

JERICHO ROAD

CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

February
2015
Semi Annual Mailing

Committed to bringing hope and healing by offering homes and assistance to the poor, addicted and mentally ill.

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Restoring Hope and Purpose



By: Hope Versluis, Director

As Executive Director of Jericho Road Ministries, I am often asked the question, “**What does Jericho Road do?**” I could then talk about addiction treatment, feeding the poor, housing the mentally ill, but the real work of Jericho Road is to restore hope and purpose by connecting people to God’s grace and love. This is our work because this is what God does.

Psalm 147:3 says, God heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.



When fighting the seemingly endless cycles of poverty, addiction and mental illness, life can be overwhelming. Worn down by failure, wounded by broken relationships, people cry out, “What’s the use? Why even try?” Hope is lost. But God knows our needs and he can restore us. I love the intimacy in this verse in Psalm 147. God gets personally involved. He gets his hands dirty. He comes close and touches our wounded, broken places. **God restores hope and purpose to life.**

So “What does Jericho Road do?” We connect people to the God who gives life and hope. As stated in the first three Addiction Recovery steps, we admit our need, “- that our lives had become unmanageable” and “we come to believe that a Power greater than ourselves can restore us to sanity.” We connect people to God so they can “turn their will and their lives over to the care of God” and let Him heal their broken hearts and wounded souls.

One Day At A Time

The 12 Steps

- 1:** We admitted we were powerless over alcohol--that our lives had become unmanageable.
- 2:** Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.
- 3:** Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him.
- 4:** Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.
- 5:** Admitted to God, to ourselves and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.
- 6:** Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.
- 7:** Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.
- 8:** Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.
- 9:** Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.
- 10:** Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.
- 11:** Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God, as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.
- 12:** Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

Philosophy of Ministry:

Bringing hope and healing to hurting people by modelling a recovery lifestyle of grace and hope and by encouraging them to practice a Christ-centered recovery lifestyle so that they may grow healthy and hopeful in their connection to God and others

The Discipleship House

– a Christ-centered addiction recovery program:

Over 7 years, Jon Ruby has invested his talents and addiction experience into developing the Discipleship House. Many men have graduated from this addiction recovery program with renewed hope having learned how to live sober and remain sober. We bless Jon as he moves on from Jericho Road this month to pursue God's calling on his life as a church-planter. We are grateful for Jon's vision, faithfulness and investment in Jericho Road. He has left his mark in restored lives.



Kevin Williams & Jon Ruby

At Jericho Road Ministries, we are not satisfied with simply "housing" people or getting them off the streets. The houses are the place that the real work of recovery, discipleship and Christ-centered living happens.

Second-stage Recovery Homes

Second stage homes are our emphasis this year. Building on the foundation work of the Discipleship House recovery program, all JRM second stage homes are now recovery homes. These homes support recovery routines such as attendance at AA and 12-step meetings, relapse prevention classes and community service. Structured routines are needed for good mental health and addiction recovery, so our 2nd-stage homes provide a balance of work and rest, personal responsibility and participation in community living. We hope to even develop a social enterprise that will provide skill training and work opportunities. But the foundation of these homes is a connection with God – Always pointing them to God as their hope and provider.



Photo:

Left: Luc, a graduate of our D-House who now works full-time for Jericho Road.

Centre,: Steve, also a graduate and now living independently.

Right: Johnny, a recent graduate now living in our new Concurrent Home (see below).

Concurrent Disorders Home:

Jericho Road Ministries is uniquely able to help men with concurrent disorders of addiction and mental illness by focusing first on addiction recovery using a Christ-centered 12 step recovery program and by providing structured, recovery model homes that encourage personal growth spiritually, socially and emotionally and encourage the development of a recovery supportive network and community.

For men with Addiction or Concurrent Disorders seeking help or looking for more information about our Programs, please call 613-567-5134.

Get Involved! - Upcoming Events:

Coldest Night of the Year!

It's Cold Out There ... are you ready to WALK?

Saturday, February 21st



The Coldest Night of the Year Walk is a fun, family-friendly fundraising event that raises money for the hungry, homeless and hurting in 64 communities across Canada.

In Ottawa, you can WALK for Jericho Road! Our goal is to raise \$50,000 to develop a second-stage addiction home and program for men with concurrent disorders.

Grab your toque, a bowl of chili and WALK 2, 5 or 10 km with us for Jericho Road!

For more information, Go to: www.coldestnightoftheyear.org

Unable to WALK with us? Consider sponsoring one of our Teams or Walkers by going to the CNOY website above. Find our Location under Ottawa– Jericho Road. Donations for the WALK can be made until mid-March. Thank You!

Celebration Supper & AGM - May 2015

Join us for:

- ◇ a Complimentary Meal
- ◇ An evening of thanks
- ◇ Reporting on our ministries
- ◇ A Dessert Auction



Stay tuned for more details @ www.jerichoroad.ca