

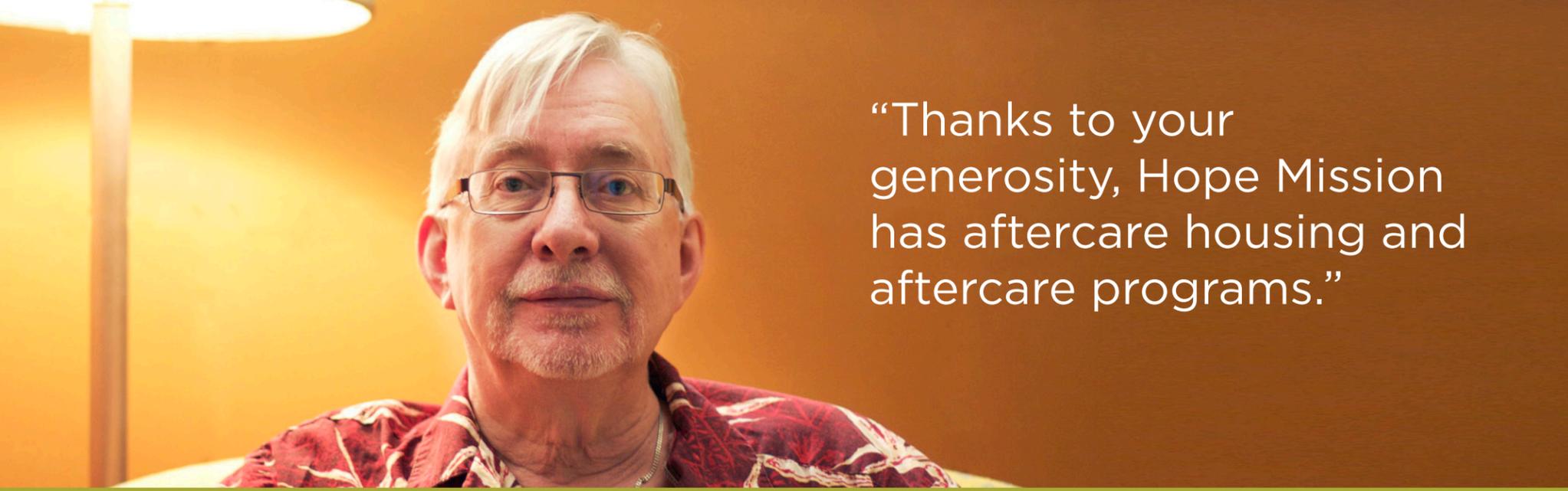
# Because of You.

HOPE MISSION  
2012 ANNUAL REPORT



“I know that  
I am not alone.”

Read Tony's story of recovery inside.



“Thanks to your generosity, Hope Mission has aftercare housing and aftercare programs.”

## HOPE IN A CHILD ITS OWN AWARD

This past year, Hope Mission received the Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools' Community Recognition Award for our work with vulnerable children in the community. Commenting on Hope Mission's work, Nina Wyrostok, Director of Support Services for WRPS wrote: "I am able to reflect upon this being one the most significant support services that the schools have ever had the opportunity to access."

Certainly, we are honoured and grateful. **But what counts more is the satisfaction that rises in faces of children who are enjoying their first hot meal of the day. Perhaps their only meal.**

Like the young girl at one of our Kids In Action events, who after a simple meal of lasagna and garlic bread, tripped all over herself with gratitude as she ran up for seconds. It was, we discovered, her only meal that day.

At least as heartwarming—and heartbreaking—are the notes from parents. A single mother sharing her struggle writes, "My son loves going to Kids-In-Action (we keep the rules of KIA on our fridge), thank you, you don't know how much this means."



Hope Mission has long had a heart for kids. A few months ago, unexpectedly, we received a picture of Hope Mission taken in 1958 showing what was then a large and active Sunday school program—a kind of forerunner to current kids' programs. Our motivation has always been to prevent adult homelessness by reaching at-risk kids.



Today, Hope Mission reaches across Alberta to serve hungry kids. Hope Mission provides kids in Edmonton, Calgary and Wetaskiwin with urgently needed meals and a safe, friendly place to

go afterschool to get homework help, sports and recreation, and receive loving care and guidance.

Brightwood Ranch Camp serves these kids and many others: kids who would not otherwise be able to experience camp. It is, in fact, overflowing—serving 850 children each summer—with a waiting list. We envision an additional location in the southern part of the province. The need is evident.

Hope does begin with a meal. And so our dream is that no child in our province would go hungry, no child go unnoticed, uncared for. With prayer and help from supporters we believe we can continue to take important steps towards this vision. To see hope rise in the eyes of a child, is its own reward—its own award.

## THE STRUCTURE OF HOPE DEVELOPMENTS AND JOURNEYS IN RECOVERY

"In those days," says Andrew Poulson, "there was no after-care housing, so when the program ended, I was back to finding my own way."

It was 2003 and Andrew Poulson had just completed the formal part of Hope Mission's Breakout program. A crack addict, soon lost to the street, he had come in need of a meal, shelter, some hope—now he was trying to start a new chapter in his life.

