

LIFE AND SURVIVAL TRAINING SKILLS



The Foundation supports outdoor survival program for high school dropouts with an 84% success rate.

INNOVATIVE FUNDING AND PROGRAMS



From healthy food for kids to safe housing for the homeless, there are good things happening in the Downtown Eastside.

WHY I GIVE: An Interview



"We sometimes lose sight of the fact that the people who live in the Downtown Eastside are just like us."
Jamie Evrard talks about giving

CENTRAL CITY FOUNDATION
DONOR APPEAL

Reporting to the Vancouver Community / Fall 2005

catalyst

CATALYST

BUYING VACANT BUILDING GAVES LIFE TO AN INNER-CITY DAY CARE

Space for me

THREE-YEAR OLD MAXIMUS IS LOOKING FORWARD TO GOING TO DAY CARE IN THE DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE. A SOON-TO-OPEN DAY CARE AT 717 PRINCESS AVENUE IS A DREAM THAT THE CENTRAL CITY FOUNDATION HAS MADE COME TRUE.

The Central City Foundation has played a central role in efforts to open a day care centre with more than 90 licensed childcare spaces for kids in the community. The day care will open in early 2006. The goal: **Children will be more likely to finish school if they are prepared for kindergarten and their families are supported in ways that respond to their distinct needs.**

With \$1.2 million contributed by the Foundation to purchase the building, and along with Network Two Community Services Society, raised the rest of the funds for this \$1.8 million dollar project. On March 22, 2005 the Foundation became the owner of the building, and Network Two Community Services Society obtain a long term low cost lease.

Renovations will soon be underway to upgrade the facility and playground, making this childcare resource available to respond to the unique needs of families living in Downtown Eastside neighbourhoods.

See back page: **DAY CARE >>>**

For the Children of Vancouver's Downtown Eastside Maximus (left) can't wait to play and learn at the new day care. His mom, Shannon, is excited too, since the daycare is closer to her other children's school. Gwen's mom, Sandy (above), can now go back to school knowing her daughter will receive quality childcare.



We are the
Central City Foundation.

The Central City Foundation provides funding through a formal granting process to registered charitable organizations dedicated to alleviating the hardships that many Downtown Eastside residents face. The Foundation focuses on capital projects that directly benefit a disadvantaged group of people. See inside: **GIVE >>>**

We are a catalyst for
change in our community.

We are a catalyst for children, youth, adults and seniors and older adults across the Downtown Eastside. We are helping to provide childcare, and care for older adults with disabilities and seniors. Our housing is above standard and meets the needs of many adults. We help families struggling to provide food for their children. See inside: **HELP US >>>**

Help us help the community

WE ARE A CATALYST FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, ADULTS, SENIORS AND OLDER ADULTS ACROSS THE DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE. THESE PROGRAMS WE FUND AND RELATIONSHIPS WE BUILD ARE AIMED AT PROVIDING A HOLISTIC APPROACH.

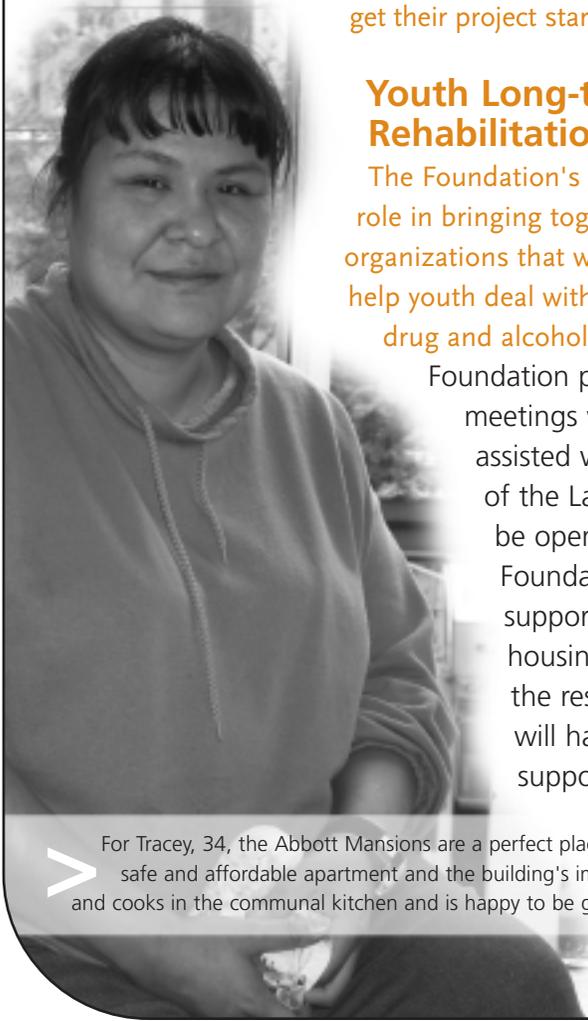
Building Blocks Vancouver Food programs are high on the list of funded projects for the Foundation. Building Blocks Vancouver currently provides milk coupons to more than half of the families they support, many with infants and multiple children. A family will receive three coupons per month per child. On average per month more than 1,300 coupons are redeemed monthly through a national chain of grocery stores operating in Vancouver. **Most food programs have a difficult time obtaining funds, and the Foundation has stepped up to make food programs possible for families and children, for adults and youth.**



