

ANNUAL REPORT 2009

The John Howard Society

of NORTH ISLAND
Since 1967



Building Safer and Healthier Communities
www.jhsni.bc.ca



Mission Statement

Our mission is to promote and foster safer and healthier communities by providing appropriate programs of rehabilitation, education, prevention and healing for those who need an opportunity to achieve, maintain or regain a balance within their communities.

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Who We Are

The John Howard Society has served the community justice and social services needs of northern Vancouver Island, British Columbia, for more than 40 years. Beginning as a branch of The John Howard Society of Vancouver Island in 1967, the organization was incorporated as The John Howard Society of North Island in 1989.

The society is named after the British prison reformer, John Howard (1726-1790). In 1962 the John Howard Society of Canada was established. There are currently branches and offices in more than 60 communities across Canada, provincial offices in all 10 provinces and the Northwest Territories, and a national office in Ottawa.

A non-profit society with extensive experience in developing services for youth, children, adults, and families, The John Howard Society of North Island operates numerous programs from nine locations:

- Campbell River Community Programs
- Courtenay Community Programs
- Beech Street, Campbell River
- Parksville Youth Justice
- Nanaimo Youth Justice
- Port Alberni Youth Justice
- Port Hardy Youth Justice
- Duncan Youth Justice
- Activity Centre, Campbell River

Mandate

The John Howard Society of North Island provides services to youth, children, adults, and families with diverse needs. Our locations include offices and residential programs, but our work also takes us into schools, homes, and other parts of communities.

We have a holistic approach, recognizing that safer, healthier communities are created through the combined and diverse efforts of citizens, organizations, and governments. We work cooperatively with a broad spectrum of community agencies and committees, while also maintaining involvement in provincial and national organizations that seek to address the social needs of Canadians.

Board of Directors

- Lois Liesch, President
- Brian Kelly, Vice-President
- Patrick Field, Treasurer
- Terry Moist
- Karen Turner
- Dawn Chickite
- Colin Gabelmann
- Colleen Perrault

Managers

Executive Director

- Wendy Richardson

Assistant Executive Director

- Carol Harling-Bleeks

Program Managers

- Colleen Ross, Manager of Finance and Administration
- Lori McKeown, Campbell River
- Carol Harling-Bleeks, Campbell River
- Vicki Miller, Courtenay
- Tina Rader, Youth Forensic Psychiatric Services
- Vanessa Bramhill, Attendance Programs
- Tanya Storr, Communications and Development

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President's Report

What an immense pleasure and honour it has been to chair JHSNI for the past year. The year has been one of notable recognition for this Society.

Firstly, we had the gratification of hosting such a dignitary as Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond, Representative for Children and Youth for the Province, who presented at our AGM and gave very positive feedback on our six-suite facility for homeless youth and other programs.

Secondly, the above facility came to fulfillment because both provincial and federal agencies and others supported our plan and recommendation. And Barnett House was born, a reflection of the hard work and perseverance of our current staff and administration and former Executive Director, Paul Barnett.

Thirdly, a classic fundraiser at Crown Isle Golf Course sponsored by JHSNI not only garnered a goodly sum of money but also raised the profile of the Society in our major centres.

Finally, JHSNI has been nominated as one of the three finalists for the Campbell River Chamber of Commerce Award of Distinction, certainly due in part to our now quite seasoned Executive Director, Wendy Richardson.

These are but a few of the successes attained this past year by the highly qualified and dedicated staff and administration. To mention a few others: quality control, client file management, and development of computer programming which others wish to purchase or replicate. These achievements speak to the standard which has been achieved by this Society.

Sincere thanks to the Board of Directors who have helped guide me through this year and thanks to the staff, administration, and stakeholders without whom none of the above could have happened. To conclude, John Howard Society of North Island, you have come of age!

Sincerely submitted,



Lois G. Liesch



Executive Director's Report

Looking back on my second year as Executive Director of this Society, I am grateful to staff, clients, and stakeholders for helping JHSNI to achieve some significant goals. It has been a busy and interesting twelve months.

In last year's annual report, we announced our purchase of a six-plex apartment building in Campbell River to provide youth housing. We completed extensive renovations to the structure and property over the summer and fall of 2008, with finishing touches continuing into the winter of 2009. The property purchase and renovations were made possible by grants and donations. Staff chose to name the building Barnett House, in honour of retired JHSNI Executive Director Paul Barnett, who served the Society for 26 years, and his father, the late Tom Barnett, MP for the North Island region from 1953-1974 and Mayor of Campbell River from 1976-1980. Tom was honoured as a Freeman of the City in 1982. Ruth Barnett, Tom's wife, was honoured as a Community Builder in 2007 for her work in Campbell River.

Barnett House contains five bachelor apartments for youth and one office unit for the full-time Supported Independent Living Coordinator. The first youth began moving into the apartments in the fall of 2008, and we had five youth placed by early November. Thanks to the hard work of staff and contractors, and the generosity of funders, Campbell River now has a facility dedicated to youth who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. I would also like to thank JHSNI's board for their support of this exciting initiative. It is wonderful to see one of our Society's long term goals come to fruition.

Another important event during the past fiscal year was the Society's first "Dollars for Youth" Fundraising Gala. Held at Crown Isle Resort in Courtenay on November 14, the gala raised in excess of \$16,000 for youth in need. The staff fundraising committee worked hard to plan a very successful and enjoyable evening. On behalf of the Society, I'd like to express our sincere thanks to all the businesses and individuals who supported this event. Funds raised at the gala were directed to JHSNI's Youth Enhancement Fund to pay for special expenses that are not covered by government funding.



We made great progress on developing new methods of collecting client feedback this year. On March 28, 2009, we held our first Youth Forum at JHSNI's Beech Street facility in Campbell River. The purpose of the forum was to encourage feedback from former youth clients so that we could learn how JHSNI has helped them. Sixteen youth from several Vancouver Island locations participated and were fully engaged in the process. Staff used Appreciative Inquiry to solicit positive stories from the participants. We will use the information collected during the forum to continually improve our services. We've also implemented new systems for collecting feedback while youth are receiving services, in addition to providing a satisfaction survey at the end of service.

We have been working hard to prepare for our site survey by our new accrediting body, CARF (Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities). Preparation has involved ensuring our policies and procedures meet or exceed CARF standards, developing program manuals, and designing methods of measuring program outcomes. Our site survey is scheduled for August 10-12, 2009.

Other exciting highlights of the past fiscal year have included establishing JHSNI's Cultural Competency Committee, presenting the first Spirit of John Howard Award to long-time board member Terry Moist, and welcoming Dr. Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond, BC's Representative for Children and Youth, as the keynote speaker at our 2008 AGM.

In terms of programming changes, we added the full-time position of Supported Independent Living Coordinator for Barnett House this year. We were very sorry to lose the full-time position of Caregiver Support Worker in Courtenay and a half-time position in the High Risk Children and Youth Program due to funding cuts.

Recently, we were thrilled to learn that JHSNI has been nominated and subsequently selected as a finalist for a Campbell River Chamber of Commerce "Award of Distinction". We are very pleased about the positive publicity that will result from this nomination.

Our Society is fortunate to receive support from provincial and community partners. During the past year I have attended PARCA board meetings, John Howard Society of BC meetings, Regional and Provincial Youth Justice Forums, and a National

Forum on Working with Female Youth in the Justice System. JHSNI's continuing partnership with PLEA Community Services is of great value to our agency.

I am ever grateful to our hard working, creative, and dedicated staff. The challenges of their day-to-day work are considerable, yet they continue to exceed my expectations and enhance JHSNI's reputation in the communities where we provide service.

We work in close collaboration with the Ministry of Children and Family Development, the Vancouver Island Health Authority, School District #72, and Adult Forensic Services. We greatly appreciate the donations we have received from community organizations, businesses, and individuals. To all who support JHSNI we offer our heartfelt thanks.

