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New Horizons Ministries Quarterly Newsletter

February 2008

NHM Global Partnership in Athens, Greece

Contributed by Shelia Houston
Late Night Outreach Manager

In an effort to support NHM's commitment to growing global partnerships, Christie Schmid (our former Late Night Outreach Counselor/Case Manager), Faye Capers (a friend and associate), and I were invited to Athens to provide training for Nea Zoi Ministries. This ministry works with local young women, girls, and men working in prostitution in addition to those who have been trafficked into Greece from Nigeria, Albania, Romania, Bulgaria, Russia, Moldova, Ukraine, and a few other Eastern Bloc countries. Nea Zoi offers these women hope, assistance, support, and alternatives, desiring to see men and women empowered by God for a new life. They also serve and support transgender clients from Cypress and Greece. The Executive Director at Nea Zoi is from Burien, Washington but has chosen to make her home in Athens, where she leads a very nationally diverse group. Her paid staff and volunteers come from all over

the world including Michigan, California, England, Cyprus, Romania, Albania, Nigeria, Athens and Imo State in Greece.

The staff at Nea Zoi shared that they felt like NHM was a generation ahead of them, and we were blessed by the opportunity to provide training for them focusing in the areas of program structure, secondary trauma, safety planning, helping relationships, counseling, motivational interviewing, and personal data security. In response, we dialogued around what domestic violence looks like within the local context of New Horizons Ministries in comparison to the international context of Nea Zoi. We visited a bible college and youth center to learn more about ministry and what's happening in the local area.

Our first night in Greece, we went on outreach with Nea Zoi. Christie went with the team that ministers to the transgender population while I went

with the team that ministers specifically to the young girls who have been trafficked into Greece from Nigeria. I was shocked to see so many girls within a two or three block vicinity; there seemed to be over 40 or more in such a small area. I saw beautiful girls, childish, yet aggressive in their work. The Nea Zoi Team shared that these girls had been seduced into prostitution by someone they called 'Auntie' from their home country. 'Auntie' somehow convinces the girls that this is the way to provide money for their families, and after the girl and family agree, the girl is taken to a local Voodoo Doctor who has sex with them and puts them under a curse. The girl's family actually pays the 'doctor' for these services in hopes of their daughter being able to make enough money for the family to survive. Due to the extreme poverty that exists in places like Nigeria, these types of (cont. on page 3)

'Street Bean' - NHM's Coffee Shop!

New Horizons Ministries is thrilled to announce that we are moving forward with plans to open the 'Street Bean' Coffee Shop! The 'Street Bean' will present a picture of hope and success for all of the homeless and street-involved young people that we serve. The goal of the 'Street Bean' is to initially employ a small number of youth who will have a significant amount of direct super-

vision and time to learn the barista vocation as well as marketing, customer relations, and other business skills. Ultimately, the 'Street Bean' will not only be an employment training ground for the youth we serve, but also an opportunity for community building, collaboration, education, and leveraging the model as a bold sign of hope for the 1,700 different young people we serve each

year. We see the 'Street Bean' as an amazing opportunity to equip our kids to leave street life, and we invite you to join us in prayer as the business takes shape! Please pray for God's financial provision, for the right location to become available, and that His will be done! NHM will be sure to keep you posted as things develop, and are blessed to celebrate this new chapter with you, our greater community!

Address Service Requested

Items do Donate?

Supplies needed for NHM are listed below and can be dropped off at New Horizons during business hours:

Late Night Outreach (label 'LNO'):

- +Individual juice boxes
- +Individual fruit snacks
- +Individual instant coffee packets
- +Individual sugar & creamer packets
- +Individual chip bags
- +Small beef jerky packets
- +Chocolate candy
- +Wooden coffee stir sticks
- +Individual apple cider packets
- +Black women's gloves

Self Care:

- +Hand Towels
- +Wash Cloths

Thanks for supporting our ministry!

Volunteer Web Help Needed!

NHM is looking to make some updates and changes to our website and need YOUR help! If you have the following experience and are interested in volunteering with NHM for a few hours a week we would love to hear from you!

- + Experience Programming HTML
- + PC Power User
- + Exposure to Java Script, XML, or ASP (preferred)

For more information, please contact Edward Fedele (206-374-0866 x.133 edwardf@nhmin.org)

New Horizons Ministries Welcomes 2 New Staff!



