

Why Not Youth Centres

A Why Not City Missions Initiative

June 2014

Spring Stories

Why Not City Missions / Youth Centres

Annual Bike Fun Run



Do you love to get out on your motorcycle? On Saturday July 12th in Paris, Ontario, we will be hosting our Annual Bike Fun Run!

Register now to participate! You can also sponsor, donate, or watch!

Email Andy White at

andy@whynotyouthcentres.com or call 519 209 3161 for more information.

Re-Source Thrift Shop



Wow! Are we ever thankful for the hard work of all of the amazing volunteers at the re-Source Thrift Shop. Great work, team!

Have you been in to check out all of the great bargains? You'll definitely get a bang for your buck. Plus, some proceeds go to Why Not!

320 North Park Street (North Park and Fairview). 10AM – 5PM Monday – Friday, 10AM – 3PM Saturday. Call 226-250-0123.

Welcoming New Staff



Why Not is pleased to welcome Nate Lambert to our staff team for the summer of 2014 thanks to the Canada Summer Jobs program.

Nate attends Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, and is passionate about youth mentorship and program development. We are excited to have him for an 8-week contract!

As always, we are incredibly thankful for all of our dedicated volunteers!



Why Mentorship Matters

Strong support networks can be hard to find. When you add factors like homelessness, caregivers who suffer from addictions, separation from family, encounters with bullying, and volatile friend groups, it just complicates everything further.

Our youth often describe how little they feel they can trust people. For the marginalized youth with whom we work, an added issue is the number of barriers they face.

Imagine how difficult it would be to even understand what it means to have (and hold) a job when all you've known growing up was monthly social support checks because your whole family is on ODSP, or coasting along on OW?

Imagine what it would be like to be shown throughout your whole life that the best way to deal with your frustrations is to get drunk and hit people.

Further, what if every day felt like a whirlwind, every week a century, and every hurt the end of the world? When it comes to those moments that feel like everything is coming apart, sometimes you just need somebody to talk to.

That's what we do at Why Not. We are the listening ears, the

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Volunteer of the Season: Beth



Beth Laberge joined us only a few months ago as a Mohawk Co-op student in the Community and Justice Services Program.

The youth love her, and she has been an amazing trooper about getting out of her comfort zone to help out with the endless tasks she is commissioned to do.

Great job, Beth! We really appreciate all that you do!



Extreme Motocross & Bull Riding

On May 30th, 7 of our youth from Brantford made their way to Paris for Great Rodeo's Extreme Motocross and Bull Riding show.

Great Rodeo actually sponsored Why Not to bring youth out for the show. Thank you so much!

After a quick lesson in how bull-riding works, the team got to see amateurs and professionals try to last as long as they could on the backs of bucking bulls and horses. Plus, the motocross riders completely trashed a van and did some amazing jumps!

Overall, it made for a great day, save for a little sunburn. We love getting to take these guys out!

Why Mentorship Matters (Continued...)

calm encouragement, and the ones who will never stop believing in youth, no matter what mistakes they make.

Most of the young people who come to Why Not are the ones who struggle in school with grades, teachers, classmates, and attendance. Sadly, many of them are told that they aren't going to make it, that they might as well give up, or that they're going nowhere.

Fortunately, positive words have impact, too. We are always working to help the youth to see and believe that they are beautiful, worthy of love, capable of success, and strong. We work to create opportunities for them to see their own achievements.

Sometimes, there are no immediate results to be seen from what we do, but *over and over again*, we see our words of encouragement being remembered later on in our youths' lives, as they reference what we've told them when they're in the midst of different struggles.

That's why we do what we do.

Golf Tournament 2014

We couldn't have asked for a more gorgeous day for our 4th Annual Golf Tournament! With over 60 golfers registered, and the most impressive silent auction we've ever had, Why Not supporters raised over \$9,000 profit for Why Not Youth Centres!



An extra-special thank you goes out to Andy White, our Fundraising Coordinator. Andy

has been working tirelessly to develop and enhance our annual events for the ongoing benefit of our youth at Why Not!

Why Not City Missions / Youth Centres

Brantford

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519 759 2221

Paris

19 Broadway Street Unit #6
519 759 2221

St. George

Contact for location
519 448 4279