But like most people fresh out of an addiction recovery program, the risk that he would relapse sometime in the coming months was real. The hard fact is that those coming out of a recovery program without supports are ten times more likely to return to their addictive patterns than those who have a comprehensive after-care recovery plan.

Hope Mission has long understood that after-care is integral for people who want to stay clean. Immersion into a healthy recovery community is vital.

Fast forward to today: Tony takes off his baseball cap, leans back in his chair and begins to tell his story. "Losing my dad at an early age, having a stepdad who always told me how stupid I was...put me at odds with the world."

Years of alcoholism, self-hate, and crack addiction followed. Until, at misery's end, he stepped through the doors of Hope Mission.

Tony completed the Breakout program but made the

choice to go it alone. He did fine for a time, but seemingly small decisions turned sour and he was back using. Once again, in desperation, he returned to Hope Mission.

**"I found my smile here. I found God's forgiveness and I know He is with me. I guess the biggest thing is that I know that I'm never alone."**

Tony will be completing his program in a month. This time he'll be following the recovery plan. He's already made the seamless door-to-door transition to Immigration Hall, Hope Mission's first standalone facility specifically for after-care.

"I know this will keep me involved in recovery," says Tony. He adds that, in time, he hopes to be able to work for Hope Mission.

At this year's Spring Banquet, Andrew Poulson has a suit on. Even though he is standing in front of 800 people, he looks relaxed. His six foot four frame stoops slightly over the microphone; a smile, under a head of white-grey hair, crosses his face, as he announces to the crowd that he has recently celebrated 10 years clean, and that for the last eight of those years he has worked for Hope Mission.

"Thanks to your generosity, Hope Mission now has after-care housing and after-care programs. Because of our success rate, word on the street is that Breakout is

the program to go to if you're serious about recovery." The impact after-care has made is momentous. Andrew concludes, "I am proud to say... scores of graduates have been hired on as Hope Mission employees and continue to give back to the organization that saved our lives."

Hope Mission's Green Manor—opening Summer 2013—is an exciting expansion of our after-care housing. Fifty-two suites for graduates of our recovery programs; each suite will be a stepping stone for a formerly homeless person into healthy community. Each suite will ensure that a person like Tony can remain connected to a community empowered by the love of God to provide accountability and support.

As Andrew says, it is only because of your faithful prayers and support that Hope Mission is able to continue to serve men in desperate need. Together we are working to create spaces for people to experience the forgiveness that Tony speaks of: spaces for people to heal and flourish.

 346,778 hot meals served

 500 people slept each night

 90 people housed (April 2012 - April 2013)

 20 graduated from 1 year recovery programs

 23,252 volunteer hours given

 95,368 bag lunches served

 1,925 jackets given

# DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

There is something fundamental about sharing a meal; it's more than food, it is people coming together in the most basic human experience, to share a space where divisions can drop away, and the light of our common humanity shines through. And in this warmth—the warmth of God's love—hope can take root. That's why, around Hope Mission, we like to say, "**Hope begins with a meal.**" A shared meal brings a ray of hope; hope fuels a new beginning.

Increasingly, we are putting more energy behind meal programs for children, expanding our footprint to pursue our dream that no child in Alberta will go hungry. At the same time, our programs for men and women are gaining strength and effectiveness. We are placing more emphasis on after-care programs while providing the necessary facilities. I'm very excited about The Green Manor, which will add fifty two suites to our after-care, transitional housing.

Because of your faithfulness, your prayer and your spirit of generosity, we look forward, with God-inspired confidence, to tackling the deep needs that remain.

May God bless you,

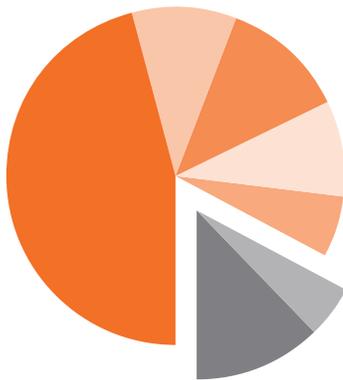


Bruce Reith  
Executive Director

## FINANCIAL INTEGRITY

### Expenses

\$13,276,584.80



#### 83% Ministry Programs

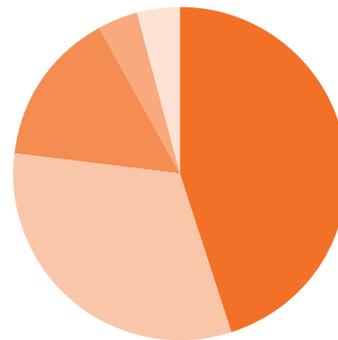
- 46% Men's Services
- 10% Women's Services
- 12% Youth Programs
- 9% Children's Programs
- 6% General Programs

#### 17% Administration & Resource Development

- 5% Administration
- 12% Resource Development

### Revenue

\$14,908,195.89



- 45% Donations
- 32% Government
- 15% Foundations/Trusts
- 4% Social Housing Rent
- 4% Thrift Store & Other Income

\*Based on Hope Mission's audited financial statement ending December 31, 2012. Numbers rounded to nearest dollar or percent.

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