I'd like to offer our best wishes and gratitude to Helen Farrell, who retired on March 31, 2009, after 16 years serving the Society. Helen was the friendly face at the front desk and voice on the phone of JHSNI's Admin Office, and she was greatly appreciated by our clients and staff.

I am looking ahead to the next year with anticipation and interest. Our programs are more in demand than ever in this challenging economic climate, and we will continue to offer innovative and responsive client service to vulnerable youth, families, and adults.



Wendy Richardson

List of Funding Sources

- Ministry of Children and Family Development
- Vancouver Island Health Authority
- Ministry of Health Services
- Forensic Psychiatric Services Society
- School Districts #71 and #72
- Donations and grants – foundations, private, and corporate
- City of Campbell River
- BC Gaming and Enforcement Branch
- PLEA (through VanCity Award)
- Fundraising events

Year End Reports

Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Team 6th Annual Report

April 2008 - March 2009

Pre-amble

This year has seen the integration of new team members. While the agency moves into accreditation under CARF, CQI has taken this time to review and track our processes, to re-evaluate why things are done, and worked to ensure that processes and tracking systems remain consistent and make sense.

Team Members

There have been some changes to the CQI team this year but membership has remained stable.

Deb Grant, Val Colquhoun, Gérard Choquette, and Natalie Meredith continue to participate in this committee. Natalie has been a member of CQI for the past seven years, Val for the past four (but was a member of case record review for two years prior to that), and Gérard and Deb have been members for approximately three-four years!

Dana Starritt has been replaced by Richard Williams and Alisha McLean has been replaced by Louise Scott. Welcome to our newest additions.

Case Record Review

Natalie Meredith and Debbie Grant continue to be the case record review team. Natalie has been on case record review since 2003 and Deb since 2005. Ideally, we should have a minimum of four team members to a maximum of six. We are again actively recruiting and looking for ways to increase and retain our team members.

This past year, as we moved ahead with CARF accreditation, has been a difficult one for case record review review. It has been clear that we need to implement program specific file reviews but have been waiting for program manuals and file checklists to be completed before creating new forms. These have slowly been coming in and it is our goal to get this underway in the next few months.

Staff Satisfaction Survey

A Staff Satisfaction Survey was not completed this year as the Healthy Organization Project Survey was sent out in October.

Outcomes Measurement

Individual programs collect and submit stats/outcomes.

Long Term

CQI will continue to monitor systems, administer a Staff Satisfaction Survey this fall, and implement program specific file reviews.

CQI hopes to be able to gather information on client satisfaction: what various programs are doing across the agency to gather this information, what reports are generated, and what is being done with the results.

Communication

All CQI information is posted on the JHSNI staff secure website. It was decided that CQI meeting minutes, quarterly reviews, and case record reviews would be posted. As well, a new electronic "Recommendation to the CQI Committee Form" is available on the JHSNI staff secure website.

Noteworthy

In CQI's quarterly review of agency wide issues it was noted that the process for tracking and monitoring client incidents, staff incidents, and vandalism was no longer being followed. CQI members are working with management to ensure that this information is made available and tracked in a systematic fashion. This will be ongoing throughout the next year.

Terms of reference for CQI have been signed off.

CQI had been asked to take on an annual improvement project. After much discussion CQI determined that we do this on an ongoing basis. As a committee our goal is to track systems and ensure that the standards and quality of work are being met or exceeded. Our recommendation system, case record review, and quarterly review are systems of ongoing improvement. While these processes have been in place for a long time it is our experience that ensuring their continuity and quality is an ongoing project. CQI also monitors other committees within the agency by requesting and reviewing their minutes.

Other Initiatives

Various programs are gathering program specific client feedback and this is valuable to the agency, its employees, and stakeholders. CQI has been attempting to gather information on what additional client feedback is being collected by programs and summarizing the information to include in our quarterly reports.

We appreciate the support of the board of directors and management, and their willingness to receive recommendations and requests from the CQI team.

Karen Turner

Board Member

Karen was drawn to join JHSNI's board because of her keen interest in youth justice. She observed that clients served by the agency are youth and families who tend to be marginalized and forgotten by many.



"Our clients are members of our communities and I feel we have a social responsibility to them. My participation on the board allows me to make a contribution to a mandate that's very important to me personally and as a community member."

Karen enjoys being part of an organization that is healthy, progressive, and proactive. She appreciates having a leadership role to support the success of employees who are doing work that they love to do. Karen also serves as board representative on JHSNI's Strategic Planning Committee.

A continual focus for the Society is maintaining existing relationships with funders and creating new relationships. JHSNI has been fortunate in attracting and retaining high quality staff, and Karen pointed out that this needs to be an ongoing commitment over the coming years.

"Remaining an employer of choice is key. Our biggest strength is our people," said Karen.

Karen would like to see JHSNI continue to support post-secondary students by providing practicum placements. "I think of us as a mentoring organization in the education of human service practitioners. I'd like to see us become more active in research that supports the needs of youth and families."

Born and raised in southern Ontario, Karen has lived in the Comox Valley for almost 15 years. She has a background in health care and social services. Currently, Karen is busy completing her Master's in Counselling Psychology through Yorkville University in New Brunswick and working part time in her counselling practice.

In her spare time, Karen enjoys spending time with family and friends, being in nature, meditating, and taking long walks on the beach. Her greatest pride and joy are her two sons, ages 18 and 26.

Karen is inspired by the strength of others. "I love people—they are great teachers."

Dawn Chickite

Board Member

A conversation with Carol Harling-Bleeks, Assistant Executive Director, while commuting on the Quadra ferry one day led Dawn to join the board of JHSNI. "It felt like a good fit as I already had a passion for the Society's work through my profession as a social worker for vulnerable youth."



Serving on JHSNI's board has enabled Dawn to learn more about the Society's services. "It's exciting to see the agency continue to expand with innovative programs."

Dawn observed that one of the ongoing challenges faced by non-profits is maintaining funding for existing programs and advocating for funding to develop new programs. "Barnett House is a good example of what it takes to raise considerable funds for new programming. It was a huge challenge with a successful result."

Dawn would like to see the Society continue to find ways to support youth and adults who are homeless. She also welcomes more programming that follows the principles of restorative justice.

Dawn was born in Vancouver and has lived on the west coast for virtually all of her life. Through her 20s and 30s she worked as an educational video producer for UBC.

"At one point I was producing videos for the human services profession, including alcohol and drug treatment programs. This led to my decision to move from behind the camera and become involved in clinical work. I returned to school and completed my Bachelor of Social Work at the University of Victoria."

A social worker for the past 13 years, Dawn moved to the Campbell River area 10 years ago. She works for MCFD, serving youth ages 12 and up along with their families.

Dawn is inspired by people who overcome significant challenges and not only help themselves, but go beyond and quietly help others. "They are the unsung heroes we don't usually hear about in the media."

In her spare time, Dawn likes to sing, play music, and be on the water, whether it's with her husband in his fish boat, paddling a kayak, or anything in between.

Staff Profiles

Rosita Kitto

Rosita began working for JHSNI in 1994-95 as an Alcohol and Drug Counsellor. In 2001 she started in her current position of Outreach Worker for the High Risk Children and Youth Program.

Rosita was born and raised in Ireland “where the mountains of Mourne sweep down to the sea.” She grew up in a large family, raised by her mom after her father died when she was 11.



“I learned so much from my family about loyalty, support, respect, courage, the value of a good sense of humour, and the strength of women.”

After college Rosita worked as a Collector of Taxes for four years, long enough to know this was not what she wanted to do with her life. She hitchhiked to Spain and lived in Mallorca for two years working as an Au Pair.

Rosita came to Victoria in 1972, married her travelling bud, and worked as a Nurse’s Aide. “We moved to the Comox Valley in 1976. As a wife and mother of two sons, I learned unconditional love, humility, and once again the value of family.”

Rosita has done a variety of paid and unpaid work in the community, including a 10-year position as a Youth/Family Counsellor at Vanier High School. Rosita is grateful for the relationships she has developed with clients and co-workers.

