

ANNUAL REPORT 2008

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

- Terry Moist, President
- Brian Kelly, Vice-President
- Patrick Field, Treasurer
- Lois Liesch
- 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
- Diane Collins, Courtenay
- Tina Rader, Youth Forensic Psychiatric Services
- Vanessa Bramhill, Attendance Programs
- Hazel Trego, Clinical Director
- Tanya Storr, Communications and Development
- Vicki Miller, Assistant Manager, Courtenay
- Angie Prescott/Val Colquhoun, Assistant Manager, Campbell River

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President's Report

The past year seems to have flown by. I'm not sure if that is more a reflection of my age or of the continued dynamic nature of The John Howard Society of North Island. I shall take it as the latter.

As we approach the first anniversary of Wendy Richardson's appointment as Executive Director, it is a credit to her skill, efficiency, and diplomacy that the transition has been so smooth. The dedication and commitment of our managers and staff have, of course, been instrumental in that easy transition.

My feelings about the Society are best reflected in two events of the past year. On one hand, we saw the official end of our association with the Challenge Centre when the lease was turned over to the Kwakiutl District Council. In wishing the KDC every success with the programs it brings to the Centre, I cannot help but feel nostalgic about the many great programs we offered at the property. Thank you to many present and former employees for their great work.

The other event is the very exciting start of the Housing for Youth project and the acquisition of the six-plex on Dogwood Street. The enthusiasm with which the community has embraced the initiative is most gratifying. I am extremely excited to watch as the project unfolds.

The conclusion of one long-term commitment and the beginning of another encapsulate my thoughts about JHSNI this year. The Society remains strong, dynamic, and essential to the North Island.

Thank you to the Board of Directors, managers and staff for their continued dedication. It has been an honour to serve as your President. Thank you also to our funding agencies for their continued trust.

Respectfully submitted

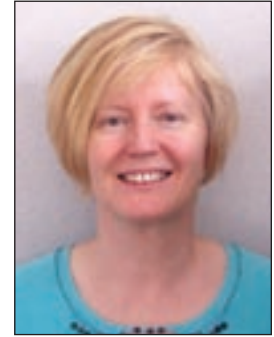


Terry Moist



Executive Director's Report

As I come to the end of my first year as Executive Director of this Society, I find it interesting and useful to look back at the short term goals that I hoped to work towards when I stepped into this position. I am pleased to be able to report that we are making steady progress towards all of them with some notable successes.



The most important success has been the purchase of a six-plex for youth housing on Dogwood Street in Campbell River. The building was purchased with funding from Service Canada and Vancouver Island Health Authority as well as funds from the Society's unrestricted assets. The Ministry of Children and Family Development has confirmed that it will provide operational funding for a Healthy House worker to offer support and programming to the youth in the house as well as funding for a Project Coordinator to oversee the renovations and program development. As an agency that provides services to youth, we are well aware of the need for supports for young people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

Another important success this year is the addition of the Beech Street offices and classrooms that currently house our Full Time Attendance Programs, Youth Forensic Psychiatric Services and several of our other community workers. Staff and clients were happy to move out of Rockland School and into this attractive downtown facility that is 100 steps away from our Campbell River Admin office. The proximity of the two buildings strengthens the collaboration between workers and programs to improve services to youth.

We had a few programming changes this year. We were excited to expand our Kidstart Mentoring Program into Courtenay. (Kidstart was initiated in Campbell River in 2006 in partnership with PLEA Community Services with funding from a portion of the \$1 million Vancity Award.) We are also delighted to be one of four agencies in Campbell River with a Family Group Conferencing Coordinator.

On the down side, we are very sorry to lose our School-Based Youth and Family Support Program in Courtenay, which is being taken in-house by School District 71 for budgetary reasons. Staff have provided

support to students and their families from Courtenay middle and high schools for many years. We greatly appreciate all the hard work they have contributed. We were also sorry to see our Women's Support Services, a program that provided support for women suffering from spousal abuse, come to an end when the funding ran out.

After many years of good work at our Challenge Centre, we are happy to report that the lease of our wilderness camp has been taken over by the Kwakiutl District Council who expressed appreciation of our donation of buildings and contents. The KDC plans to offer a variety of individual and family enrichment programs from the site.

Changes within the Society included a decision to change our accrediting body to CARF. CARF has developed a set of very client-centred Canadian based standards that are an excellent fit for this agency. Staff are now engaged in reviewing our existing policies and procedures to ensure that they meet the CARF standards. In the spirit of continuous quality improvement, we made a determined effort to improve the timeliness, clarity and transparency of our internal communications. We have a new and improved website that includes secure staff access to a variety of useful documents and forms. My efforts to get to know our wonderful staff better included job shadowing to learn about the day-to-day challenges that our staff face and "Eating with ED", a fun monthly lunch with three staff whose names are picked from a hat.

We were very happy to learn, in the fall, that retired JHSNI Executive Director Paul Barnett was the recipient of the annual John Howard Society of Canada Jim MacLatchie award for his contributions to community corrections. He was nominated by the John Howard Society of BC who believed Paul to be a very deserving candidate. Staff were delighted at the news.

One of the important tasks I set myself at the start of the year was to build personal connections with our provincial and community partners that Paul Barnett had maintained such strong relationships with over the years. As a result, I attended PARCA meetings, and now sit on the Board of PARCA; John Howard Society of BC meetings; Regional and Provincial Youth Justice Forums; and many other meetings with key stakeholders. I greatly appreciate the support and kindness of the many individuals who have helped me find my feet in my first year. In particular, I would

like to thank Tim Agg of PLEA Community Services who continued to demonstrate his commitment to the partnership between PLEA and JHSNI through his assistance and encouragement to me.

In January I began working towards a Master's in Business Administration at Royal Roads University. I attended Royal Roads for a three-week residency early in the New Year and have since completed courses in Management Accounting and Marketing. Recently, I began new courses in Corporate Finance and Research Methods. The MBA program is designed for working professionals, with most of the coursework completed by distance. So far, I have found my courses to be very interesting and applicable to my job. My next residency is in September.

JHSNI's extraordinary employees continue to be our most valued asset. Their work is challenging, sometimes rewarding but always important to the people and communities that they serve. We continue to work in close collaboration with the Ministry of Children and Family Development, the Vancouver Island Health Authority, School Districts 71 and 72, Service Canada and Adult Forensic Services. We have also been hugely supported by the private sector with many businesses donating to our efforts. To all these people we offer enormous thanks.

On behalf of the Society, I'd like to offer our thanks and congratulations to Assistant Executive Director Carol Harling-Bleeks, who reached her 25 year anniversary of service with JHSNI in December 2007. I'd also like to extend our gratitude to Courtenay Programs Manager Diane Collins, who is retiring in September 2008 after 17 years of service with JHSNI. Both Carol and Diane have been integral to the success and growth of the organization.

