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How you can help.....

Supplies needed for LNO are listed below and can be dropped off at New Horizons during business hours. Please label packages with 'LNO.'

- +Individual juice boxes
- +Individual fruit snacks
- +Individual coffee creamers
- +Individual instant coffee packets
- +Individual chip bags
- +Small beef jerky packets

Thanks for all that you do to support our ministry!

'Normal Life' (cont. from front)

hard times, no one should be worried or afraid, for He is with you to see you through. His helpful words and actions are a comfort to you. He helps deal with and forgive your enemies. He always blesses everyone who are all for Him, He never stops. Knowing that God is there, life is so much easier. I will always live for God.'

While we packed up our things to leave, my daughter asked, 'Mommy, can Billie come home with us?' Sometimes kids just have a way of saying things. Billie looked at me and we both scrambled for words to explain. Billie said, 'not yet, but I'll be able to go home soon.' As Billie spends her last months in prison and anticipates this 'normal life,' my prayer is that surely, goodness and love will follow Billie all the days of her life, and that she will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

I N S I D E L O O K



New Horizons Ministries Quarterly Newsletter

August 2007

'Normal Life'

Contributed by Aimee Lee
Counselor/Case Manager

As my daughter and I sang 'Happy Birthday' to Billie, she shared with me that this would be the last birthday she would celebrate in prison. She said this with melancholy. Billie is turning 24 and has been locked up since she was seventeen. Almost 7 years ago Billie's sense of justice and loyalty was triggered when a guy began taunting her girlfriend at a party. She threw a kitchen knife at him and it stuck in his sternum. Thankfully, he lived, and while they intended to charge her with attempted murder, her lawyer was able to get it down to an Assault in the 4th degree. She can recall the event like it was yesterday, and even remembers the clomping of her big black boots as she ran from the scene. In less than two minutes, the police were there.

Billie was scared to go to prison, yet now,

with only seven months left, she is scared to leave. Billie lost a lot of her time served by being sent to segregation for various reasons and I wondered if she was trying to sabotage herself. She was homeless at the age of fourteen and before that she was in and out of foster and group homes. Billie hasn't had much experience with what you and I might call "normal life." So, the idea of trying to lead one is undoubtedly scary.

Living in prison for 7 years, you learn a lot about yourself. Billie was seeing a counselor awhile back who asked, "When are you going to stop dating your mother?" She was confused for a minute, and then stopped to think. Billie tends to connect with women who are addicted, helpless, and always in some sort of chaos, much like her mother used to be. Billie's shaved head and homemade tattoos mask a kind, selfless, and sensitive girl who wants

to love and be loved. Billie has grown up in prison and has become increasingly mature and self-aware. I am amazed and humbled that after so many years in prison, Billie still has her spirit in tact.

Another thing Billie continues to learn inside is that God loves her. Billie is going to take a class about baptism with the chaplain and has a desire to be baptized while she is in prison. A longtime volunteer at New Horizons encouraged Billie to read Psalm 23, and Billie did, sharing in a letter her interpretation of this scripture:

'When you have the Lord beside you, you should need nothing more. He is always there to help in the good, bad, and ugly times. He is glad to be helpful since that is His calling. Going through

(cont. on back page)

NHM Connects Guatemala

Contributed by Ron Ruthruff
Director of Ministry & Program Development

As New Horizons continues to build global partnerships, I was recently able to travel to Guatemala City, the nation's capitol, which is home to about 4 million people. I was invited by one of my doctoral students who has been through NHM's training: 'Learning to Serve,' and was researching how we train volunteers to do outreach with high risk youth. His hope was to take ideas back and apply them to his work with homeless and gang-involved street youth in the capitol city and prisons of Guatemala. We were blessed with the opportunity to immerse ourselves in his ministry context and to think through many of the strategies and philosophies that he was introduced to in Seattle.

Usually, when people go to Guatemala, they are encouraged to leave the capitol as soon as possible. "Go see the real Guatemala, don't get



trapped in the dangerous and crowded Guatemala City," they all say.

Clayton, my fifteen year old son, when dropping me off at the airport with my wife, jokingly said, "Don't go down any dark allies and make sure you practice safe theology!" 'Don't go down any dark alleys' is usually sound advice, but not when God has called you to be present in places of immense suffering. Sometimes, it is in these unattractive, unsafe, and unfamiliar places that we can actually find immense beauty, and the undeniable sense of God's power and sovereignty. Some of the most broken places in this world are really the most beautiful.

In Guatemala I had the privilege of seeing some truly amazing places.

The first prison I visited was one of the most notorious in Central America, and housed mostly gang members. We traveled to a second prison to visit a new Christian who has risked his life to walk away from his gang. The chaplains who lead the church services in these prisons are former gang members themselves. Every time they walk into the prison chapel they are risking their lives. When asked why they felt called to serve in such a dangerous ministry one former gang leader exclaimed 'to live is Christ and to die is gain!'

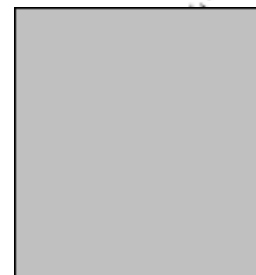
I spent one day and one night in the city with street kids. An incredible man named Italo serves them, and they are his children. They are filthy, and smell of the cheap glue they inhale to suppress their

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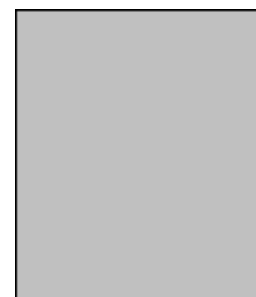
New Horizons Welcomes 2 New Staff!