“It has been an honour to be invited into people’s lives when they are at their most vulnerable. The question I try very hard to keep in mind is ‘How would I like my family to be treated in a similar situation?’”

Rosita tries to support parents to become strong and clear so they feel filled with courage and self esteem, and know that they must be advocates for their children. She teaches them that with the right tools and support they can indeed do this very important work of raising their families.

“I look forward to continuing to do this work and appreciate all the support from the Mental Health Team, as well as the support and encouragement from JHSNI management.”

Colleen Ross

Colleen has worked with JHSNI in various capacities for 21 years. In the early days she provided training services to the bookkeeper of the time. Later, on behalf of a local accounting firm, she carried out the annual audit of JHSNI. In May 2002 Colleen was contracted to perform bookkeeping services to assist Wendy Richardson while she was focussed on accreditation.



Colleen was officially hired as the Confidential Administration Assistant in 2002. This changed to Confidential Executive Assistant Accountant in 2006. She was successful in obtaining the Manager of Finance and Administration position in 2007.

Colleen has taken many courses in computing, bookkeeping, and accounting, including portions of the Certified General Accountant’s program. She has worked in Public Practice for 18 years. “Public Practice teaches you to look for solutions as most of your clients are looking for someone to solve their problems.”

Colleen has always enjoyed the people who work for JHSNI. One of her favourite workplace memories involves Howard the Duck, a ceramic candy holder who used to reside at the Administration Office. Howard was elevated to JHSNI stardom through a “Name the Duck” contest initiated by now retired Executive Director Paul Barnett.

The main challenge of Colleen’s work is meeting deadlines that could have serious financial or legal consequences if not completed on time. “Sometimes those deadlines all come at once. I would not be able to do this work without the help of my amazing team of Alisha, Audrey, and Lisa.”

Colleen is looking forward to the successful completion of JHSNI’s accreditation with CARF and implementing a software system to manage the human resources material that is required. On the personal side she is excited about building her small cabin on Upper Campbell Lake.

“Hubby and I have cut down the trees and had them milled right on our property. Being at the lake in my coveralls, swinging a hammer or running the chop saw alongside my carpenter husband and my dog Cola is my greatest diversion.”

Mark Tazumi

Mark started working for JHSNI in 1996 as a Youth Worker for the Headstart Program. He has also held the positions of Recreation Coordinator, Administrative Coordinator, Training Coordinator, Assistant Program Manager, and Acting Program Manager. Mark has been the FTAP Family Resource Worker for the past two years.



“My experience working and volunteering in a youth custody centre was a good match for JHSNI’s programs.”

Mark was born in BC but grew up in Japan, being the son of missionaries. “The experience of being a 3rd generation Japanese-Canadian growing up in Japan gave me unique perspectives in looking at cultural differences, developing different leadership styles, and creating mutual understanding.”

After studying applied mathematics at Trinity Western University for a few years, Mark took the same path as his dad and studied to become a pastor. “I was a Youth Pastor at a Korean-Canadian Church in Vancouver for several years. During that time I volunteered at Burnaby Youth Secure Custody (BYSC). I was also an inter-faith chaplain at BYSC for a few years.”

One of Mark’s significant influences was a man named Ron, who mentored Mark and several of his friends during high school. “The mentoring process was significant in my spiritual and emotional formation.”

Mark’s highlights with JHSNI include his time at the Challenge Centre and developing the community-based model for Headstart with Harvey Kirsch. As well, being on medical leave for a year was a blessing in disguise because of the incredible amount of support from JHSNI. “The Xmas hamper our family received will never be forgotten, especially by our kids.”

One of the challenges of Mark’s job is to balance the competing needs of youth, caregivers, and the program. “Being patient and treating each other with generous amounts of grace has been key in learning how to work through issues.”

Mark feels honoured to work with incredibly dedicated staff, caregivers, and managers at JHSNI. “We are making a difference – in the lives of the youth, in the community, and with each other.”

Deb Grant

Deb began working for JHSNI 18 years ago. Her first position was at the Discovery Centre, a home for adjudicated youth. She always admired the courage it took for the youth to take responsibility for what they had done, and she appreciates just how difficult that process was for them. “When some of them got it,” she said, “it was so neat to see.”



Deb worked next in a Family Support position, and then as an Independent Living Worker, the position she currently holds.

Deb held a number of careers before settling on working with youth. She made the decision to go back to school in her late 20s. Deb disliked school as a teenager, but decided to go back when she contemplated how many working years she had left, realizing she wanted to do something she really enjoyed.

She took a psychology course at North Island College and was hooked. “I realized how much there was to learn.” Soon after, Deb was at UVIC, where she completed a BA in Child and Youth Development. She overcame her previous difficulties with school by giving herself permission to take her time finishing a degree, a lesson she has passed on to her clients.

Deb’s position as Independent Living Worker generally has a large caseload, and the intake period for each new client can be a tremendous amount of work. However, helping her clients acquire the skills and resources necessary to live independently is very rewarding.

Despite her busy schedule, Deb also sits on the CQI and File Review Committees. She values the Society’s commitment to continuous improvement and growth, and she appreciates its support to staff during the improvement process.

When she isn’t at work, Deb spends much of her time gardening, a passion she happily shares with co-workers by bringing them plants. Working with the committed staff at JHSNI makes her days fun and positive, and she would like to say thank you to the John Howard team for 18 years of support and friendship.

KidStart Mentoring Program

This winter marked the 2nd anniversary for KidStart Campbell River and the 1st anniversary for KidStart Courtenay ... and what an action-packed time it has been for both communities! During the last fiscal year, 20 volunteers in Campbell River and five volunteers in Courtenay were connected with vulnerable kids. The KidStart program has three main components (mentee intake, mentor screening, and fundraising), which keep the Coordinators very busy.

Networking with referral agencies to identify and complete home-based intake sessions with vulnerable children and youth (ages 6-18) is the method for finding mentees. Referrals come from the School District's Behaviour Resource Team, The Ministry of Children and Family Development, Family Services, and youth workers and counsellors from various other social services throughout the community. Kids and their parents/guardians involved in KidStart have to want to participate, and often wait for years to be matched, so it is a very heart-warming experience to make these connections.

The extensive screening and ongoing training of volunteer mentors is designed to prepare them to be the best support system for their mentees that they can be. Mentors are guided to focus on having fun, develop a committed friendship based on trust, and provide weekly opportunities for their mentees to experience success. The personal growth and self esteem development observed in many mentees is the most significant marker that KidStart mentors are achieving these goals. Feedback from parents/guardians, referrers, and mentors has been really phenomenal.

As KidStart does not receive government funding, ongoing fundraising for the sustainability of this special program is a major focus. Funding applications, fundraising events, and public fundraising campaigns all contribute to the successful future of KidStart at JHSNI. Financial contributions, as well as donation of tickets and discounts that mentors can use for their fun outings, are all greatly appreciated. If you would like to support KidStart, please contact JHSNI at 250-286-0611 or visit www.jhsni.bc.ca to donate online.

With more than 90 children and youth waiting to be matched, we would be happy to see the coming fiscal year bring many new volunteer mentors (of all ages and backgrounds) our way. If you or someone

you know loves children, has three hours per week available, and wants to get involved in a volunteer opportunity that can be truly remarkable, please call or email the KidStart Coordinators today:

Campbell River Coordinator, Tara Jordan:
tara@jhsni.bc.ca or 250-203-4666

Courtenay Coordinator, Wendy Thurlborn:
wendyt@jhsni.bc.ca or 250-898-4842



Self-portrait of one of our KidStart kids, age 12, and her volunteer mentor. For more information about KidStart, contact Tara Jordan (Campbell River) at 250-203-4666 or tara@jhsni.bc.ca or Wendy Thurlborn (Courtenay) at 250-898-4842 or wendyt@jhsni.bc.ca

Letter from a KidStart Parent

This is an excerpt from a letter that JHSNI received in the fall of 2008 from a parent whose daughter is benefitting from the KidStart Mentoring Program:

My daughter went through a rough few years due to alcohol and drug addiction, ending in the separation of her parents. Her mentor Nicole is awesome. Nicole has a busy schedule and manages to spend at least six hours per week with my daughter. I find her quality time with Nicole is very helpful. They go swimming, to movies, and out for walks and bike rides. It helps that her mentor has not been involved in the family problems, which makes it so much easier for my daughter to connect with Nicole in a buddy way. My daughter is very relaxed after spending time with Nicole and is always excited for their next get together.