I am confident that the next year will be as challenging and interesting as this one and will bring us continued successes.



Wendy Richardson

Year End Reports

Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Team 5th Annual Report

April 2007 - March 2008

Pre-ambble

Considerable time was spent from September-November 2007 reviewing past records in preparation for reaccreditation under COA. Luckily the shift to CARF in the New Year has not seen all that work go to waste. It was a good opportunity to review our processes and the overall function and workings of the CQI committee. It allowed us to recognize some of the valuable initiatives we have undertaken and brought to fruition over the years, while being recognized as a valued entity within the organization.

The CQI team has worked diligently throughout this past year to create greater awareness among personnel about the role of CQI within the agency and how it can be all of our responsibility to participate and be involved in the improvement of the services we offer.

CQI completed its terms of reference, revised its annual staff satisfaction survey, and generally revised and reviewed the information being received and processes in place to do so.

Team Members

The CQI team has again undergone significant personnel changes in this last year. The team lost Wedledi Speck and Jenn Errico at the beginning of the year (April 2007) due to other commitments, and it was not until January 2008 that we regained a full team.

Acquiring and keeping members is an ongoing concern. Although we did talk about creating some form of systematic recruitment process, we have not yet done so.

The team is currently comprised of Val Colquhoun, Natalie Meredith, Debbie Grant, Gérard Choquette, Dana Starritt, and Alisha McLean. Angie Prescott is currently on maternity leave and the proud mom of twin boys!

Welcome to our new members and one returning member, Gérard.

Case Record Reviews (CRR)

Natalie Meredith and Debbie Grant have been the file review stalwarts for the past couple of years. Jetty Niet had been a team member but due to her work schedule found it difficult to make most of the review dates. The case record review team is currently in

need of committed members. We are again actively recruiting and looking for ways to increase and retain our team members. Ideally, we should have a minimum of four team members to a maximum of six.

The file review process has seen many changes this past year. We combined the Courtenay and Campbell River reviews, and then moved towards individual program reviews. We are currently in discussions about the feasibility of having program specific reviews. As we move towards reaccreditation under CARF we will be actively looking at our process and determining what changes we will need and would like to make. The case record review team is committed to streamlining our process but also want to ensure that we continue to monitor quality of service delivery while noticing trends and issues that may be of interest to our organization.

Staff Satisfaction Survey

In February 2008 we sent out a revamped, electronic staff survey (thanks Enid). Working with a few staff members, the survey was condensed and fields were added to identify worksite of staff member filling out survey. We had a 57% response rate and noticed some trends that will be forwarded to management and monitored throughout the next year.

Outcomes Measurement

This continues to be a problematic area. Our hopes for the Client Administration Management System (CAMS) to be able to generate valuable outcomes information has not yet occurred. This is a commitment for the next year and it is the organization's hope that the work we have done on program logic models, CARF program standards, and reaccreditation will help to determine the method by which the organization will measure outcomes. It is everyone's hope that this data collection will be user friendly and not consume precious direct client time.

Long Term

CQI will be actively involved in defining their role in accreditation under the new CARF standards and will continue to ensure that the systems and procedures we have in place will reflect and support the changes that will occur. We are expecting that there will be changes to the information we monitor and collect in our quarterly reports and our case record review.

CQI is committed to working closely with other agency committees, staff members, and stakeholders to ensure that the agency continues to promote a climate of transparency and inclusion in the improvement process.

CQI has expressed interest in exploring ways to track and account for time that personnel spend in activities with our stakeholders, recognizing that this involvement is critical to the success of our programs and should be acknowledged in a more systematic fashion.

Communication

Improving communication between CQI and agency personnel and other committees has been a goal for the past year. We have made steps to ensure a CQI member would be present at all staff meetings to present our quarterly report and case record review reports and be available to address any questions or concerns that arise. A CQI member continues to be available to present our reports to the board.

Minutes of our meetings, recommendations, and all reports are posted at all work sites and sent to managers. Some CQI information will be posted on the JHSNI secure website. We are working towards making staff recommendations easier to generate and have created a more user friendly form. An electronic version of this form is available on the JHSNI secure website. A mini survey was created by Debbie Grant and Enid Havelaar and sent out electronically to all staff to get feedback on their awareness and knowledge of the CQI process.

Val Colquhoun is currently the committee rep who sits on the Strategic Planning Committee. We have implemented a clear process to receive regular reports from the Occupational Health and Safety Committee and are currently working towards having a member from our case record review team attend Service Delivery Committee meetings on a quarterly basis.

Noteworthy

Client satisfaction surveys continue to indicate a high level of client satisfaction with the service being provided.

In general, this past year has seen significant improvements in service delivery and quality of files. Much of this is attributable to the widespread use of CAMS among agency staff and the consistency in paperwork and process that this has helped to create.

Through CQI's ongoing monitoring it became apparent that some agency teams/committees had disbanded and/or were no longer meeting regularly. Inquiries and recommendations were instrumental in getting these groups back on track.

Other Initiatives

CQI approached Wendy Richardson early in the year to discuss the ongoing lack of a human resources report, which Wendy was able to create based on some criteria we suggested. Wendy was very pleased to be able to share the results with the CQI team and valuable information was gathered from this report. It is the intention of the agency to supply CQI with this report on a semi-annual basis.

CQI is working towards a more comprehensive survey of staff members who leave the agency or shift jobs within the agency. We hope to work with management to create a survey and process that will gather adequate information. We appreciate the support of the Board of Directors and Management, and their willingness to receive recommendations and requests from the CQI team.

Agency Committees

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

- Continuous Quality Improvement
- Occupational Health & Safety
- Critical Incident Debriefing/Stress Management Team
- Training
- Labour Management
- File Review
- Program Screening and Advisory Committees
- Strategic Planning (Task Force Committee)
- Service Delivery
- Fundraising Planning
- Succession
- Communications
- Housing for Youth

Funding Sources

- Ministry of Children and Family Development
- Ministry of Employment and Income Assistance
- Provincial Health Services Authority
- Vancouver Island Health Authority
- School Districts # 71 and #72
- Service Canada
- Donations and grants - private and corporate
- City of Campbell River
- BC Gaming Commission
- PLEA (through VanCity Award)
- Fundraising events

Oasis Success Story

Jen* has just graduated from the Oasis program. This is her second time in JHSNI's Full-Time Attendance Program, but she is certain it is also her last. Her first time in Oasis, she claims, she simply wasn't in the right "head space," and she didn't feel committed to changing. During her first six months she got into all kinds of trouble, going AWOL, breaking her arm, and just barely making it through the program. Upon graduation from Oasis, she left Campbell River for family in Fort St. John, but it wasn't long before she was in trouble again. This was a difficult period in Jen's life – during her time in Fort St. John she dealt with a number of difficult situations, including a serious car accident, and was arrested on Halloween night.

