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Subject: Outreach Update

Hi there,

I thought I would provide an up-date on the Outreach's initiatives this year, so that you are all in the loop! Next Friday will be our first Continuing Education Day fundraiser and I want to thank you all for volunteering to facilitate a workshop, the community response has been amazing. All workshop donations will be going towards the programming below. The neat thing about all of these projects is that they came from our Outreach Advisory Committee and are addressing current needs in the Harewood community. We have 8 students in the outreach center this year. Our students under the guidance of Teri Derksen have already started and are very excited about this amazing learning opportunity. I also want to acknowledge Island Savings for being a financial partner and supporter of the Outreach Center.

Project Description: I have a dream

The "I have a dream project" is geared towards increasing lifelong opportunities for children grades 5-7 in the Harewood community. The program is a social justice initiative that is focused on reducing poverty and or the cycle of poverty by introducing children to the notion of goal setting for future dreams. Participants will engage in an 8 week program that helps them explore their strengths, identify a dream and make plans for that dream. Participants will be introduced to people in that profession, take part in goal setting sessions and have an opportunity to learn goal setting skills that can be transferable. In addition, parents will be invited to participate in 1-2 workshops on how to support a dream and will also be provided with the opportunity to set up an education bond for their children. Community partners for this project are Kids 4 Kids, Georgia Ave School, RCMP, Ministry of Social Development.

Project Description: Healthy Kids

This is an inter-professional project with the Dental Hygiene program geared towards social justice for children and families in Harewood community. On Saturday October 24, 2015 and Saturday February 20, 2016, Dental Hygiene students will be providing free teeth cleaning services for children in the Harewood community. Child and Youth Care students will be creating and providing parent workshops while the children are getting their teeth cleaned. In addition CYC students are responsible for the organization, scheduling, recruitment, assisting families with getting to the appointments and selection of families from Georgia Avenue and Fairview school for these clinic days. Community partners in this program are the Dental Hygiene program at VIU and Elementary schools in Harewood.

Project Description: Friday Night Lights

Over 20 years ago it was recognized that many children/youth due to financial strain were not able to participate in traditional sporting activities in the Harewood community. Floor hockey was offered at Georgia Avenue school for these kids at a very low cost. Although the focus was on floor hockey,

essential life skills such as team work, relationship building and communication skills were always intertwined into the program.

The new rendition of this program will have many components from the previous program, however it will be a free drop in program and no longer a registered program. The program is going to be offered on Friday nights at Georgia Avenue School. Children in grades 2,3 and 4 will be able to drop in and play floor hockey from 5:30-6:30. Grades 5,6 & 7 will be from 6:45-8:00. Special guests will be invited to come play, for example local RCMP, firefighters, principles etc. Community partners for this project are the school district and community role models.

Project Description: Will you be my neighbour?

This project consists of two smaller projects, the Neighbour to Neighbour events, early morning coffee and resources and Georgia Avenue Spring Fair. The early morning coffee events are targeting parents at the four elementary schools in Harewood. The idea is that VIU students will be at the elementary school between 8:00am and 9:00, once in the fall and once in the spring handing out apples, coffee and resource information regarding services in Harewood to parents. The goal of this project is to assist parents in connecting with agencies that are currently offering services to children, youth and families in their community. The second project is building off of last year's project with Georgia Avenue Community School in taking part in the Spring Fair. This project require a partnership with our sponsor Island Savings as well as with the Parent Advisory Committee at Georgia Avenue.

Project Description: Youth Lounge

The Nanaimo Aquatic Center has been experiencing a higher than usual number of youth who are hanging out at the Aquatic Center. The youth have been identified as being at risk due to multiple reasons and they are currently not engaged in programming. A youth drop in pilot project will be commencing in October of 2015 providing services to youth ages 13-17 years of age one night a week at the Nanaimo Aquatic Center from 2:45-8:00. Community partners for this group are the City of Nanaimo, Boys and Girls Club and the RCMP.

Project Description: Alliance

Students will be developing curriculum for facilitating a Queer/Gay/Straight Alliance group at Barbsy High school. The students will facilitate specific workshop topics in response to needs identified by the group. Students will also work through a planning process with this group in order to identify needs and priorities. The community partners for this group is Barsby High school.

Project Description: Wellness through Action

This project is an activity based group for grade 6 and 7 students in elementary schools in Harewood that focuses on mental wellness. The group curriculum will utilize the four components of the Medicine Wheel as well as therapeutic activities. This is an open group. Participants will be engaging in an activity that promotes well-being, while also learning tools and strategies for maintaining mental wellness. The community partners for this group are Aboriginal Child and Youth Mental Health, Canadian Mental Health Association and the school district.

Project Description: Here and There

This project's goal is to increase awareness of social justice issues in the Harewood community and globally. Students will be creating a social justice presentation that will be piloted to 1st year university students. This presentation will then be done at a high school and students will be invited to join a weekly social justice club. CYC students will be responsible for creating the social justice group curriculum and facilitating the group. This project is in partnership with the Kids International Development Society and will focused on social justice for children in Cambodia.