because they don't believe they have much of a future. They don't see a reason to put forth extra effort for a future that doesn't exist. Through these programs, and the relationships we have with the youth, we are hoping that the youth will begin to see in themselves some of their strengths and talents and that it will root in them hope for a better tomorrow.



Last November, we offered a short series of classes on money under the umbrella of our new Life Discovery Program. One of our outreach volunteers, Bob Meyers, who used to run his own business, taught the course for the kids. Topics included viewpoints on money, creating budgets and practical ways of sticking to them, using cash versus credit, and how to get out of debt. A total of 12 youth participated in part of the series and 4 youth completed the whole course. Each of the 4 youth who completed the course received a small honorarium. Amidst some debating, number crunching and donut munching, we learned a lot from each other and, overall, we enjoyed the time we had to explore this topic with the youth. Throughout the course the youth would talk about how they were going to spend their honorarium. It was fun to see some of them choose to spend their money more practically than they had been talking about during the course of the class. More than anything, though, we've begun to open up the dialogue about a difficult topic that hopefully will continue.

Leslie Muto, Outreach Services Coordinator



Sixteen-year-old Joy juggled school and life on her own at 16 to make time for a Cooking Mentorship here at NHM. She had a wider knowledge of food and cooking than I expected. Together, we cooked a thank-you lunch for some volunteers. We fed our creations to the salivating staff. We learned how to give each other feedback. We went shopping together at places like Costco, Cash & Carry, the Central Market, and Uwajimaya. She even helped cook for a staff person's wedding! Joy is adventurous and creative with food and life; it was a pleasure to work with her. We culminated our time together in a snow play-day at Snoqualmie Pass with Jordan, her case manager — and ate way too many Krispy Kremes on the way back!

Abra Greene, Social Services Coordinator



Lyle is a youth that I have had a relationship with for about 4 years. Lyle has been without a home for all of the time I have known him. He was mostly sleeping outside with periodic nights in cheap hotels on Aurora with money he made from temporary employment. Lyle was content with that living situation because in his experience and imagination he couldn't see it ever being different. Lyle is a pleasure to be around, always making sure to ask me how my weekend was, or what is new in my life, putting off many of his own cares. Lyle was our first graduate in the Facilities Management Job Mentorship. He completed the 12-week course with Calvin Cooper, our Facilities Manager. Lyle learned what is required to keep an 12,000 square-foot building clean and running smoothly. Maybe even more importantly, in addition to the job skills learned, Lyle began to see how his efforts affected his surroundings. This was critical for him. I take it for granted that if something isn't the way I like it, I can do something to affect change. For someone who feels at the mercy of an unjust system, hope that you can affect change is a miracle. Our staff sang to Lyle on his last day, and celebrated him with a cake and a card. Lyle shared with us that he had applied to both Cosmetology School and for federal aid and had been accepted for both. We were all touched when Lyle told us, proudly, as he was leaving, "This is the second program that I have ever graduated from!" Lyle has been in school for two weeks now and is doing very well.

Yancey Murphy-Kangas, Case Manager

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With deep sorrow and love, we say goodbye to

Mark worked at New Horizons for over a year as our Agency Administrator. In December, Mark resigned so he could devote his strength to battling the cancer that was spreading quickly throughout his body. Mark died peacefully on February 1st surrounded by his family and many of his friends from New Horizons and his church, Greater Mt. Baker Baptist Church.

Mark was known at New Horizons for always being in good spirits, for his skill in organization, for his sense of humor, infectious laugh and his love of music. Mark's presence will be greatly missed.

***Please join us in praying
for Mark's family.***



Thanks to the many

We had a very special Christmas celebration. A record breaking 249 youth and 61 staff attended the event. The room was packed with excitement and Christmas spirit.



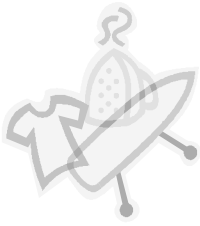
We love these celebrations with the youth. They are the children that God loves. They are the "children" we love. Much of our relationship with the youth is spent walking with them through crisis and/or setting boundaries. We so enjoy the moments of celebration. It's a blessing to us to shower the youth with love, attention and gifts.