The Judge presiding over her case in Fort St. John told her he didn't know what to do with her, and asked her what she wanted. She answered that she wanted to go back to Oasis. This time, Jen knew that she was ready to change. Her success in the program during her second six-month term is evident. She graduated the day before, but she is still sitting on the couch in the girls' living room, enthusiastically relating her experience at Oasis. She speaks highly of the program workers, whom she credits for helping her make it to where she now finds herself – healthy, confident, and ready to start a new life.

* Name has been changed.



'Eagle' by Nikida Donaldson, age 16

Harry's Story

Harry:

I was born in England. Unfortunately, my Dad was a drug addict and he got my Mom hooked. So I was always around drugs. I started rolling spliffs (tobacco and hash) when I was five years old, that was when I started smoking both cigarettes and hash. While my Dad was using, if he couldn't get drugs and was "coming down" he would become violent and beat up my Mom and me. As his addiction got worse, he became more ill and more violent, until he finally gave up. He committed suicide--my Mom found him hanging at home--I was nine. About three months later my Mom, sister, and I moved to Canada--for a fresh start. I was very angry about moving. I behaved terribly because of it, becoming violent and destructive, not listening to or caring about anything or anybody except my anger. I didn't care about what happened to me or anyone around me.

I started smoking pot (because I couldn't get hash easily) and drinking over here when I was about 10 years old. I started getting in trouble with the law at 11. Right after my 12th birthday, I was arrested for theft and sent to Lakeview Juvenile Detention Center. After I got out of Juvie, I hung out with a bad crowd. I started using drugs and alcohol all the time. I couldn't go to school because my reputation was terrible and no school would take me. I was constantly in and out of jail--usually for theft, assault, or drug charges. It got to the point where the police would stop me as soon as they saw me because they knew I would be up to no good. From the ages of 13-17, I was picked up by the RCMP 47 times!

In my life of drug use I used alcohol, hash, pot, acid, mushrooms, snorted and shot up coke and heroin, crystal meth--if it was out there I tried it. While I was using I was careless and ended up with a couple of STD's, luckily treatable ones. Up to the age of 17, my life was a downward spiral. I was self-destructive; I didn't care about anything or anybody.

On April 3, 2004, my life changed in an instant. I was in a boating accident with some of the "friends" I had made. I ended up in a coma in Victoria General Hospital for three months with a serious brain injury. The doctors thought I would not even survive, but I woke up--with severe vision loss, memory loss, unable to walk, talk, feed, bathe, or look after myself. Although my accident has left me with many disabilities to overcome, I feel at times that it also

saved my life. If it had not happened I probably would have been killed, have killed someone, spent the rest of my life in jail, or killed myself.

Before my accident, there was nothing that could have been said or done to stop my destructive path. Since my accident, I feel that I have been given a second chance. I graduated from Timberline High School, which never would have happened before my accident. I am attending college and planning to finish next year, and I do lots of volunteer work in the community. For the first time in my life, I feel optimistic about my future because I am working so hard towards it. By sharing my story, I hope I can help other kids in my community.

Gérard:

Six years ago when I first started to work as a Youth Justice Worker for The John Howard Society of North Island, one of my first clients was Harry. Although Harry was a very personable young man and we connected on a personal level, I was constantly wondering how I could help Harry make positive changes relating to his drug and alcohol abuse and associated criminal activities. Honestly, it made me wonder if I was effective as a youth worker other than the supervision part of my job.

Then one day Harry was involved in a horrible accident that left him in a coma and with huge memory lapses. When he awoke, surprisingly, Harry remembered my name when I saw him again and he wanted me to keep in touch. Life happens quickly sometimes and it wasn't until last year that Harry contacted me and said he was looking for a way to help all the other youth struggling with drugs and alcohol. He told me that his biggest dream was to work with and help kids.

I now feel that I may have helped plant the seed of change in Harry. Harry and his team (Sheila, Patty, and I) are presently working towards a lesson plan and presentation that will allow Harry to take his message to Campbell River youth. We are working together to help youth in the community.

I am so proud of Harry!

Gérard Choquette, Youth Justice Worker



'Lion' by Nikida Donaldson

Summer Quest Thank You

Summer Quest is a six-week program for youth ages 13-18 in Campbell River. The program combines morning classroom sessions with afternoon recreational activities. The youth learn life skills such as anger management and team building in the classroom, and then have a chance to apply their new skills while participating in fun outdoor activities.

This is an excerpt from a letter sent with a bouquet of flowers to JHSNI staff from the parents of 2007 Summer Quest participants:

You all go above and beyond on a daily basis for the kids and we most sincerely appreciate it! For those who were involved with the Summer Quest program this past summer, words alone cannot express our sincere thanks for all that you did for all of our kids! May this small token give you all some of the joy and fulfilment you gave to the kids with the program. To the rest of the staff, may they also be a small token of the same, for all that you do each day for all of us clients and families.

Board Members

Lois Liesch

Board Member

Lois describes serving on the JHSNI board as “one of her favourite places to be.” She joined the board in 2000. As well, Lois is part of JHSNI’s Succession Committee, making recommendations to the board about the granting of educational leave.



Lois formed many contacts with the Society during her years as Regional Director for Upper Island/Central Coast Mental Health. She knew some of the staff and was aware of their quality and commitment, and this motivated her to join the board after her retirement.

“JHSNI is a growing and viable Society with consistent, long term staff. The Society keeps evolving, in particular in its work with youth and the justice system, addictions, and supportive housing. JHSNI is being proactive and working to address major problems in our communities, making board work very rewarding.”

Further, Lois observed that maintaining secure funding is one of the biggest challenges that non-profits like JHSNI face. “Based on JHSNI’s track record and wonderful programs that help youth who are so in need, I think it would be fitting if government could block fund rather than requiring the Society to regularly reapply for contracts. Non-profits who are successfully filling some of government’s roles should be block funded.”

Lois completed a Bachelor of Social Work at the University of Victoria after her six children were grown. When she was over 50 she went on to do a Master’s in Clinical Social Work at the University of Calgary. Among her achievements is setting up the first mental health clinic for First Nations on the Chilcotin Plateau.

During her early years in social work, Lois was part of a large farming operation near Dawson Creek, her home community. Now in retirement, Lois and her second husband, Blake, have nine children and 18 grandchildren between them. They enjoy hosting this multitude. Lois also enjoys cooking, hiking, writing, and swimming, and she is a duffer golfer.

Colin Gabelmann

Board Member

Colin has been a JHSNI board member since October of 2007. Although a recent addition to the board, he has been politically active in the North Island since he first moved to Campbell River 30 years ago.



His experience advocating for North Island communities as a Member of the Legislative Assembly and his exposure to issues of social justice as a former Attorney General of B.C. make him well-suited to sit on the board of the JHSNI, which is precisely why Wendy Richardson asked him.