Please join NHM in welcoming Sara Maples as our new Agency Administrator! Sara graduated from Northwest Nazarene University in Nampa Idaho with a Bachelors of Science in Business Administration and went on to serve as an intern with World Relief. Before joining NHM, she worked for an Estate Planning and Family Law Attorney, as well as with an insurance firm providing administrative support. Sara attends Northview Community Church and is involved with the youth group there. We are thrilled Sara has joined our staff!



NHM is equally excited to introduce Ursula Bestgen as our new Late Night Outreach Counselor/Case Manager! Ursula earned her B.A at Evergreen and Master's at Antioch and comes to us with 10 years experience working with the homeless population. Her son Elijah is her life, and he is #1 in rings for his age division in gymnastics! They attend Jesus Christ Salt and Light Church, and Ursula works hard to 'live and love in the way of Jesus everyday,' and we look forward very much to all the gifts she will bring to the women we serve!



In the Words of Our Youth....

In this new section of 'Inside Look' we will be publishing poems, art, and letters that our youth have created and are willing to share with our larger community. Most of the content will have been developed through our Life Discovery Programs and in response to relationships that our kids have found here at NHM. It is our hope that through this sharing you will come to know our kids better, and to appreciate their talents and gifts as we do.

This first offering is the author's poetic reflection on 'Street Vision,' a photojournalism project through Life Discovery that she and a number of our youth participated in.

'Glancing by, you peer right through me - yet barely skim my surface
You see who I am but not what I'm about.
So, take a moment to look through my eyes.
Who am I? What is my perspective?

Why is the world seen as it is? Why does the world view me as they do?
I am laughter. I am hope. I am depth. I am sorrow. I am tears.
I am music. I am determination. I am intellect. I am artistic.
I am houseless yet always home at heart.
I am down on my luck, but always get what I need.
I am expression. I am a calico. I am Life.
I am ME. - Jezebel

2007 Dessert Extravaganza
Congratulations!!

New Horizons Ministries was richly blessed at the 2007 Dessert Extravaganza!

Together we raised over:

\$225,532 in cash & pledges - our highest total ever!

Thank you so much for all that you did to make the 2007 Dessert our most successful fund-raising event to date!

NHM Overview of Programs

New Horizons Ministries has recently enhanced the mission statements that guide our programs and support services. To keep you up to date and informed, we'd like to share them with you!

Outreach Services: To reach out and empower street youth by engaging them in their environment and promoting NHM services designed to meet their fundamental needs. Outreach volunteers intentionally build relationships with youth on the street and in the drop-in center to support their physical, emotional, and spiritual growth.

Late Night Outreach : To be in relationship with young women involved in the sex industry, serving and loving in the way of Jesus, equipping them to leave street life.

Self-Care Services: To provide emergency services including clothing, hygiene products, blankets, showers, and laundry in a caring and compassionate way to youth accessing our drop-in center.

Hospitality: To provide an opportunity to show the care of street youth in a practical manner. Food Groups demonstrate compassion and love for the hungry, the poor, and the hurting by preparing and serving the youth nutritional meals.

Life Discovery Program: To give youth a vision for life beyond the streets by helping them discover their natural skills and life passions; providing supportive opportunities to take risks in learning new things and building their skill base.

Adaptive Life Skills (ALS) Mentorship Program: To provide youth the opportunity to learn life and relational skills necessary for future employment, managing home and/or formal social settings.

NHM Greece (cont.)

arrangements are unfortunately not uncommon. The "contract" that is established requires that not only do the girls have to pay 'Auntie' for her fees, but they must also pay the smuggler who gets them into Greece. In this way, they already owe thousands of dollars before they even start to work and are able to provide for their families back home. They are afraid to run from the new trafficker they've been delivered to, and believe that if they were to go home, they would disappoint their family. This leaves the girls trapped by the trafficking system and this process is happening all over the world to millions of young women and girls.

In addition to ministering to the girls being trafficked into Greece and the local transgender youth also involved in prostitution, Nea Zoi works with women in brothels. Old, simple houses with a living room where the customers wait, bedrooms, and a small kitchen. Many of these places in Greece are legal, and the young women typically work in eight hour shifts.

The Nea Zoi Team attempts to talk with the women while in the waiting area but must often settle for access to the Madame who manages the operation. This is an ongoing challenge.

Despite Nea Zoi feeling like NHM was a generation ahead, when I look at all of the work that they do I felt like they taught us instead of us teaching them.

Please join the NHM staff in praying for this ministry and against the powers and principalities that foster prostitution and human trafficking worldwide.

If you are interested in learning more about New Horizons Ministries Late Night Outreach Program please contact me at:

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