

Kingston Community Chaplaincy

Spring 2012 Newsletter



Hello Everyone,

We have a new format for our newsletters and hope you will like it. It has been a rewarding season for KCC and we want to share what's been happening. Our thanks to those who continue to financially support the work we do in the community of Kingston. Statistics show that we have made over 1,100 contacts this past year; many of those have been inside the penitentiaries. We also continue to actively support over 650 offenders/ex-offenders. A new program facilitated by Canadian award winning author, Diane Schoemperlen, has also opened the special writing abilities for some of our group members.

The Welcome Weekend and Friendship Meals continue to meet monthly and a real and caring bond is being established between the participants. We see new people come and join us each month. Consider joining us for our August 12th Welcome Weekend gathering. It will be an outdoor picnic held at Alex and Karen Scott's on Highway 38.

Six new volunteers were trained and added to our team. Plans to utilize these dedicated and eager individuals in more programs and team journeying with families and recently released ex-offenders are underway. Building up a group of trained volunteers to provide escorted trips into the community is also needed.

Our Board of Directors added a new member this past spring and we welcome Mr. Gordon Darrell.

This February KCC acquired the viewing rights to the powerful and provocative movie, "Music from the Big House". Although not as financially successful as we had hoped, the movie provided many community members with a real look inside a prison and how hope can bring such a difference to those incarcerated.

There are some exciting changes coming over the next few months! Read about how you can become part of the 24K Club; a new partnership with Prison Fellowship Canada; and opportunities to become involved with KCC.

Enjoy your summer! Look for the Winter newsletter coming in November.

Chaplain's Message -

David W. Hale

I would begin with a word of gratitude to our benefactors and friends, the Board of Directors, Carla Kennedy and our volunteers. You make the ministry of Kingston Community Chaplaincy possible due to your commitment and dedication. Our community has grown and our services will need to expand to meet the ever-increasing demands. Safe reintegration requires consistent and passionate practical and spiritual care.

This year has been blessed with two significant initiatives: namely a Creative Writing group at 99 York St. and a Bible Study group at Portsmouth Community Correctional Centre. Our outreach is expanding to meet the expressed needs of those we serve.

Father Ted Hughes, Regional Chaplain for Ontario, offered this prayer at a volunteer gathering some weeks ago. It is timely given the fiscal upheaval in CSC and the fear initiated by cutbacks. This prayer reminds us of our mandate:

"Jesus, united with the Father and the Holy Spirit, give us your compassion for those in prison. Mend in mercy the broken in mind and memory. Soften the hard of heart, the captives of anger. Free the innocent; parole the trustworthy. Awaken the repentance that restores hope. May prisoners' families persevere in their love.

Jesus, heal the victims of crime. They live with the scars. Lift to eternal peace those who die. Grant victims' families the forgiveness that heals. Give wisdom to lawmakers and to those who judge. Instill prudence and patience in those who guard. Make those in prison ministry bearers of your light, for all of us are in need of your mercy! Amen."

This prayer expresses the heart of Kingston Community Chaplaincy and it is my hope that we will continue to be a beacon of light for those we serve. If you believe in compassionate care for those who are wounded by crime, consider partnering with us. We cannot serve this community without your moral and financial support.

24K CLUB

In order to establish a solid financial base for the programs and operations of Kingston Community

Chaplaincy, a new challenge has been issued: **Donate \$1000 in 2012 and become a member of the 24K Club!**

With an additional \$24,000, KCC will be able to secure the employment of both the Community Chaplain and office Administrator. Both of these positions make the ministry of KCC possible. A guaranteed operating base will also ensure that the work continues uninterrupted because of a lack of funding.

We still need to raise funds for existing programs and new avenues of ministry in 2012. Tax receipts will be issued in January 2013.

Get involved! Partner up with your church, community group or family members and help KCC extend a even more effective outreach to those individuals and families affected by incarceration!

For more information on how to become a 24K Member, make a donation; or receive help from KCC –

contact C. Kennedy/Administrator, Kingston Community Chaplaincy, CRP Centennial, P.O. Box 26, Kingston, Ontario K7M 0C2 or call 613-549-8899

Welcome to New Board Member

The Kingston Community Chaplaincy Board of Directors is pleased to welcome Mr. Gordon Darrell. Gordon joined the Board in February, 2012. Best wishes are extended to Stephanie Saunders who resigned in December.

Kingston Community Chaplaincy

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(Second Floor)

In September, 2012 Kingston Community Chaplaincy will be joining with Prison Fellowship Canada. Chaplain David Hale will become the Director for the city and area of Kingston, Ontario . This new regionalization has been developed to establish a more grass roots approach to both program delivery and development. This new mode of delivery will increase the presence of Prison Fellowship Canada within the city of Kingston and involve more churches, organizations, prison chaplains, and federal/provincial politicians.

The biggest focus of ministry will be aftercare for offenders leaving the prison system and re-entering community. More volunteers will be needed to provide services both in and outside the prison environment.

Current Area Director, Mr. Jim Cavanagh, will be retiring in February, 2013 after serving this city faithfully for many years. We gratefully acknowledge and thank Jimmy for his dedication to the men he's visited and counselled behind the wall. May retirement be a new adventure and happy journey for both he and Shirley!

Facts to Consider

In 2011-2012 Kingston Community Chaplaincy

-made 186 new Contacts

-maintained contact with 1,183 individuals

-interacted with 1,165 groups

-trained 6 new volunteers

-logged 509 person hours of volunteer service

-was involved in the following areas of ministry:

Spirituality, Emotions, Housing, Medical/Mental

Health, Addictions, Practical, Identification,

Employment, Education, and Socialization

Announcement