Colin was first elected as an MLA in North Vancouver in 1972, under Dave Barrett’s government. After being defeated in that riding in 1975, he moved to Campbell River, and was elected here in 1979. This was the first of four terms he would serve as MLA for the North Island.

It was during his last term, in 1991, that he became the Attorney General of the province. He worked closely with the trade union movement throughout his career, and after his retirement from politics in 1996, he worked with First Nations groups on treaty issues.

Colin’s retirement has allowed him the time to pursue his other interests, which include skiing, kayaking, travelling, gardening and spending a great deal of time playing with his four-year-old grandson.

Despite this busy schedule, Colin is happy to devote some volunteer time to sit on JHSNI’s board. As Colin puts it, “I am inspired by people who can articulate, define and act on important social issues.”

The John Howard Society of North Island, which is made up of people who are committed to helping others, is a good fit. Although he feels he is still in the learning stages, his own long-standing commitment to issues of social justice will undoubtedly make him a valuable member of the JHSNI board.

Diane Collins

Diane started working for JHSNI in April 1991. She first learned about the Society while working in Administration at Courtenay Probation. “Working at Probation exposed me to a steep learning curve that has proved invaluable in my 17 years at JHSNI.”



Since joining JHSNI, Diane has held a variety of positions including Youth Alternative Measures Program Worker, Community Work Service Placement Officer, and Courtenay Connections Program Recruiter. For the past 12 years, Diane has worked as Program Manager for Courtenay.

Before entering social services, Diane worked as a Travel Agent and then as Vacation Leave Programmer and Assistant Manning Officer for 400 personnel at BC Ferries. Diane reflected that she has learned the most applicable life lessons through being a mom. “I have always approached client service by asking, ‘How would I feel if someone was working with my son or daughter?’”

Diane values the relationships she has developed over her years at JHSNI with internal and external partners. She also appreciates every client she has worked with, as each one has taught her something. “I have been exposed to human behaviour at its best and its worst and I marvel at the courage it takes to make changes in one’s life.”

The biggest challenge Diane has faced is dealing with injustice. “People who are being harmed and are harming themselves have so many disadvantages that could be addressed through programs and funding that isn’t available. And the flip side is that society will spend 34 million dollars on going to a blockbuster movie over a weekend!”

Remaining grateful for what we can do helps Diane overcome these frustrations. She would like to acknowledge the JHSNI team for their important work. “Often, you are the link that promotes hope and starts someone looking at life in a different way. I acknowledge and appreciate your patience, effort, and the personal demands it takes to do this work.”

Diane is retiring at the end of August and looks forward to starting her next phase with all that life has to offer!

Enid and Robin Havelaar

The indispensable and interchangeable Havelaar sisters, Enid and Robin, very patiently answer to each other’s name. In between university terms, travels, and other commitments, Robin and Enid work at JHSNI. They help with accreditation, research for special projects, and technical troubleshooting.



Enid first started working for the organization in 2003. She was hired for a two-week contract to update job descriptions and ended up staying for a year to help with accreditation. She has since worked for the agency regularly as a summer student/Accreditation Assistant.

“I’m so thrilled that I get to work here. I love the fact that I work for a non-profit because I get to be involved in something that has social utility. I really believe in the work that JHSNI does,” said Enid.

Robin heard about JHSNI from her sister and has worked as a summer student every year since 2006. She described the staff and managers as very welcoming. “It’s a great organization and I feel proud to tell people that I work here,” Robin said.

Enid has a B.A. in Canadian Studies and has lived in many places, including teaching English for a year in Japan. She met her husband Isaac there and they married last September. Enid recently joined Isaac in Austin, where he is in grad school at the University of Texas.

Robin is currently completing a B.A. in History at UBC. She has worked in a variety of jobs from sales assistant at Page Eleven Books to legal secretary while living in Yellowknife for a year. During the academic year she works part time for UBC’s Department of Medical Genetics.

“I appreciate the flexibility that JHSNI offers me and that I work for such great managers. That makes it a very comfortable place to work,” said Robin.

Enid added that she has learned a great deal at JHSNI. “The people who work here are so talented and good at their jobs.”

New at JHSNI

Move to Beech Street

In response to the need for more program and office space in Campbell River, JHSNI secured a lease on Beech Street, a convenient downtown location across from JHSNI's Admin Office. Renovations followed to adapt the space to our needs and in January-February of 2008, several JHSNI programs moved in. Full Time Attendance Programs (Oasis and Headstart) moved from their interim location in the old Rockland School to the new space. Youth Forensic Psychiatric Services, CommunityLINK School Programs, Family Group Conferencing, and Caregiver Support moved over from Admin Office, relieving the space crunch there.

The move has been a relief for staff and welcome change for the youth in the FTAP programs. Although the Rockland setting had its pluses with the close proximity to a park, the school building itself had its drawbacks. One of the Oasis program participants, Rachel*, said the roof appeared to be falling apart at times – there were leaks, and possibly mould – and that the building itself was very unhealthy. She welcomed the move to Beech Street, and now that they are settled in at the new location, she is certain that the healthier environment has had a positive effect on program participants. She acknowledged that it is nice to be downtown and within walking distance to JHSNI's Activity Centre, where there is a kitchen that youth can access for cooking activities.

Vanessa Bramhill, Manager of FTAP agreed: "Beech Street has been a breath of fresh air, to say the least. Since our move in January, staff morale is up and youth acting-out behaviour is down. We attribute this shift to the serene atmosphere of Beech. Along with the full-spectrum lighting provided by the skylights, the colour scheme is neutral and the place is free of damp and mould."

Other JHSNI program staff who moved to Beech also welcomed the change. Family Group Conference Coordinator Natalie Meredith had worked out of her vehicle for some months prior to the move and was delighted to have a place to put everything. Caregiver Support Worker and Behavioural Consultant Sarah Badgero, who had previously worked from home, was quick to personalize her new space with pictures and plants.

The move didn't happen without its challenges, however. As Youth Forensics Psychiatric Services Administrative Assistant Sharon Geoghegan

explained, there were "daily computer struggles and telephone glitches. It seemed like every day for the first six weeks brought another new adventure." Despite the initial struggles, Sharon observed that having all of JHSNI's Campbell River programs closer together has created more cohesiveness.

All in all, the move has been a great success, and much of that success has been a result of hard-working JHSNI staff. Sharon commended Louise Scott, Administrative Assistant for the Full Time Attendance Programs, for "jumping in as a new employee and taking on many of the more frustrating challenges." Vanessa expressed her gratitude on behalf of FTAP: "We are so grateful to JHSNI for moving us, particularly Colleen Ross for working so hard and coordinating the renovations." The Beech Street staff would like to thank all those involved in making the move such a positive experience.