JHSNI Youth Forum

In an effort to encourage feedback from clients, JHSNI held its first Youth Forum on March 28, 2009. The day-long event was held at our Beech Street location in Campbell River and facilitated by JHSNI staff members Jenn Errico and Jen Furst, with assistance from other staff. Sixteen youth from various Vancouver Island locations participated and were fully engaged in the process. Appreciative Inquiry, a way of asking questions to build on strengths and successes, was used to invite positive stories from the youth. The day included ice breaker activities, a world café conversational process, trust exercises, and more. JHSNI provided transportation, food, and an honourarium for each youth.

Here are some short excerpts from stories shared by the youth:

“When I was kicked out several times and I had many issues with dealing with neglect, I asked for help. I was referred to The John Howard Society and it has helped me see that you cannot change the past but you can help yourself for the future.”

“When I asked for help I got it. If I stayed down in the Lower Mainland I wouldn’t be alive today. I was robbed at gunpoint. I asked my Probation Officer for help. She got a court order to send me here (Headstart). Now I’m doing good. I graduated from school. I have a bright future. Maybe I could be an inspiration to other people that go through stuff like me.”

World Café for Grade 8 Students

A world café event for grade 8 students at G.P. Vanier Secondary in Courtenay had 160 participants and was a great success. World cafés are an intentional way to create conversation around questions that matter. The event was held in early April 2009 and the topic of discussion was Teen Drug Use. Wendy Morin, JHSNI Alcohol and Drug Early Intervention and Prevention School-Based Counsellor, and Laura LeBlanc, North Island College Nursing Student, organized the world café.

Adult and older teen volunteers were the table hosts. A small youth focus group created questions for the discussions. Students presented their ideas in a variety of ways, including doodling. Hosts recorded themes generated onto coloured, hexagonal shaped paper and linked the shapes together to create a “honeycomb” visual of ideas. Large group discussions took place after the table conversations.

The following feedback was collected from participants and table hosts:

“Productive, fun, interesting, inspiring, hopeful, eye-opening, empowering, and safe.”

“I felt that lots of youth felt comfortable and able to share their thoughts. Lots of youth were eager for the opportunity to be heard. The youth enjoyed being able to doodle.”

“Such a fun, respectful setting! Loved that it wasn’t one more speech, and that it was interactive.”

“Kids came up with some really clear information about how they would like their parents to discuss this issue with them (calmly, not asking questions, not getting uptight or serious) and about the modeling they see from adults-sometimes own parents-that really contradicts the ‘don’t do drugs’ messages these same adults are spewing.”

Vanier staff also provided good feedback about the day. Information received will help in planning future events that are youth-friendly and engaging. Plans are already underway to take the information gathered at the café and expand on some of the identified themes.



A table host at the Vanier World Café guides students in discussions and doodling.

Spirit of John Howard Award

JHSNI Executive Director Wendy Richardson announced the creation of the Spirit of John Howard Award at the Society's 2008 Annual General Meeting. This award recognizes an individual who makes a major contribution to the youth justice system, the young people we serve, our community, and The John Howard Society of North Island.

Wendy was delighted to present the first Spirit of John Howard Award to Terry Moist, outgoing President of the Board, for his 30 years of dedicated volunteer service to JHSNI. Terry has served on the Society's board since 1978. During that time he has served many terms as President and has represented the agency at numerous important events, both in Campbell River and South Island locations.

Terry spent many years in the school system teaching youth who were facing challenges. He has a solid understanding of their needs and brings his compassion and dedication to his work with JHSNI, always advocating for our clients. At the same time he is sensitive to the importance of balancing the needs of JHSNI employees with the business side of running the Society.

Terry has seen the Society expand from one employee to the more than 60 staff and contractors we have today. His clear thinking and good judgement have helped JHSNI through many a challenge, and his openness to hearing new ideas is a continual support. Thank you, Terry, for all that you do!



Wendy Richardson presenting Terry Moist with the Spirit of John Howard Award. Terry has served on JHSNI's board since 1978.

BC's Representative for Children and Youth

JHSNI was thrilled to host Dr. Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond, BC's Representative for Children and Youth, as the keynote speaker at the Society's 2008 AGM. She spoke on the topic: "Preparing a Better Path for our Children."

Dr. Turpel-Lafond was appointed to the position of BC's Representative for Children and Youth by the provincial government in November 2006. She holds a doctorate of law from Harvard Law School, as well as many other certificates and degrees. She has been the recipient of numerous awards, scholarships, and grants over the years. She is widely respected as a consultant, a supervisor, a peer reviewer, and an advocate.

Her career has been extraordinarily varied, including work as a visiting and tenured professor, a lawyer who has appeared before all levels of Courts in Canada, the first person of First Nations ancestry to be appointed to the bench in Saskatchewan, and a published author. Her dedication to children and youth has resulted in improvements and partnerships to better serve this often vulnerable population and their families.

In addition to speaking at the AGM, Dr. Turpel-Lafond visited Laichwiltach Family Life Society, met with caregiver support workers and foster families, visited the Oasis and Headstart Programs at JHSNI's Beech Street facility, and toured Barnett House.

Barnett House

Following JHSNI's purchase of a six-plex apartment building in Campbell River in February 2008, extensive renovations began to transform the property into a safe and attractive housing facility for youth ages 16-19. The majority of the renovations were completed by the end of September 2008. The first two youth moved into the facility in early September 2008 and began participating in the on-site programming. Three more youth were screened and had moved in by early November. The facility has been fully occupied since that time.

While completing the renovations, we were able to assist vulnerable young people in gaining paid work experience. Youth from JHSNI and School District #72 learned valuable job skills while assisting with demolition and site prep, carpentry, painting, and more. Our Project Coordinator, along with several of the contractors, enjoyed taking on a mentoring role. After working on the six-plex, one of the youth was hired by a contractor to work on other jobs.

We have received very positive feedback from the community regarding our renovations to the six-plex. The next door neighbours, senior residents of a Lions Club apartment building, are very pleased with the improvements. On the other side is a local business, Video Works. The Video Works manager has complimented us on a job well done. Other neighbouring businesses have also passed on positive comments.

The young people living in the apartments have expressed appreciation for having a safe, supportive place to live. They view it as a stepping stone towards further independence. They enjoy the furnishings, décor, and the convenient location. The youth can easily walk to shops, a laundromat, schools, recreation and health facilities, and the video store. The facility is on a bus route. A deck, picnic table, and barbecue added this spring have proven to be very popular.

Staff chose to name the building Barnett House, in honour of retired JHSNI Executive Director Paul Barnett, who served the Society for 26 years, and his father, the late Tom Barnett, MP for the North Island region from 1953-1974 and Mayor of Campbell River from 1976-1980. Tom was honoured as a Freeman of the City in 1982. Ruth Barnett, Tom's wife, was honoured as a Community Builder in 2007 for her work in Campbell River.

Barnett House and its innovative programming has attracted interest from other John Howard Societies and youth agencies. Lori McKeown, Campbell River Community Programs Manager, and Gary Hartford, Supported Independent Living Coordinator, presented a workshop on Transitional Housing for Youth at The John Howard Society of Canada Conference in Ottawa in February 2009.



Dr. Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond touring Barnett House with staff and board members on AGM day.