Atira Women's Resource Society & Atira Property Management Inc. The Society recently opened a site in the Downtown Eastside providing a safe space for women and a home for advocacy and community economic development programs for women. The Foundation agreed to provide a grant to help with the renovations. **The Foundation is frequently the first group to agree to support a new initiative in the Downtown Eastside, and that helps community organizations get their project started.**

Youth Long-term Rehabilitation Project

The Foundation's board has played a key role in bringing together the people and organizations that will open a new facility to help youth deal with the consequences of drug and alcohol addictions. The Foundation participated in monthly meetings with service providers and assisted with the planning stages of the Langley facility, which will be opening soon. The Foundation will be providing supportive, independent housing for youth who finish the residential program. Youth will have access to on-going support for six to 12 months.



> For Tracey, 34, the Abbott Mansions are a perfect place to live. She appreciates her clean, safe and affordable apartment and the building's immaculate facilities. She often bakes and cooks in the communal kitchen and is happy to be gaining a supportive circle of friends.



With their \$500,000 commitment to this project, the Foundation and others are helping to build missing infrastructure, and responding to the specific needs of youth with drug and alcohol issues.

Central City Care Society operates three crucial projects in the Downtown Eastside: Central City Lodge provides housing and complex healthcare for 100 seniors and older adults. The same building also houses a 22-bed Addictions Recovery Program for men over 19 years old. The Society also runs Cooper Place, an assisted living facility for 72 seniors and older adults with disabilities. **The Foundation is making it possible for seniors and older adults to get the care they need.**

The Dugout Every morning, 200 or more men and women go to the Dugout for a cup of coffee and some soup. It has been operating for 38 years. With 400 volunteer servers, the Dugout puts 2-3,000 turkey dinners on the table during the holiday season. There's a daily Alcoholics Anonymous meeting at noon. Year after year, the lines are getting longer, and there are more people sleeping on the sidewalks. There is no other morning food program in the Downtown Eastside. **The Foundation funds this crucial program, and without those funds there would be no soup and no coffee at the Dugout.**



DEYAS The Foundation helps DEYAS focus on its goal of making opportunities available for youth and adults to escape living on the street. Judy McGuire, the Executive Director, echoed the Foundation's own vision for its work when she said, "The work Central City does in the broader community is also a contribution to our work, not just on the funding level but on support and facilitation." **The Foundation helps community**



programs get off the ground and operate successfully. Focusing on health promotion and harm reduction, DEYAS has benefited from capital contributions from the Foundation for vehicles needed to reach youth and adults and provide services in the Downtown Eastside and all over the city.

Take A Hike High school-aged youth who drop out can come to the Take A Hike adventure-based learning program to deal with problems like depression, addiction, consequences of

abuse, and neglect. Combining academic learning with adventure-based learning and therapeutic work, 84% of participants graduate from high school.

Funding from the Foundation purchased equipment and to outfitted participants with rainwear, boots and backpacks, crucial protection in the rain, outdoors and in life.



Strathcona Community Dental Clinic

The Strathcona Community Dental Clinic opened in September 2002 to address the high rate of dental decay in elementary students at Strathcona School. Dental decay disproportionately effects low income,



aboriginal and immigrant families and children. Some families have access to funding for dental care through the Healthy Kids Program, but many do not. The Foundation's funding for the clinic makes it possible for those families to get dental care for their children at no cost.

KidSafe Project Society & Cooking Fun for Families Program

Kid Safe makes it possible for five inner city schools in Vancouver to stay open when they would traditionally be closed, to provide children with a safe environment, meals, snacks and enrichment programs. During the rest of the year, as a way of maintaining contact with families, the Cooking Fun For Families program brings parents and children together to cook meals and eat together. The program gives families a social network, and at the same time helps them to learn about good nutrition. The cash contribution the Foundation makes, along with the in-kind support from others, helps make life better for families and children in the Downtown Eastside.

HIPPY & Fir Square Combined Maternity Ward

HIPPY (Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters) helps parents prepare their children for kindergarten through home visits. Parents learn to be educators for their children, and that helps them feel good about their parenting. BC Women's Hospital operates the Fir Square Combined Maternity Ward for pregnant women who have substance abuse-related health issues and to substance-addicted newborns. The Minerva Foundation joined forces with the Central City Foundation to support these two programs providing important support to women and working to build stronger communities and stronger families.

GIVE >

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 (cash or stocks, real estate or other gifts) have been the backbone funding. Please contact us about planned giving.
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 You will receive a receipt for your contribution and for your tax records. We will add you to our donor list, and keep in touch.
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 We can arrange for a set amount to be charged against your credit card, or to your bank or credit union account. You will receive a receipt for the total contribution you make in each calendar year and for your tax records. We'll include you in our donor list and be in regular contact.

The donors to the Central City Foundation are loyal and generous, and we look forward to welcoming you to that group.