* Name has been changed



JHSNI Campbell River staff participating in Bike to Work Week gather outside of Beech Street office.

Housing for Youth

The John Howard Society of North Island took an exciting step forward this year with the purchase of a six-unit apartment building in Campbell River. The building will provide five units of supported, transitional housing for youth ages 16-19 who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, recovering from addictions, or who have been involved with the Youth Justice system. One unit will be reserved for a Healthy House Support Worker who will provide

life skills training, support, and supervision for the residents. Other JHSNI workers will provide support and programming.

Many young people in Campbell River are struggling with unstable living situations as well as other life challenges, including drug and alcohol addiction and sexual exploitation. Although transitional and supportive housing is available for adults, there are currently no facilities that meet the needs of youth in our community. JHSNI's Housing for Youth building will provide a supported, safe living environment for vulnerable youth. This facility will address a significant gap in our community's services.

Assisted by funding contributions from Service Canada (\$99,000) and the Vancouver Island Health Authority (\$98,000), JHSNI purchased the building in February. The Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) is providing ongoing funding for staffing and programming at the facility as well as funding for a one-time Project Coordinator position. The City of Campbell River is also supporting the project. JHSNI is thrilled to have the backing of three levels of government in this important initiative.

The Housing for Youth building is located on Dogwood Street with convenient access to shopping, bus routes, schools, and other services. JHSNI began renovations to the building this spring. Project Coordinator Mark Ross started work in March and is overseeing all aspects of the renovations. In collaboration with JHSNI Assistant Executive Director and Property Manager Carol Harling-Bleeks, JHSNI staff and youth, and various contractors, Mark is working hard to make the building a safe and attractive place for young people to live. In an effort to make the building as environmentally responsible as possible, JHSNI is using energy efficient building materials and fixtures, zero emission paints, additional insulation, and eco-friendly landscaping design and supplies. In addition, used appliances and other items removed from the building were donated or recycled whenever possible.

A steering committee is developing the programming and protocols for the Housing for Youth facility. Steering committee members include JHSNI staff and representatives from MCFD, RCMP, Salvation Army, Transition House, and other community organizations. A Youth Advisory Group is giving feedback to the steering committee. On the fundraising side, JHSNI is continuing to seek grants and donations to assist with the cost of renovating and furnishing the building. BC

Housing recently approved our request for renovation funding and we have other applications pending. The Society's board and staff are looking forward to this new venture that will open doors for our youth. Thanks to all involved in the project for their efforts and support to date!



JHSNI's Housing for Youth apartment building, Dogwood Street, Campbell River

Family Group Conferencing

A family group conference is a decision making meeting arranged by an independent coordinator. The process enables and assists families to develop a plan of care that will protect the child from harm and serve the best interests of the child, while taking into account the wishes, needs, and roles of the family and the child's culture and community. JHSNI began offering this program in October 2007, and is one of four agencies in Campbell River providing this service.

Natalie Meredith, JHSNI's Family Group Conferencing Coordinator, began the position with training in Vancouver and has since hit the ground running. She has completed five family group conferences, a community forum, and information sessions for both MCFD offices in Campbell River.

"Family Group Conferencing puts children at the centre of decision making, wrapping around family and community as supports," said Natalie.

Natalie is focusing on increasing awareness of Family Group Conferencing in the community and encouraging social workers to refer to the program.

For more information, please contact Natalie at 250-203-5044 or natalie@jhsni.bc.ca

Communications and Development

The Director of Communications and Development is a position that was established at The John Howard Society of North Island in March of 2007. The position was created in an effort to enhance the organization's public profile and to develop and increase its fundraising activities.

Tanya Storr, who was hired to fill the position, has been busy pursuing these objectives. In addition to writing newsletters, press releases, and program manuals, Tanya edits the annual report, designs and publishes brochures and posters, and takes on special projects such as the Vancouver Island Youth Justice Information Booklet that was published and distributed in 2007.

For the development portion of her position, Tanya researches and applies for grants and other funding, networks with other agencies and potential donors, and communicates with funders and the general public about JHSNI's programs. The two components to Tanya's job are related – when the organization's public profile is raised, community donors are more likely to fund its programs or participate in JHSNI fundraising events. These events, which Tanya helps to coordinate, in turn increase public awareness of our programs.

For more information about making a donation or other ways you can help JHSNI, please contact Tanya at 250-286-3436 or tanya@jhsni.bc.ca

KidStart Expands to Courtenay

The KidStart mentoring program is now in Courtenay! Created by PLEA Community Services Society of BC more than 20 years ago, KidStart has served thousands of clients in the Vancouver area since it began. JHSNI began offering KidStart in Campbell River in September 2006 and has recently expanded the program to Courtenay. This expansion was made possible with a portion of the \$1 million Vancity Award. KidStart is also supported by gaming funds.

KidStart Manager Carol Harling-Bleeks said the Courtenay community is welcoming the mentoring program with open arms. Families and service providers are thrilled that they can now refer vulnerable children and youth to KidStart.

Mentoring is a three+ hour per week commitment in which caring adults (aged 19 to 70+) spend one-to-one recreational time with at-risk children and youth. If you or someone you know loves children and has

three hours per week to contribute to a child or youth who needs you, please give us a call. We are also accepting referrals of children and youth (ages 6-18) who are vulnerable to crime, addiction, abuse, or family crisis.

Do you enjoy spending time with children or youth?

Do you make recreation a regular part of your life?

Do you have three hours per week to develop a friendship with a young person?

If you answered "Yes" to these questions, call or e-mail the KidStart Coordinators today:

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

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



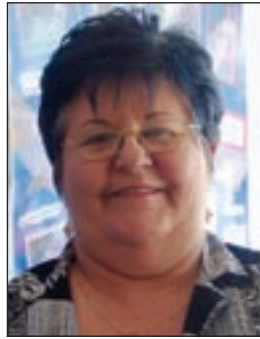
KidStart mentor and buddy enjoy a summer afternoon hanging out together.

New JHSNI Website

JHSNI has a new and greatly improved website, thanks to the hard work of Colleen Ross, Manager of Finance and Administration, and her staff. Visit www.jhsni.bc.ca to read all about our programs and services, catch up on JHSNI happenings in the latest newsletter, and find out how you can support the Society's good work. You can even make a charitable donation using the site's "Donate Now" button. Also included is a secure site where staff can access forms, minutes, reports, and more. As JHSNI has staff working in locations from Duncan to Port Hardy, the secure site has already proven to be an invaluable communication tool.

JHSNI Caregiver Families

Youth in Headstart, Oasis, 180 Degrees Detox and Stabilization, and Youth Justice Community Beds programs have safe and supportive places to live, thanks to JHSNI's caregiver families. Caregiver families are paid contractors who work for the Society from home. They receive ongoing training and 24-hour support from JHSNI staff. Two caregivers shared their work experiences, highlights, and challenges for this article.