In early April Zach McCauley became New Horizons newest Counselor/Case Manager! Zach is originally from the Seattle area, but lived in Thailand for almost 8 years where his parents are directors of a home for girls at-risk of becoming involved in prostitution. Zach graduated last June from Seattle Pacific University with a degree in Linguistics and a minor in Global and Urban Ministry. Before joining core staff, Zach was a Discipleship volunteer. He counts his freedom to pray at work as a significant perk to the job!



In late May, NHM was blessed to have Joy Eckwood join the Executive Team as the new Program Manager! Joy moved to Washington in 1992. She resides in Tacoma with her husband and 6 children. She spent 7 years in the army and is a graduate of the University of Washington's Urban Studies program and is currently pursuing her Master's in Public Administration. Joy brings over 20 years of combined experience in administration, program development, and supervision to NHM! Please welcome her!



'LOVE IS THE WORD' NHM's Benefit Jazz CD

New Horizons Ministries and our Executive Producer, Mark Hanson, are thrilled to announce the launch of 'Love is the Word: Jazz Under a Seattle Skyline!' 'Love is the Word' is a compilation of Christian Jazz music created in partnership with NHM. All proceeds from the purchase of this CD will go to benefit the homeless and street-involved young people that we serve. Our Launch Party was a great success, and moving forward, 'Love is the Word' will be available for \$13.95 online at:

cdbaby.com: <http://cdbaby.com/cd/nhm>

Sign up for NHM's September Training!!

With the summer months come a shortage of staff at NHM as direct service volunteers take vacations. This summer has been particularly strenuous as we have had only a small number of new volunteers join staff following the May training. As our September Training approaches, we hope that you will pray God brings interested people ready to serve, and that you would talk with people in your own community who may be interested in joining us in our 30th year of service to Seattle's homeless and street-involved young people.

If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering with us, or would simply like to learn more about youth involved in street culture, our 2-day training is a great place to start! Both Saturdays of our training are required for those who would like to work directly with our youth, but they are completely open to anyone who is just interested in learning with us. The upcoming dates for training are:

Saturday, September 22nd	8:30 am - 3:30 pm
Saturday, September 29th	9:00 am - 6:00 pm

The training topics will include an overview of street culture, prostitution, chemical dependency, relational counselling, spiritual formation, and the theology of ministry at NHM.

To register by phone, please contact Aaron Stroud-Romero at 206-374-0866 ext. 107. By email, he can be reached at aaronr@nhmin.org. Registration is \$50 and scholarships are available.



**Thank you so much to all
of you who participated
in the 2007 Walk!**

**With your help we were
able to raise just over
\$31,000 for Seattle's
homeless and street-
involved young people!**

**Please join us again next
year!**

Points of Entry

Contributed by Edward Fedele, Development Manager

Several weeks ago, when I was invited to a party one of our volunteers was throwing I thought it was because I'm known to be a pretty fun fellow, but as it turns out, my name was on the invite also because the hosts wanted their guests and community to hear about NHM. Needless to say, I jumped at the chance. There was food, laughter, great fellowship, and everyone that came knew that there would be a brief dialogue about the kids we serve, and how they might get connected.

This point of entry event reminded me that development isn't just about trying to get people to write checks. Often, development is really about creating opportunities for people to hear about why we do this work. It's just that simple. We share stories about the kids we know and how serving them impacts our lives. We share truth about how hard it is for our kids to be homeless and immersed in the street culture. We bring who we are when we share in this way and give God space to move in people's hearts. Now that's development.

The party was great, and sharing with all those wonderful people about NHM was a blessing. The whole thing was put together simply by a couple of volunteers inviting people to their home, providing refreshments, and having a speaker from NHM share. As a result, we had a number of people express an interest in learning more about building relationships with our ministry. If you would like to talk more about hosting a point of entry event like this with friends, family, or co-workers, please contact me at edwardf@nhmin.org.

NHM Global (cont. from front)

appetite and forget their pain. Italo always greets each of his kids with a hug and he sees them as God's beautiful creation. He talks, plays, and dances on the streets with them. Their eyes once dulled by the deadly inhalant come alive when he touches them.

Tita is a woman who teaches in a community built out of a ravine. Here, 55,000 people, 35,000 of which are children, live. This place is the shame of the city. Almost 350 kids from this place go to Tita's school. When she walks the streets, people run to greet her and she often stops to kiss each child she sees. She has no formal schooling, but goes on to tell me she was educated on her knees. She has only two requirements of the volunteers that she works with, "Give me crazy people who love Jesus."

I went to Guatemala to discuss training laity, to preach and to teach. I was blessed to visit the slums, see the people, and dialogue with other ministry partners doing God's work in this broken city. But what I *learned* was that this place serves as public confessional that we are broken, wounded, and that we cannot fix ourselves.

In the epistle of first John (1 John 1:6-9), we read that "If we claim to have fellowship with God yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His son, purifies us from all sin. If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." Maybe this is what the scripture is telling us: When we say we are complete, healed, and that we have it all together, darkness covers us. But when we just can't hide the truth that we are broken, wounded, and ugly, it is then that God's light is revealed.

I believe that the prisons and communities I visited in Guatemala City do indeed serve as public confessionals. These people cannot hide their despair, and they are like the tax collector from Luke 18 who doesn't even know how to pray so he simply screams, 'God, have mercy on me!'

My new friends bear witness to the light that comes when darkness is recognized. I believe that first John tells us that it is in these broken places; the slums of India, the brothels of Cambodia, the prisons of Guatemala, and the streets of Seattle that darkness truly exists. But the despair in these places also publicly exposes our inability to fix ourselves, and only in this confession can God's light come. 'Don't go down any dark allies?' If we want to find Jesus, I believe we have to. It is in this darkness, with people willing to admit that they are wounded, that Jesus lives.