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Another community building project by The Insight Group | www.get-insight.net Photography: Elaine Briere

The Foundation wishes to thank the people featured in this issue for allowing us to use their photo. We also thank the organizations featured for their cooperation and generosity in preparing this issue.

The Central City Foundation has relied on private donors for support for almost 100 years. We are now seeking new donors who will help support our vital work for the next hundred years.

We know you share our concerns about the deep costs of the poverty and the struggle for a decent, healthy life many people in our city face every day. We are



asking you to help us do the work which will change that situation, now and tomorrow.

Our support reaches children, youth, adults and seniors and older adults across the

Downtown Eastside. We are helping communities to provide childcare and care for seniors and older adults with disabilities. Our housing is above standard, and meets the needs of many adults in the Downtown Eastside.

We are helping families who struggle every day to provide food and essential needs for their children.

We are working with the residents and service providers in the Downtown Eastside neighbourhoods to make a significant difference in the community – now and in the future.

Please help us continue this valuable work. You'll be making a contribution to the work of many projects, and reducing the long-term costs of poverty and pain.

There are three ways to contribute to the Foundation, through bequests as part of your planned giving, and through regular annual donations or monthly donations (see sidebar).

John Swift
Chair, Board of Directors
Phil Bouvier
Executive Director

>>> DAY CARE

The Vancouver Aboriginal Early Childhood Development Program and the Aboriginal Head Start Program will be housed in the building. The two programs will pay rent for their space, with these revenues contributing to operating funds to keep the Centre running.

Because so many families in the Downtown Eastside are among the working poor, the childcare services will be tailored to fit their family needs. The Centre will open at 5:00 am so that blue collar workers' children can be cared for. And the Centre will stay open later. Many parents are hotel



and restaurant workers who need to pick up their children at the end of

their shifts, which run later than 5:00 pm. The Centre will also be open on weekends, making it possible for families who can't access licensed childcare now to be accommodated.

Currently, there are no licensed infant childcare spaces in the Strathcona area, and only 12 spaces for toddlers. The Centre will have 49 spaces for full-time day care, 20 spaces for pre-school learners, and 20 spaces for mixed age children in part-time care.

Recognizing that this kind of flexible childcare is expensive to provide, The Centre will help parents keep the costs down. Parents will be trained in the Centre as assistants, enabling them to provide childcare for the community.

Food programs which are so essential to healthy communities, will be operated in the Centre for children and their families. Parents will participate in food preparation



training programs, which will provide low-cost food for the children at the Centre. A paediatrician will provide services for children who need health care, regular physical check-ups and speech and language assistance, and will also offer support to families where parents have substance abuse issues.

Diverse partners and service providers, stable funding, coordinated resources already working in the area, and the experience and administrative strength of Network Two, are all key factors for the Centre's success. The Centre will become a model for stable, high quality childcare and child development services in low income areas.

The Foundation, in partnership with its private donors, share a vision that will be realized as the children who go through the doors of the Centre learn and grow – becoming youths and adults in a strong healthy community that cares for and nurtures its children.

Partners: Central City Foundation, City of Vancouver - Capital Program and Downtown Eastside Capital Program, Ministry of Child and Family Development, Vancouver Foundation, Victoria Foundation, VanCity Capital Corporation, RBC, Vancouver Coastal Health Authority, VanCity Community Foundation, Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, Christopher Foundation, Network of East Vancouver Community Organizations [NEVCO], Parents for Accessible Childcare.

Who donates to the Central City Foundation?

Jamie does.

Jamie Evrard is an artist, she paints in oils. We spoke with Jamie about why she became a regular Central City Foundation donor.

"As an artist I don't have a steady income and that's part of why I can identify with people who don't have access to the cash economy. It's not too big a step for an artist to be down and out, without resources. I'm making more money now, and it's really nice to be able to give some of it away," says Jamie.



"I was so surprised when Phil Bouvier called me and said that as a donor, I'd be welcome to come and see what my money was doing. I visited the

Abbott Mansions. I met some of the people who lived there. I was really moved. It's very down to earth and direct in addressing people's needs."

"I'm also impressed with the way the Foundation helps with the interconnection of services and funding. It's really efficient use of the donations."

"Giving to the Foundation is a great way to give help to people struggling with poverty. What you see is what you get, there are no hidden agendas. I think it is amazing to give to an organization which then offers you an opportunity to visit the programs. You can see where your money is going." **BECOME A DONOR**

PROFILE OF A GENEROUS DONOR

CENTRAL CITY FOUNDATION
206, 304 West Cordova Street
Vancouver, BC V6B 1E8
Telephone: 604-683-2263,

YOUR CONTRIBUTION WILL MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE BECAUSE YOU WILL BE FUNDING INNOVATIVE, PRAGMATIC AND EFFECTIVE PROGRAMS FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE OF VANCOUVER.

Yes! I want to support the Central City Foundation.

\$25 \$50 \$100 \$200 \$500 Other \$ _____

I want to become a monthly donor. Call me with details.

Please call me with information about Planned Giving.

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Check this box if you wish to remain anonymous. *The Central City Foundation is the operating name of the Central City Mission Foundation.*
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