Donna has been a caregiver for JHSNI's Oasis and Headstart programs for two years. Over that time she has done both short and long term contracts, and has provided a home to approximately 12 youth. The usual contract for Headstart and Oasis youth is six months. Donna finds she has good results because she always tries to treat the youth with respect.

"I pay attention to what the youth is telling me, both positive and negative things. I acknowledge and encourage positive behaviours, such as helping me unload groceries without being asked," Donna said.

Donna enjoys spending time with young people. The youth who live in her home typically call her "Grandma Donna." Initially, she and her husband provided the care home together. After he passed away a year ago, she decided to keep doing the work.

"I learn lots from the youth. They come with problems—otherwise they wouldn't be here. I find the majority of them just want to know someone cares. Even if I can make one slight difference, there's a reward."

Donna said she is open to learning and enjoys the training provided by JHSNI. "You need to be able to talk to the youth in a manner that is not going to do more damage and will help them move forward from their difficult past."

In terms of practical advice, Donna stated it is important not to engage in verbal power struggles with the youth. "If you take time out, it defuses the situation."

Donna added that she feels very supported by JHSNI staff and appreciates the emphasis placed on the youth's well being. "The youth are #1. We look at what they need and what is best for them."

Nicole and Adam began working as caregivers for JHSNI's 180 Degrees Detox and Stabilization Program in December 2007. Youth in this program may stay in the caregivers' home for up to three months. Nicole and Adam have provided a home to four youth so far. The job offers Nicole the flexibility she needs as the mother of a 13-year-old and a 5-year-old.



"We are a busy family and have lots of animals, including three dogs, two cats, a parrot, and two chinchillas. The animals and our young son are a big bonus in our work with youth. They help the youth to open up," said Nicole.

Nicole used to work for Headstart and Oasis and is currently completing the Child and Youth Care Program from the University of Victoria by distance. She has also worked in Early Childhood Education.

Nicole said she enjoys the challenge of working with each youth. "I like figuring out new ways to work with them. The kids have been really open and respectful with our children and our house."

At their first meeting with a youth, Nicole and Adam make it clear that they are not here to judge the youth, but to help them. "We tell them, 'If you mess up, you mess up. It's not the end of the world.' That creates an opening for honest communication," Nicole said.

Once a week they hold a family meeting to share successes and challenges. They ask the youth what is going well and what he or she would like to work on. The teens Nicole and Adam have worked with have been focused on their detox and stabilization. "They want to stay busy so we think up crafts, movies, etc to fill up their days."

Including the youth in family activities is an important part of caregiving. Nicole pointed out that some of the teens have never gone camping or had beach fires with their families. "They really respect having that family connection and are thankful to be a part of that. One of the youth who stayed with us went on to get a job and her own apartment. It's a great opportunity to make a difference."

JHSNI is currently looking for full time and respite caregiver families. If you are interested in exploring this opportunity, please contact Thanh at 250-286-0222 ext. 224. JHSNI appreciates the dedication and hard work of our caregiver families. Thank you!

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 25 new referrals for assessments – both court and non court ordered
- Received 15 referrals for treatment clients

Total open cases as of March 31, 2008:

- 9 court ordered assessments
- 8 non court ordered assessments
- 24 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

- 64 foster families supported

Youth Criminal Justice Act Family Support

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, Courtenay

- 43 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

- 106 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

- 1690 contacts made with youth and parents, including street outreach
- 197 participants in Sexual Exploitation Awareness and Alcohol & Drug groups
- 15 Safe Care Addictions Outreach clients received more intensive service

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 2007 and spring 2008.

Location: Campbell River

- 118 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

- 24 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.

- 9 families served

Youth Alcohol and Drug Treatment

Alcohol and Drug treatment services for youth, offering assessment; individual, group and family counselling; and follow-up support.

Location: Campbell River, Courtenay

- 109 clients served

Youth & Family Support Program

In cooperation with a school-based team, support is provided for youth and their families experiencing emotional, behavioural, medical/physical issues, or who are at risk of not succeeding in school. Also provided are alcohol and drug assessment, education, intervention and/or referral for students suspended from school for use of a substance.

Location: Courtenay

- 67 Alcohol and Drug suspensions
- 282 clients requiring ongoing service
- 233 one-time contacts

Development and Outreach

School Based Alcohol and Drug Early Intervention and Indicated Prevention

Provides alcohol and drug prevention/intervention services to students of Vanier Senior Secondary School, School District #71, as well as the community.

Location: Courtenay

- 50 clients served, including Alcohol & Drug Suspensions
- Presentations to students at Vanier High and other schools 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

- 21 children or youth and families served

KidStart

A mentoring program for children and youth ages 6-18 that volunteers make possible with a 3-hour per week commitment. Mentors provide positive role modeling through a recreationally-based friendship.

Location: Campbell River, Courtenay

- 30 mentors matched with kids

Supervision

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: Campbell River, Courtenay, Parksville, Nanaimo, Port Alberni, Duncan, Port Hardy

- 111 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 Caregiver Families 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, woodworking, 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

- 12 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 program is tailored to meet the needs of individual youth. While in Oasis, youth reside with Caregiver Families 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, woodworking, 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

- 15 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 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 youth who have committed sexual offences.

Location: Courtenay

- Community Youth Justice Beds – 5 clients served
- Specialized Placement – 1 client served

Adult Programs

Adult Forensic Program

Treatment for provincially sentenced adult sex-offenders who attend by probation order or as a condition of parole. Counselling and support for mentally disordered offenders and those found not criminally responsible.

Location: Campbell River, Courtenay

- 7 men attended sex offender treatment
- Outreach services to 8 men

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

29 forums:

- 58 offenders
- 44 victims
- 181 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 gaming funds and Amy Ross of Royal LePage
- Summer Quest, funded by a one-time MCFD grant and community donations
- Summer Youth Employment, sponsored by gaming funds
- Community Workshops, organized by CADAC which is funded by the National Crime Prevention Centre
- Presentations for schools and parent groups
- Supported Independent Living for Youth
- Campbell River Community Services Directory
- Dawn to Dawn, Action on Homelessness – Courtenay
- Pulse Youth Festival – Courtenay
- ‘When Conflict Leads to Harm’ community training event with Joe Solanto
- Community training with Bayla Schechter about the effect of drugs on brain development
- Information cards for youth
- Phone cards for youth, donated by Telus
- Girls’ Yoga Group, sponsored by gaming funds
- Seeking Safety Group, funded by VIHA special projects

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.
- A Youth Enhancement Fund provides for emergency needs, including medical, employment readiness, and food expenses.
- JHSNI provides paid and volunteer opportunities for youth to contribute to the community. For example, youth do yard work and maintenance for seniors and others needing assistance. JHSNI staff support and supervise youth when engaged in these first employment opportunities.