Youth for Seniors

JHSNI and Campbell River Daybreak Rotary Club are pleased to be partnering in a project that celebrates local youth and helps seniors. The Youth for Seniors Project provides “odd job” services at no charge to seniors who do not have the means to hire someone. JHSNI youth gain useful employment skills while doing yard work, light housekeeping, and other tasks for Campbell River residents over the age of 60. Youth are supervised by JHSNI staff and receive an hourly wage for their work, thanks to funding from Daybreak Rotary.

Youth for Seniors is helping to bridge gaps between teens and elders in Campbell River. The seniors are happy to have jobs done, and they give a great deal back to the youth in terms of positive, confidence-building feedback.

After having some work done by Youth for Seniors, one Campbell River resident sent us a letter of thanks. Here is an excerpt:

“I am a handicapped senior with a lovely home but I found my place deteriorating. You came to my aid to help me keep it nice. I was amazed by both young men, who had never done this kind of work. They accomplished exactly what a professional can do. The words ‘thank you’ cannot express my feelings. Please know that you have helped me keep my pride in the only pleasures I have—my flowers and my yard.”

Daybreak Rotary reports that its members are pleased to help young people take an active role in the community. They recognize that the youth are gaining skills for the future while making a difference in the lives of seniors.

Are you a senior who would like some assistance with odd jobs? Are you able to make a donation to JHSNI? Please contact JHSNI at 250-286-0611 to find out more.

Agency Committees

Staff, managers, and board members participate in sub-committees of the Society. These include:

- Continuous Quality Improvement
- Occupational Health & Safety
- Continuous Learning & Professional Development
- Labour Management
- Case Record Review
- Program Screening and Advisory Committees
- Strategic Planning
- Service Delivery
- Fundraising Planning
- Communications
- Cultural Competency

Youth and Family Programs

Assessment and Treatment

Youth Forensic Psychiatric Services

Psychological assessment and treatment for court ordered youth and their families. Coordination of community treatment-release plans for young offenders.

Location: Campbell River, Courtenay

- Received 27 new referrals for assessments – both court and non court ordered
- Received 23 referrals for treatment clients

Total open cases as of March 31, 2009:

- 4 court ordered assessments
- 5 non court ordered assessments
- 20 treatment clients

Program for Children with Sexual Behaviour Problems

Specialized treatment services to referred children who display sexual behaviours that are raising concern within the family, the school, and their communities.

Location: Campbell River

- 7 clients served

Counselling and Support

Caregiver Support Program

Provides support to foster parents referred by the Ministry of Children and Family Development.

Location: Campbell River, Courtenay

- 47 foster families supported

Youth/Parent Mediation

Provides crisis intervention, mediation, and conflict resolution to teens and their families, as well as parent education courses. Positive Parenting of Teens groups were offered in fall 2008 and spring 2009.

Location: Campbell River

- 130 clients served

Independent Living

Assists youth to explore options when they are living away from home. Provides advocacy, support, life skills, education, employment readiness, and counselling to youth living independently.

Location: Campbell River

- 133 clients served

Barnett House Transitional Youth Housing

Provides five units of supported, transitional housing for youth ages 16-19 who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, and one office unit for the full time Supported Independent Living Coordinator. Youth living in the building participate in developing a service plan, determining the skills they need to acquire in order to live independently.

Location: Campbell River

- 7 clients served

Youth and Family Alcohol and Drug Services

Alcohol and drug counselling services for youth, offering assessment, treatment, and individual, group, and family counselling.

Location: Campbell River, Courtenay

- 132 clients served

180 Degrees Detox and Stabilization

Provides service to youth who are in the process of withdrawal from drugs and alcohol. When a youth has been identified as needing assistance, a safe, community based, and individualized withdrawal treatment plan is jointly determined by the youth and the Withdrawal Management Coordinator. Youth reside in a John Howard Society family care home for detox and stabilization. Ongoing support is provided to youth, families, and other agencies. Service area includes Fanny Bay to Port Hardy.

Location: Campbell River, Courtenay

- 16 clients served

Youth Alcohol and Drug Outreach Support

Provides an outreach service (including after hours) for disenfranchised youth and/or their families requiring assistance with high risk behaviour, i.e. alcohol and/or drug use, high risk street activities, and disconnection from school and family members. Objectives are improved family interaction, referral to local resources, reconnection to school, and harm reduction.

Location: Courtenay, Campbell River

- 179 clients served

Family Group Conferencing

Facilitates a shared decision-making process for families receiving child welfare services. The goal is for the family to develop a plan that provides for the care and support of the child or children.

Location: Campbell River

- 13 families served

Development and Outreach

School-Based Alcohol and Drug Early Intervention and Indicated Prevention

Provides alcohol and drug prevention/intervention services to students and community.

Location: Courtenay

- 79 clients served
- Presentations to students and community on Alcohol & Drug Issues, Healthy Choices, and Making Decisions

CommunityLINK Program

Provides coordination and support for designated community schools. The programs are intended to improve literacy and learning, encourage healthy lifestyle options, increase social skills, and create cultural awareness and respect.

Location: Campbell River

Intervention

Interagency High Risk Children and Youth

Provides stability for families whose children and/or youth are identified as “high profile” through intensive intervention strategies and interagency coordination.

Location: Courtenay

- 23 children or youth and families served

KidStart

A mentoring program for children and youth ages 6-18 that volunteers make possible with a three-hour per week commitment. Mentors provide positive role modeling through a recreationally-based friendship.

Location: Campbell River, Courtenay

- 31 mentors matched with kids

Supervision

Intensive Support and Supervision/Youth Criminal Justice Act Family Support

Provides support and supervision and assists high risk youth referred by probation officers and/or social workers to make healthier lifestyle choices through: short or long term individual/family support, assessment and referral to other community agencies, advocacy, crisis intervention, case planning, and management.

Location: Campbell River

- 41 clients served

Location: Courtenay (YCJA Family Support)

- 13 clients served

Intensive Support and Supervision

Provides support and supervision to assist high risk youth referred by probation in developing healthy functioning in education, work, family and community settings.

Location: Courtenay, Parksville, Nanaimo, Port Alberni, Duncan, Port Hardy

- 106 clients served

Full Time Attendance Programs

Headstart Boys Program

Headstart is an alternative to custody program for male youth ages 14-18. This six-month long program is tailored to meet the needs of individual youth. While in the program, youth reside with Family Caregivers who are contracted with JHSNI to provide ongoing positive support and supervision to youth. Headstart emphasises life skills, academics, employment readiness and independent living readiness (where appropriate), coping skills, self-awareness, self-esteem, positive relationships, crafts, media arts, music, physical exercise programs, and more. Youth have access to recreation and personal development opportunities after-hours and on weekends, as well. There are five spaces in the program and youth are supervised at all times. The program operates on a continual intake basis.

Location: Beech Street, Campbell River

- 14 clients served

Oasis Girls Program

Oasis is an alternative to custody program for female youth between the ages of 14-18. This six-month long gender-informed program is tailored to meet the needs of individual youth. While in Oasis, youth reside with Family Caregivers who are contracted with JHSNI to provide ongoing support and supervision. The day program component of Oasis consists of life-management/psycho-educational programming, academics, counselling and support, employment readiness and independent living readiness (where appropriate), crafts, media arts, music, physical exercise programs, and more. Youth have access to recreation and personal development opportunities after-hours and on weekends, as well. There are five spaces in this program and it operates on a continual intake basis.

Location: Beech Street, Campbell River

- 12 clients served

Youth Programs, Adult Programs, and Other Projects

Youth Justice Community Beds

Provides residential services to youth who are attending treatment programs and one to one counselling with the Youth Forensic Outpatient Clinic. The beds are reserved for youth ages 14-18 who have committed sexual offences and have been accepted for treatment. The youth live in John Howard family care homes, attend local schools, and participate in community activities. A Family Resource Worker provides support to the families and monitors the quality of the home environment. The FRW also works with the Youth Forensic team to support the therapeutic goals of the treatment program. We have three beds available for court-ordered youth who are referred to this program.

