

Life STORIES



Help Support Summer Programming!

This is the third year we have run the summer program out of the YFC building. Summer programming is so important for this community, and last year it was a source of real HOPE to kids. Not only does it provide positive and healthy activities during the summer months, but it connects kids and families to year-round YFC programs and church partnerships.

In 2021 our newly formed three person staff leadership team (Kristin, Carmen & myself) began the work of creating a structure and hiring summer student workers. Our hard work has paid off. Last summer we had four students working part time with us and it was amazing. This year we received partial government funding for five full time student workers. In May we hired two college students which have been such a blessing. Our three high school students will join the team in July. Such an exciting time! And there is a tangible way you can help fuel this crucial summer program!

The government grant we received for summer staff ended up being less than what we had asked for and expected. That

means we need to secure the remaining funding to ensure our summer workers can get a full salary. <u>I can't stress enough how important this programming is</u>, not only do we get the chance to develop these young leaders, but we get to BRING HOPE to hurting kids and families in the Mayfair neighbourhood as we offer positive and meaningful activities throughout the summer.

We are in need of approximately \$6000 to cover the shortfall. We believe God has some great things in store for YFC, our summer supervisor team, our summer student employees and all the students who will be a part of this program. Your gift will make a huge difference!

We are also looking for donations of snack items for the program. (granola bars, juice boxes, snack bag sized chips, pepperoni sticks, cheese strings, individually packaged ribs bits and apple sauce.)

Thank you for helping us deliver memorable and hope filled experiences to these kids this summer!

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Our summer student & staff leadership team. Tyler, Carmen, Kristin, Sierra & Jacob



TJ & the boys during a service project day at West Portal Church.

Summer Students

We began our summer program prep by hiring summer students. We decided that this year we would need five students at 30 hours per week which is a significant increase on the four students we had last year at 20 hours per week. This is a big jump up from one year to the next, but God has been preparing us for this and we were ready to take a step of faith.

God has provided and we have officially hired all five students, two of which are returning from last year! Jacob Bendel (returning) and Sierra Fehr are in college and have now been working for over a month and Chiara Martell, Vashti Hernandez (returning) and Kiana Ens are all current high school students that start in July. There are so many positives here - three of the students are planning to attend bible school next year, one of them is a student from within our programming, two of them have been volunteering within our programming this past year and all of them love Jesus.

I am hopeful that this summer of work gives the students a further look into ministry, inspires them to pursue vocational ministry and ultimately draws them closer to God. I see so much potential in each one of the five, they come from a variety of different backgrounds and cover the spectrum of personality types. God has brought each one of us on the summer crew together for a purpose. It feels like God is coiling the spring and I am excited to see his release it this summer!

TJ & The Project

I spend one day a week at The Project youth group at Carpenter's Church. I have been stepping more and more into leadership there which has been making it more difficult to spend time with my grade 8-9 boys small group. I have not had a coleader in the small group until recently when TJ was brought on as a volunteer.

I have been surprised at just how quickly TJ has began forming relationships with the guys. He has so naturally stepped into leading the group as well. Until just recently I didn't realize just how much pressure I had been carrying. TJ has given me the opportunity to release some of this. I cannot express just how much of a blessing he has been to me, our boys group and to the youth group as a whole!

Please keep TJ in your prayers as he works long hours as his job, is newly married and has a huge heart for ministry. I do not want to see him take on too much but I believe God will use this group to strengthen TJ's faith and leadership abilities. Pray that God blesses the project and TJ.

I also ask for prayer for The Project Pray for the youth group leaders, Garrett and Alex Janzen and for Carpenters Church. This ministry has so much impact in the mayfair community here in Saskatoon, pray that God multiplies that impact!

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