Community Donations and Fundraising

Numerous businesses and individuals contributed to JHSNI's third annual 'Dollars for Youth' Golf Tournament in August 2007. Vancouver Island InsuranCentres was our Event Partner. The tournament raised \$6,300 for JHSNI's Youth Enhancement Fund. Watch for announcements about a fall fundraiser in 2008!

Canadian Tire Jumpstart is a community based charitable program from the Canadian Tire Foundation for Families to help kids in need participate in organized sports and recreational activities. Funding is provided to pay for registration fees for individual clients.

Sunnydale Golf Course has supported Courtenay community programs by offering the driving range at minimal cost for equipment rental (buckets of balls and clubs). Codes Country Lanes enables the Courtenay community programs to participate in activities with clients at a reduced rate.

A donation of \$1,115 was received from the Cagna family in memory of their son, Kevin Cagna. These funds were raised through a memorial pool tournament and are targeted towards assisting youth in Drug and Alcohol programs.

The Courtenay Recreation Association provides our youth with free passes or generous discounts to recreation activities. These offerings are given out by program staff to youth who are unable to afford these activities. The Comox Valley Sports Centre provides swim and skate discount booklets in the same way. Sid Williams Theatre provided complimentary tickets to youth and their families as part of their Superstar Program.

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 a variety of healthy foods and enjoy a meal together while talking about life issues. Vouchers have also been used for emergency food for youth. This year's funding provided 36 community kitchen dates where approximately 108 meals were prepared and served to youth. In addition, one seasonal craft/baking group was held.

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, Literacy BC, Save-On-Foods, Thrifty Foods, Quality Foods, Mercroft A&W, The Real Canadian Super Store, Tim Horton's, McDonalds, CR Fishing Pier, Zellers, Altrusa Club, Centennial Park Preservation and Enhancement Society, Kinsmen, and The Dollar Store. JHSNI greatly appreciates the support of the school principals: Richard Franklin at Pinecrest, Rhona Soutar at Ripple Rock, Gary Falck at Discovery Passage, and Don Kretlow at Cedar.

CORILAIR made a generous donation of flightseeing tours for youth and staff in the Summer Quest program in August 2007. Shorersunners Running Club donated running shoes for our youth. Video Works gave complimentary rentals to JHSNI staff working with youth. Iza'z.tek Computer Services donated nine flat screen monitors to JHSNI. Island Phoenix Acappella Chorus purchased a clock for our new Beech Street office.

The Pythian Sisters Dogwood Temple #5 donated \$300 to pay for youth emergency expenses. The City of Campbell River donated good quality used office furniture to JHSNI. Thank you to community individuals who have made donations of household items and cash to support many programs at JHSNI.

The KidStart Program 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. River City Cycle Club chose KidStart as the Canadian recipient of their fundraising efforts as club members prepared for and completed a 1,000 km international charitable cycling event in Australia. The club held a series of fundraising events in Campbell River, bringing in a total of \$4,600.



River City Cycle Club donated \$4,600 to JHSNI's KidStart Program. Cycle club members fundraised for KidStart while preparing for a 1,000 km international charitable cycling event in Australia.

Grants

Grants

Thanks to a \$1,400 grant from Campbell River Community Foundation, JHSNI was able to purchase several media education DVD series. The DVDs are a catalyst for vulnerable youth in JHSNI's Full Time Attendance Programs to explore and deconstruct issues relevant to their lives. These issues include violence, sexism, homophobia, alcohol, drugs, smoking, body image, eating disorders, sex in music videos, video games, television, and magazines. The primary purpose of this project is to give high-risk youth the opportunity to learn life skills, gain knowledge and awareness on the impact of media and pop culture, and have increased confidence and self-esteem through engaging in discussions and projects based on the DVDs. The DVDs are used in the education component of the Full Time Attendance Programs, as well as in life skills and counselling.

The Vancouver Foundation provided a grant of \$3,290 to support the work of the Community Against Sexual Exploitation of Youth (CASEY) Committee in the Comox Valley. JHSNI Courtenay Youth Outreach Worker Miranda Blomquist has been instrumental in organizing this community action team and its initiatives. The grant money has been used to raise public awareness, sustain a network of service providers committed to addressing this important issue, and provide the community with tools to prevent sexual exploitation of youth. CASEY events have included media blitzes, resource fairs, workshops, and two youth-oriented forums: "Street Smarts" and "Taking Care of Ourselves, Taking Care of Others."

vancouver
foundation

Service Canada (HRSDC) provided \$99,000 in Outreach Communities Homelessness Partnership Initiative (HPI) funding towards the purchase of JHSNI's Housing for Youth apartment building in Campbell River. This facility will provide supported, transitional housing for youth ages 16-19 who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, recovering from addictions, or who have been involved with the Youth Justice system.

The Vancouver Island Health Authority also helped fund the Housing for Youth building purchase with a funding contribution of \$98,000. The Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) is providing ongoing funding for staffing and programming at the facility as well as funding for a one-time Project Coordinator position. The City of Campbell River is also supporting the Housing for Youth project.

The Bike Shop work experience program rolled out more than 25 repaired bicycles in the summer of 2007. This program was funded by MCFD. Amy Ross of Royal LePage Advance Realty sponsored the youth honorarium for the 10-week program and various individuals donated used bikes and parts. The Bike Shop allowed youth to gain valuable skills and confidence while fixing bicycles. Bicycles repaired by the youth were then donated to people in need in the community. This involved networking to find recipients and promoted the concept of charity.

Telus donated \$1,000 and 500 phone cards with a value of \$5 for use in pay phones (20 local calls per card) to JHSNI's Safe Care/Addictions Youth Alcohol and Drug Outreach Program. Campbell River and Courtenay Safe Care/Addictions Outreach Workers give the phone cards to youth at risk. Youth can use the cards to call the Outreach Workers whenever they need support or safe transportation. We attached labels with the Outreach Worker's phone number and the JHSNI logo to each card. The Outreach Workers report that the phone cards provide a great way to make initial contact with vulnerable youth.



Youth Outreach Workers Karen Robertson and Miranda Blomquist with pay phone cards donated by Telus to Safe Care/Addictions Outreach.