Location: Courtenay

- 4 clients served

Adult Programs

Adult Forensic Treatment

Treatment for provincially sentenced adult sex offenders who attend by probation order or as a condition of parole.

Location: Campbell River, Courtenay

- 11 clients served

Adult Forensic Outreach

Provides outreach support to mentally disordered offenders and those found not criminally responsible with a goal to decrease risk factors and enhance stabilization in their community. Where needed and appropriate, assists with activities of daily living and encourages independence in areas such as cooking, financial management, hygiene, shopping, making and keeping appointments. Referrals come from Adult Forensic Services.

Location: Courtenay

- 5 clients served

Other Services

Restorative Justice

A voluntary process that brings together a young offender, the person harmed by the offence, their respective families & supporters, and relevant community members. The program is offered through a partnership between The John Howard Society of North Island, the RCMP, and the community.

Location: Campbell River

- 17 forums:
- 19 offenders
- 26 victims
- 70 supporters

Intake

Information, referral service, and immediate counselling is available to ex-offenders and families who approach the Society.

Location: Campbell River, Courtenay

Other Programs and Projects

Additional funding from various grants and community donations allows JHSNI to deliver innovative programs and projects. Staff hours are provided either through core program funding or additional grants.

- Youth Community Kitchen, sponsored by Thrifty Foods
- Bike Shop Project, sponsored by BC Gaming & Enforcement Branch
- Summer Quest, funded by a one-time MCFD grant and community donations
- Summer Youth Employment, sponsored by BC Gaming & Enforcement Branch
- Presentations for schools and parent groups
- Supported Independent Living for Youth, funded by Queen Alexandra Foundation
- Campbell River Community Services Directory
- Dawn to Dawn Action on Homelessness, Courtenay
- Pulse Youth Festival, Courtenay
- Information cards for youth
- Phone cards for youth, donated by Telus
- Campbell River Girls' Yoga Group, sponsored by BC Gaming and Enforcement Branch
- Courtenay Girls' Yoga Group
- Parent Drop-in, Courtenay
- Youth for Seniors, sponsored by Campbell River Daybreak Rotary Club

Supports

- Through fundraising dollars JHSNI provides bus tickets for local transportation to attend appointments as well as travel subsidies to attend treatment or detox.
- Swim and skate tickets are made available for clients to participate in these healthy activities.
- JHSNI's Youth Enhancement Fund provides for emergency needs, including groceries and transportation to school or work, work clothing for a youth's first job, short term courses required for employment, dental treatments, healthy activities, eyeglasses, and household items for youth who are living independently.

JHSNI Family Caregivers

JHSNI is grateful to our family caregivers, who provide safe and supportive homes for youth in our Headstart, Oasis, 180 Degrees Detox and Stabilization, and Youth Justice Community Beds programs. Family caregivers are paid contractors who work for the Society from home. They receive ongoing training and 24-hour support from JHSNI staff. Three of our family caregivers shared their experiences for this article.



Roy and Marivic began as family caregivers for JHSNI in February 2007. They provide up to two beds for youth in Headstart or Oasis. One bed is full time and the other is a respite bed when needed. The usual contract for Headstart and Oasis youth is six months.

Roy and Marivic don't have children of their own, and said providing a home to youth feels like "a way to give back." Previously, Marivic and Roy were foster parents for the Ministry of Children and Family Development. Roy is the full time caregiver, while Marivic works outside of the home seasonally. They enjoy spending time with young people.

"We go to movies and rent videos, play Wii video games, and go for hikes. We include them in family occasions and take them with us to see our relatives in Victoria. They are always welcomed with open arms," Marivic stated.

Being a family caregiver requires patience, empathy, and spending time with the youth. "The youth are the priority. If you want to make a difference you must care for them genuinely," said Roy.

Marivic added that the youth may need to talk to their caregivers at any hour, even in the middle of the night. Since becoming caregivers, Roy and Marivic have learned to be more relaxed.

"We used to be strict with the rules. Now we let the youth earn our trust more. It depends on the youth—some actually want and need rules to feel safe. And there are some rules we can't bend for the safety of the youth."

Roy and Marivic feel very supported by JHSNI. They said it's important for caregivers to accept the youth for who they are. Roy and Marivic's dog, bird, and four cats give constant love to the youth.

Joy has been caregiving for Headstart and Oasis with her husband, Robert, since April 2007. They provide two beds, and usually have one full time youth with the second bed available as respite. Joy is the full time caregiver and Robert spends time with the youth during weekends off from his job.



"We've raised two girls and two boys of our own, and one could have benefitted from a program like Headstart," said Joy. "It's a chance for a new beginning for the youth."

Joy enjoys having the youth in their home and learns a great deal from them. "I've learned to be patient and to understand how life issues can be confusing for them. I try to put myself in their shoes."

If the youth have an issue or concern, Joy encourages them to talk to her or their counsellor, key worker, or someone else they feel comfortable with. "I remind them that we're all here for you guys."

In Joy and Robert's home, there is an emphasis on laughter. The couple's cat and two dogs also help the youth feel at home.

The youth have the option of earning extra money in addition to their allowance by helping with yard work.

"My husband has ADHD, so he likes to do a variety of small jobs rather than one big job. That works well for the youth. We don't hesitate to share my husband's ADHD with them, as many of them have ADHD. It makes them realise they too could have a successful life one day."

The hardest part of the job is when the youth leave at the end of the program. "I get so attached to these kids. I still hear from kids who left a year ago. Sometimes when I'm feeling frustrated and wondering what I'm doing wrong, the phone will ring and I realise that I am making a difference."

JHSNI is currently looking for full time and respite family caregivers. If you are interested in exploring this opportunity, please contact Thanh at 250-286-0222 ext. 224.

The Society appreciates the commitment and hard work of our family caregivers. Thank you for sharing your homes with our youth and staff!

Community Donations and Fundraising

Community Donations and Fundraising

JHSNI's First Annual "Dollars for Youth" Fundraising Gala was a grand success. Held at Crown Isle Resort in Courtenay on November 14, 2008, the gala featured entertainment from the Bonnie Mayo Jazz Trio and Island Phoenix Acappella Chorus, delicious food, silent and live auctions, and door prizes. Thanks to all our sponsors, donors, attendees, and volunteers, we raised in excess of \$16,000 for JHSNI's Youth Enhancement Fund.



Members of the Fundraising Planning Committee on event night (some members are missing from photo).

JHSNI has initiated an Employee Giving Program in response to requests from staff. Employees can donate to KidStart, Youth Enhancement Fund, or no preference (in which case the funds are directed to whichever program is currently most in need) via a small payroll deduction. A tax receipt is provided each year. Several employees along with twins Cooper and Griffin Prescott are contributing to this program.

Canadian Tire Jumpstart provided funding for clients to participate in sports and recreational activities. Sunnydale Golf Course offered low cost equipment rental at the driving range for Courtenay programs. Codes Country Lanes offered a reduced rate on bowling. Janine Martin-Odlum Brown supported youth to attend the Scotty Mac Basketball Camp in the summer of 2008.

The 4th Annual Kevin Cagna Memorial 9-Ball Pool Tournament raised \$928 for JHSNI youth programs. The December 1, 2008, event was hosted by Gulliver's Pub in the Best Western Hotel, Courtenay, in memory of JHSNI client Kevin Cagna.

The Courtenay Recreation Association provided youth with free passes or generous discounts. The Comox Valley Sports Centre donated swim and skate discount booklets. Sid Williams Theatre provided complimentary tickets to youth and families through

their Superstar Program. Wachiay Friendship Centre covered the cost for two JHSNI staff to attend a four-day Whitecrow Village Live-in FASD Education session.

Barnett House received many community donations. Campbell River Lions Club donated \$4,500 towards the perimeter fence. Campbell River Noon Rotary provided \$2,500 for furnishings. BC Hydro Employees Community Service Fund donated \$1,000 for a computer. Pacific Wood Waste made a donation of top soil and fuel costs. We received several business discounts on furnishings, housewares, and landscaping supplies.

