

Life STORIES

Loading Up The Van!

Remember that beautiful picture of all of our students? Did you know that we transport 60+% of them to and from our program every week?

This amazing group of students is given a safe place, people that care, healthy relationships, self-esteem and a hope in Jesus every single Wednesday. This is because of your support, prayer and care. These great students may come from unsafe places and sometimes very hard family situations, but you are a part of helping them escape that every week! **We're so thankful for the support you have shown in this. Thank you.**

There are so many stories that come to mind when I think of how this program has affected kids (even just this year). The way the consistency has been good for their mental health. The way we've powered through as many regulations as we could just to give them something constant. **Other sports leagues shut down for worry of covid spread, but we told them we'd do anything to keep going as long as it was safe.** Relieving this constant worry lifted a weight off of their shoulders, and we're happy to have made it out of the pandemic, while still bringing hope to their lives.

Thank you for the value you've given to this program and more importantly, the students involved in it. Without your support these things wouldn't happen. **There could have been a lot more hopeless students in Saskatoon, but you helped us change that.** Every donation past, present and future helps to **Bring Hope and Belonging** to these students that need it desperately. Thank you for consistently being a part of the Hope and belonging that they get to feel every week at YFCHL.

Looking forward, we are trying to plan out what growth might look like for us and how we can sustain the impact we are consistently having on the youth in Saskatoon. **Maintaining and growing our fleet of vehicles is becoming a more and more important, especially with the numbers we are seeing on a regular basis.** Currently we are sitting at two 15 passenger vans and an SUV which used to suit us fine, but has become too small for us this year. **We are transporting well over 30 students to and from our current location when we run our program.** Doing some quick math, you can see that we sometimes get to be a little over loaded. If it wasn't for some of our amazing volunteers, we would be in trouble when it comes to safety, and we need to start to look for solutions.

Looking forward, we're beginning the task of raising money for an additional van to join our fleet. Used vehicle have risen in price along with our costs, but we believe that we still need to pursue this as we enable more students to belong at YFCHL (and other YFC programs).

We are starting with an initial goal of \$5,000, which will help us in maintaining the current vehicles we have. One of our vans in particular is getting worn out and tired. On the off chance something goes wrong with it, we want to keep it in good working order as long as we can. **If we can raise enough money to get to \$20,000, we will begin to look at adding one more used 15 passenger van to our fleet.** If a miracle happens and we are blessed with \$60,000, we would be able to get a brand new 15 passenger van!

This may seem like a lofty goal, but **you can only tackle climbing a mountain by taking one step at a time.** We're looking into the future, seeing what could be coming and deciding to take that first step. **Each and every donation helps us take one step toward the goal of a new or new to us van that will help keep students out of trouble, in safe community and in reach of hope.**

Thank you for the partnership you've had with us so far! If you want to be involved in a different way, help us climb the mountain! We're hoping to bring everything together December 31st and then act on the sum of money we received.


Evan and Rebecca

P.S. - In case you didn't know, we're expecting a baby girl at the end of May! Evan will be on sabbatical when the time arrives as we learn and grow into being parents! This will likely be our last letter till the fall! Thank you for your support. Keep praying for us, we're gonna need it!