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
- RCMP
- Service Clubs
- St. Joseph's Hospital (Adolescent Day Therapy, Substance Abuse Intervention Nurses, Crisis Nurses)
- Campbell River Hospital
- VIHA Mental Health and Addiction Services
- Comox Valley Family Services
- Women's Resource Centres
- School Districts #71, #72, and #85
- North Island College
- 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
- Delta Resources
- Campbell River Assessment and Resource Service Society
- Salvation Army
- Courtenay Recreation Association
- Comox Valley Military Support
- 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

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 FAS in Action Committee
- FASD Mobile Prevention Project Steering Committee
- Campbell River Interagency Committee
- Comox Valley Family Court and Youth Justice Committee
- Courtenay Community Integrated Case Management Steering Committee
- Community Alcohol and Drug Action Committee
- Youth for Diversity Project
- Vancouver Island Community Services Co-op
- Joint Education Committee
- Behavioural Consultant to Caregivers Advisory Committee
- Campbell River Sexual Exploitation Action Team (SEAT)
- Upper Island Area Managers (Alcohol & Drug) Meeting
- Campbell River and Area Critical Incident Stress Management Society
- Restorative Justice
- Agencies for Suicide Awareness and Prevention
- Youth Justice Intervention Programs
- Courtenay Planning Committee for Pulse (an annual youth festival)
- Comox Valley Community Non-Profit Administrators Network
- Youth Early Intervention & Transition Committee for Courtenay/Campbell River Mental Health
- Comox Valley Justice Liaison Network with RCMP
- Success by Six
- Community Drug Strategy Committee, Courtenay/Comox
- 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 (CASEY)
- Public Safety Community Strategy
- Campbell River Education and Practice Enhancement Working Group

Staff Members

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:

Jana Allingham	Krista Inrig	Brenda Pollard
David Ayers	Pam Jancowski	Angie Prescott
Sarah Badgero	Sarah Jarvinen	Rob Prescott
Paul Barnett	Tara Jordan	Michael Quaress
Pat Bavis	Deborah Joyce	Tina Rader
Suzanne Bennett	Lorraine Kemper	Don Ramer
Miranda Blomquist	Peter Kinskofer	Lorraine Redpath
Barry Booth	Rosita Kitto	Wendy Richardson
Paul Bozenich	Audrey Krentz	Karen Robertson
Vanessa Bramhill	Denise Krivokuca	Colleen Ross
G�rard Choquette	Guy Larkin	Mark Ross
Diane Collins	Carla Leary	Simon Ross
Valerie Colquhoun	John Leevers	Louise Scott
Diane Copp	Tania Leger	Wedlidi Speck
Cassandra Corbett	Lane Litke	Mel Stangeland
Heather Cowper	Janice Luciw	Dana Starritt
Sarah DeBodt	Amber MacDonald	Derek Steinh�usser
Ryan Derry	Maddelena Maher	Uwe Steinmann
Melanie Devine	Kathy McCabe	Krystal Stevens
Meghan Dockrill	Vicki McCoy	Tanya Storr
Laura Downen	Lori McKeown	Mark Tazumi
Jenn Errico	Alisha McLain	Thanh Tazumi
Helen Farrell	Sandy McPherson	Michel Therrien
Joanna Foster	Natalie Meredith	Renate Thews
Jenn Furst	Christine Middleton	Gillian Thibedeau
Sharon Geoghegan	Vicki Miller	Kathy Thomson
Debbie Grant	Velma Mockett	Wendy Thurlborn
Gerhard Gross	Wendy Morin	Hazel Trego
Gordon Gross	Russell Mowatt	Patty Waters
Maureen Hamilton	Cheryl Newton	Godfrey Wearne
Kerry Hammell	Jetty Niet	Paul Weisgerber
Carol Harling-Bleeks	Lisa Nightingale	Richard Williams
Enid Havelaar	Frank Osawamick	Rebecca Wood
Robin Havelaar	Terry Papiernik	Colleen Young
Tanya Hughes	Clifton Pinder	

JHSNI also acknowledges the dedication of our caregiver families, who provide a comfortable and supportive living environment for youth in our programs.

Practicums

The Safe Care/Youth Alcohol and Drug Outreach program in Courtenay hosted four practicum students from the Human Services Program at North Island College. Full Time Attendance Programs in Campbell River hosted two practicum students from Discovery College's Community Support Worker Program. Their focus was front line youth work and educational

assistance in the classroom. The Campbell River Admin office hosted an administrative practicum student from Discovery Community College's Medical and Dental Office Assistant Program and a high school student from Elm Alternate School. JHSNI greatly appreciates the contribution practicum students make to our services.

Statement of Financial Position

March 31, 2008

	2008	2007
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash	1,110,819	1,134,117
Cash – restricted	121,259	119,993
Accounts receivable	92,983	97,263
Prepaid expenses	41,686	16,993
	\$ 1,366,747	\$ 1,368,366
Investments	2,900	2,900
Property and Equipment	796,942	382,219
	\$ 2,166,589	\$ 1,753,485
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable	75,968	17,172
Wages and benefits payable	213,601	187,654
Deferred revenue	103,834	54,738
	\$ 393,403	\$ 259,564
Net Assets		
Equity in Property and Equipment	796,942	382,219
Externally Restricted	105,878	115,100
Internally Restricted	15,481	2,088
Unrestricted	854,885	994,514
	\$ 1,773,186	\$ 1,493,921
Commitments	\$ 2,166,589	\$ 1,753,485

Statement of Operations

Year Ended March 31, 2008

	2008	2007
Revenue		
Gaming proceeds	20,300	20,000
Donations and fundraising	27,138	25,799
Miscellaneous	87,544	76,481
Compensation increase	—	200,771
Ministry of Children and Family Development	2,975,073	2,870,502
School Districts	470,104	407,831
Ministry of Health	55,618	64,283
Vancouver Island Health Authority	806,078	618,375
Ministry of Human Resources	98,500	40,268
City of Campbell River	75,693	75,947
	\$ 4,616,048	\$ 4,400,257
Expenditure		
Advertising ¹⁰	10,620	17,133
Amortization	73,354	62,681
Community relations	1,928	5,355
Contract fees	275,825	315,312
Family payments	423,005	383,122
Food	39,165	36,978
Insurance	25,892	22,577
Interest and bank charges	3,992	3,312
Maintenance and repairs	25,634	26,755
Office supplies	55,922	38,508
Professional fees	21,319	41,411
Rent	179,078	171,652
Start up costs	31,000	13,619
Supplies and program materials	60,086	48,941
Telephone	49,689	51,171
Training and development	27,913	9,389
Travel and accommodation	116,612	107,055
Utilities	6,713	6,073
Unrecoverable grant	162	—
Unrecoverable Goods and Services Tax	16,887	18,440
Wages and employee benefits	2,887,971	2,780,945
	\$ 4,332,767	\$ 4,160,429
Excess of Revenue Over Expenditure	\$ 283,281	\$ 239,828

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 two funds to provide for special expenses for youth that are not covered by other funding, including health care and job readiness expenses: the Youth Enhancement Fund and the Mia Harley Fund. The latter was initiated in 2004 as a memorial to a former staff member. The fund is attached to the Oasis girls program.

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
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.



#201-140A 10th Ave., Campbell River, B.C. V9W 4E3
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E-mail: mail@jhsni.bc.ca • Website: www.jhsni.bc.ca