The following organizations have formed partnerships with CommunityLINK (school programs) and provide support through financial contributions, shared resources, or in-kind donations: Campbell River Parks & Recreation, Laichwiltach Family Life Society, Campbell River Multicultural and Immigrant Services Association, Save-On-Foods, Thrifty Foods, Quality Foods, Mercroft A&W, Real Canadian Super Store, Tim Horton's, McDonalds, CR Fishing Pier, Zellers, Altrusa Club, and the Kinsmen Club of Campbell River. JHSNI greatly appreciates the support of the school principals: Richard Franklin at Pinecrest, Rhona Soutar at Ripple Rock, Gary Falck at Discovery Passage, Gwendolyn Flynn at Cedar, and Greg Haines at Phoenix.

Janine Martin-Odlum Brown donated \$1,000 to the KidStart Program in September 2008. KidStart also received support from River City Cycle Club, North Island Battlefield Outdoor Laser Tag, Showcase 5 Cinemas, On the Rocks Climbing Gym, Let 'Em Loose Playing Café, Jet FM Radio, and the Independent Order of Foresters. Campbell River graphic designer Michelle Gjerde raised funds for KidStart while taking part in the 63.5 km Tahsis Lions Club 2009 Great Walk.



Vicki Miller (L), JHSNI's Manager of Courtenay Community Programs, accepts a donation of \$1,000 for the KidStart program from Janine Martin, Director and Associate Portfolio Manager at Odlum Brown.

CORILAIR donated flightseeing tours for youth and staff in the Full Time Attendance Programs (FTAP) in August 2008. Campbell River recreation businesses gave discounts to the Summer Quest program in 2008. The Kinsmen Club of Campbell River donated \$700 towards the purchase of Christmas gifts for FTAP youth. Margaret Spencer and the 7-10 Club donated Christmas and Easter gifts to youth in the Intensive Support and Supervision Program in Nanaimo. Video Works gave complimentary rentals to JHSNI staff working with youth in Campbell River.

The Pythian Sisters Dogwood Temple #5 donated \$500 to pay for youth medical and personal care expenses. Veronica's Closet free clothing giveaway for youth in Campbell River received many community donations. Thank you to the many individuals and businesses who have made donations of household items, cash, and discounts to support programs at JHSNI.

Campbell River Daybreak Rotary provided \$7,000 to support the Youth for Seniors Project. Individual seniors also donated to the project. Youth and staff from JHSNI varnished Campbell River's Transformations on the Shore carvings. In appreciation, Shoreline Arts Society donated \$500 to JHSNI youth programs.



Youth for Seniors is a project that helps young people make a difference in the lives of elders. Pictured are (L-R) Mike Quarress, Deb Grant, Gérard Choquette, Lori McKeown, and Colleen Ross of JHSNI receiving a \$7,000 donation for Youth for Seniors from Tom Robinson, Les Lengyl, and Craig Gillis of Daybreak Rotary.

Thrifty Foods continues to provide monthly food vouchers for the Youth Community Kitchen in Campbell River. Youth ages 15-19 who are living independently meet weekly to prepare and enjoy a meal together while talking about life issues.

Grants

In addition to receiving many community donations, Barnett House Transitional Youth Housing was well supported by grants. JHSNI received funding contributions from Service Canada (\$99,000) and the Vancouver Island Health Authority (\$98,000) towards the purchase price of the building. Following the purchase, JHSNI was fortunate to receive grants from BC Housing (\$99,000), Real Estate Foundation of BC (\$40,000), and Service Canada (an additional \$4,531) to cover the costs of extensive renovations to the building and property. The City of Campbell River is providing a Permissive Exemption from Taxation for Barnett House spanning the years 2009-2016.

BC Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch awarded JHSNI a Bingo Affiliation Grant in the amount of \$20,000. This grant will be used to support the KidStart Mentoring Program as well as therapeutic and skill development activities for vulnerable youth. We would like to thank the patrons of Chances Campbell River for their support.

BC Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch approved a Direct Access Grant for KidStart in the amount of \$12,000.

The Queen Alexandra Foundation originally gave JHSNI a \$56,000 grant in 2004 for the Supported Independent Living Program for Youth (SILY). The Queen Alexandra Foundation gave JHSNI a further \$40,000 in the spring of 2009 to expand the SILY program. We are using these funds to enhance our continuum of housing services for vulnerable youth.

School District #72 provided a \$500 grant for youth in the Oasis Full Time Attendance Program to go on a whale watching excursion.



Campbell River KidStart Coordinator Tara Jordan (bottom left) with a group of volunteer KidStart mentors. KidStart exists because of grants, donations, and the generosity of volunteers. Thank you on behalf of all the KidStart kids!

Connections

Community Connections

JHSNI works cooperatively with numerous agencies and organizations to assist clients and promote community development. They include:

- Ministry of Children and Family Development (Probation and Social Workers, Child Protection, Resource Team, Youth Mental Health Team, and Youth Forensic Psychiatric Services)
- Vancouver Island Health Authority
- Transition Societies
- Chamber of Commerce
- Crossroads Crisis Centre
- Campbell River Family Services
- North Island Employment Foundations Society
- Opportunities Career Services Society
- RCMP
- Service Clubs
- St. Joseph's Hospital (Adolescent Day Therapy, Substance Abuse Intervention Nurses, Crisis Nurses)
- Campbell River Hospital
- Comox Valley Family Services
- Women's Resource Centres
- School Districts #71, #72, and #85
- North Island College-Human Service Worker and Nursing Programs
- Community Justice Centre of Comox Valley
- Comox Valley Nursing Centre
- Crown Counsel Office
- Adult Corrections
- First Nations Bands
- Laichwiltach Family Life Society
- Wachiay Friendship Centre
- Campbell River Association for Community Living
- Municipalities of Campbell River, Comox, Courtenay, Cumberland, and Sayward
- Strathcona Park Lodge
- Family Resource Services
- Campbell River Assessment and Resource Service Society
- Salvation Army
- Courtenay Recreation Association and The LINC
- Comox Valley Military Support
- Comox Valley Boys and Girls Club
- Comox Valley Child Development Centre
- Island JADE Society
- Campbell River Volunteer Society
- Campbell River and Area Multicultural and Immigrant Services Association
- Safe Harbour Program, Comox Valley

Committee Involvement

Society managers and staff are involved in numerous committees and community initiatives, helping to design and support resources that will enhance services and create better places to live. They include:

- AIDS Vancouver Island
- Regional Youth and Family Addictions meetings
- Campbell River Relationship and Sexual Violence Response Committee
- Adolescent Resource Lineworkers Network, Comox Valley
- Comox Valley FAS in Action Committee
- FASD Mobile Prevention Project Steering Committee
- Campbell River Circle Meetings
- Comox Valley Family Court and Youth Justice Committee
- Courtenay Community Integrated Case Management Steering Committee
- Community Alcohol and Drug Action Committee
- Vancouver Island Community Services Co-op
- Joint Foster Parent Education Committee
- Behavioural Consultant to Caregivers Advisory Committee
- Campbell River Sexual Exploitation Action Team
- Upper Island Area Managers (Alcohol & Drug) Meeting
- Campbell River and Area Critical Incident Stress Management Society
- Agencies for Suicide Awareness and Prevention
- Comox Valley Community Non-Profit Administrators Network
- Youth Early Intervention & Transition Committee for Courtenay Mental Health
- Community Drug Strategy Committee, Comox Valley
- CARI's Childcare
- Youth Justice Advisory Committee
- Youth Forensic Psychiatric Services to Aboriginal Youth, Families, and Communities Committee
- Courtenay Community Against Sexual Exploitation of Youth
- Public Safety Community Strategy
- Campbell River Education and Practice Enhancement Working Group
- Campbell River Aboriginal Visioning Meetings
- Courtenay Aboriginal Visioning Explorers
- Active Campbell River
- Regional Family Group Conferencing
- Alternatives to School Suspension with School District #71
- Campbell River Foster Parent Alliance
- MCFD and Foster Parent Partnership Committee
- Campbell River Threat Assessment Team