These celebrations are also a lot of hard work. We are thankful for the many of you who helped make the celebration happen. There was a group that decorated the center. Another cleaned up after the event. Many people donated gifts and money for gifts. There are a couple groups who continue to help us year after year, Alderwood Manner Community Church makes and serves the delicious dinner and Windemere of Captiol Hill generously donates towards gifts. Even Santa pitched in to help out with the festivities.

This year the main gift for the youth were winter jackets. The jackets were available in different sizes, styles and colors. Although the process was chaotic, the youth were very excited that they got to choose the jacket they wanted. The youth were also given stockings filled with candy, socks, school supplies, toys, stuffed animals and gift certificates. It was a very memorable evening.

Thanks again for helping make this such a wonderful celebration!!!

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I recently heard a speaker say, "God's grace is truly boundriless." Throughout my involvement in the mentorship program at New Horizons, I have been blessed to see God's grace at work. Alice and I began working together over four months ago. Her primary task is to keep our self-care center intack and functional; sorting clothes, organizing the clothing room, running errands to keep the area supplied, and setting boundaries with her peers to keep the self-care center running smoothly. Alice was doing a great job. Around the fifth week of our twelve-week program, Alice didn't show up for her shift. I began to worry as the days turned into weeks. I kept an eye out for her while I was on outreach. Finally, a month later, one of the other volunteer outreach workers ran into her on Broadway. They asked her where she had been and she said that she had missed a day and really screwed up and could never come back to New Horizons again. The outreach worker shared with Alice that indeed she was welcome back at New Horizons and that I had been looking for her. About a week later, I received a note from Alice. In her note, she explained the struggles she had experineced in the past weeks and why it kept her from work. She apologized and asked about the possibility of coming back into the mentorship program. We started slow. Instead of the normal 8 hours a week, we began at 2 hours with the goal of working up to 8. After 5 weeks in the program, Alice has succeeded in working her way back up to 8 hours a week! She is now doing better than ever and thriving once again. It was amazing to be a part of a process in which Alice took responsibility for her actions and moved forward. It was a privilege to communicate God's boundriless grace to Alice as we got to welcome her back. My relationship with Alice reminds me to be thankful for that grace as well.

Christie Goering, Urban Ministry Intern



Skilled Laborers Needed

Calvin, our Facilities Manager, is working on major projects around the building. He is looking for some _____ volunteers. He needs people with carpentry, electrical and plumbing skills.

Please contact
Calvin at
206-374-0866 ext. 125
or calvinc@nhmin.org



Introducing Darlene Klingebiel, our new Agency Administrator. Darlene has been with New Horizons for seven years as an outreach volunteer. She has a background in banking and office management. Darlene is known for her big hugs and friendly nature. We know she'll do a wonderful job as Agency Administrator.

Also introducing Jen Ross, Gift Processing Manager. Jen has been volunteering in this role for four years. We were continually asking her to increase the number of hours she volunteered. We finally realized that we just needed to hire her. Jen will be working with our donor data base. She will also be a part of the Development team. Jen is appreciate for her hard work, giving nature and friendliness.





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NEW HORIZONS MINISTRIES

four



The 12th Annual Walk-A-Thon

Invite a friend to collect
sponsors and walk with you.

WISH LIST

Call 374-0866 or e-mail to help.

New & used snowboarding clothes & equipment.

Contact Richard (ext. 131 or riche@nhmin.org).

Spring Gardening Needs: One flowerbed designer/planting team for late Feb. or early March (one 5 foot by 5 foot bed) including Individual or groups willing to spend an hour or two once every week or every two weeks maintaining bed (for the months of March and April). Contact Liz (ext. 101 or lizv@nhmin.org)

Paint Job for the NHM Van - Contact Calvin (ext. 125 or calvinc@nhmin.org)

Steel locker for paint storage. Contact Calvin (ext. 125 or calvinc@nhmin.org).

Skilled worker to soundproof the chapel. Contact Lee (ext. 104 or leec@nhmin.org).

Standing candle sticks (about 3-4 ft. high) for the chapel. Contact Lee (ext. 104 or leec@nhmin.org).