Our Staff Resource

The Society's greatest resource is a talented team of professionals who focus on client service. This past year the active staff and contractor list included:

Sarah Badgero	Krista Inrig	Terry Papiernik
Paul Barnett	Sarah Jarvinen	Clifton Pinder
Pat Bavis	Annica Johansson	Brenda Pollard
Suzanne Bennett	Tara Jordan	Angie Prescott
Miranda Blomquist	Lorraine Kemper	Michael Quaress
Barry Booth	Peter Kinskofer	Tina Rader
Paul Bozenich	Rosita Kitto	Don Ramer
Vanessa Bramhill	George Kjenner	Lorraine Redpath
G�rard Choquette	Audrey Krentz	Wendy Richardson
Diane Collins	Denise Krivokuca	Karen Robertson
Valerie Colquhoun	Guy Larkin	Alana Robinson
Cassandra Corbett	Carla Leary	Colleen Ross
Heather Cowper	John Leevers	Mark Ross
Ryan Derry	Tania Leger	Louise Scott
Melanie Devine	Lane Litke	Mel Stangeland
Laura Downen	Janice Luciw	Dana Starritt
Jenn Errico	Kathy McCabe	Derek Steinh�usser
Helen Farrell	Lori McKeown	Uwe Steinmann
Joanna Foster	Nicole McKeown	Krystal Stevens
Jen Furst	Alisha McLain	Tanya Storr
Sharon Geoghegan	Sandy McPherson	Mark Tazumi
Debbie Grant	Natalie Meredith	Thanh Tazumi
Angela Granzberg	Christine Middleton	Gillian Thibedeau
Gerhard Gross	Sheryl Miller	Kathy Thomson
Gordon Gross	Vicki Miller	Wendy Thurlborn
Maureen Hamilton	Velma Mockett	Hazel Trego
Kerry Hammell	Wendy Morin	Patty Waters
Carol Harling-Bleeks	Russell Mowatt	Godfrey Wearne
Gary Hartford	Cheryl Newton	Paul Weisgerber
Enid Havelaar	Jetty Niet	Richard Williams
Robin Havelaar	Lisa Nightingale	Colleen Young

JHSNI also acknowledges the dedication of our caregiver families, who provide a comfortable and supportive living environment for youth in our programs. We would also like to thank all the volunteers who generously give their time to JHSNI.

Practicums

Courtenay Alcohol & Drug Indicated Prevention and Early Intervention Program hosted a 30-hour practicum student from North Island College's Human Service Worker Program, as well as a 78-hour practicum for a Nursing student from North Island College. A third student from the Human Service Worker Program was mentored by both the Alcohol & Drug Indicated Prevention & Early Intervention Program and the Safe Care/Youth Outreach Program. A student completing his Master's in Counselling completed an eight-month practicum placement with

the Campbell River Alcohol and Drug Team. Clinical supervision was provided by Hazel Trego. Campbell River KidStart hosted a North Island College Nursing student for her third-year practicum. Full Time Attendance Programs had two students complete their practicum placements from North Island College's Human Service Worker Program, and one student from Vancouver Island University's Human Services Program. JHSNI greatly appreciates the contribution practicum students make to our services.

MOELLER & COMPANY

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* Incorporated Professional

AUDITOR'S REPORT

To The Directors
The John Howard Society of North Island

We have audited the statement of financial position of The John Howard Society of North Island as at March 31, 2009 and the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Society's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Society as at March 31, 2009 and the results of its operations and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles. As required by the Society Act (British Columbia), we report that, in our opinion, these principles have been applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.


Chartered Accountants

Campbell River, B.C.
May 15, 2009

Statement of Operations

Year Ended March 31, 2009

Statement of Financial Position

March 31, 2009

	2009	2008		2009	2008
	\$	\$		\$	\$
Assets			Expenditure		
Current Assets			Wages And Benefits		
Cash	1,118,798	1,110,819	Wages	2,329,550	2,310,895
Cash – restricted	163,843	121,259	Benefits	578,510	577,076
Accounts receivable	38,404	92,983	Client Support Costs		
Prepaid expenses	26,014	41,686	Client activities	37,163	39,165
	1,347,059	1,366,747	Family payments	512,430	423,005
Investments	137,462	2,900	Supplies and program materials	65,800	60,086
Property and Equipment	645,463	796,942	Program Support		
	2,129,984	2,166,589	Contract fees	279,145	275,825
			Telephone	68,533	49,689
			Training and development	15,799	27,913
			Travel and accommodation	126,340	116,612
			Unrecoverable Goods and Services Tax	21,002	17,049
			Program Administrative Support		
			Advertising	5,925	10,620
			Community relations	3,499	1,928
			Insurance	19,839	25,892
			Interest and bank charges	3,031	3,992
			Office supplies	40,775	55,922
			Professional fees	11,821	21,319
			Facility Expense		
			Amortization	42,106	73,354
			Maintenance and repairs	29,068	25,634
			Rent	193,989	210,078
			Utilities	17,577	6,713
				4,401,902	4,332,767
Liabilities			Funding		
Current Liabilities			Ministry of Children and Family Development	3,085,823	2,975,073
Accounts payable	53,670	75,968	Vancouver Island Health Authority	912,564	806,078
Wages and benefits payable	197,672	213,601	School Districts	260,836	470,104
Deferred revenue	54,444	103,834	Rent	20,450	—
	305,786	393,403	BC Housing	99,000	—
			Ministry of Health	76,103	55,618
			Miscellaneous	40,597	87,544
			Real Estate Foundation	40,000	—
			City of Campbell River	39,936	75,693
			Donations and fundraising	38,231	27,138
			Gaming proceeds	35,250	20,300
			Service Canada	4,531	98,500
				4,653,321	4,616,048
Net Assets			Excess of Revenue Over Expenditure	251,419	283,281
Equity in Property and Equipment	645,463	796,942			
Externally Restricted	135,808	105,878			
Internally Restricted	28,036	15,481			
Unrestricted	1,014,891	854,885			
	1,824,198	1,773,186			
Commitments	2,129,984	2,166,589			

Statement of Changes in Net Assets

Year Ended March 31, 2009

	2009				2008	
	Invested In Property And Equipment	Externally Restricted	Internally Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance - Beginning Of Year	796,942	105,878	15,481	854,885	1,773,186	1,493,921
Excess (Deficiency) Of Revenue Over Expenditure	(42,106)	29,930	12,555	251,040	251,419	283,281
Purchase Of Property And Equipment	166,645	—	—	(166,645)	—	—
Proceeds On Transfer Of Computer Software	(75,611)	—	—	75,611	—	—
Gain (Loss) On Disposal Of Property And Equipment	(200,407)	—	—	—	(200,407)	(4,016)
Balance - End Of Year	645,463	135,808	28,036	1,014,891	1,824,198	1,773,186

How You Can Help

The John Howard Society of North Island encourages and welcomes donations to support our work in helping to create safer, healthier communities. Donations may be given for general use or targeted to specific programs or services.

The Society has a Youth Enhancement Fund to provide for special expenses for youth that are not covered by other funding, including emergency groceries and transportation, dental treatments, job readiness expenses, household items for youth living independently, and healthy activities.

After receiving your contribution we will promptly issue a charitable donation receipt.

The Society also greatly appreciates those who have been thoughtful with bequests. If you would like to leave a bequest please contact us for more information, or see your lawyer.

Donors may send contributions to:

**Executive Director
The John Howard Society of North Island
#201 – 140A 10th Avenue
Campbell River, BC V9W 4E3**

You may also donate through our website:

www.jhsni.bc.ca. Look for the 'Donate Now' button. Your donation will be processed by Canada Helps, a safe and convenient online donation service for charities.



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