

Summer Camp Fun



Wesley's Summer Camps are a fun and safe experience for children and youth from families unable able to afford camp. Some campers and staff shared what they most liked about camp!

"I like playing with my friends, going swimming, the staff. If I wasn't at camp, I would be sitting around being lazy!" Gabrielle, age 10

"I like playing outside, eating snacks and swimming!" Olivia, age 7

"I grew up in a low income family but stayed in school and graduated from Mohawk College. I like that Wesley provides care for a lot of different families that have challenges. I like helping the children and making sure they are having fun. The kids can experience new places on the trips, places their families can't afford and that I wasn't able to experience as a child. I am hoping this will make a long impact on their lives!" Mercedes, staff member

Continued...

Message from Daljit Garry, Executive Director

I hope you are having a very enjoyable and restful summer! I want to share some great news, showing the positive community impact of our programs.

Hamilton Police credited us with Hamilton's significant reduction in criminal activity. **"City crime rate drops again,"** headlines

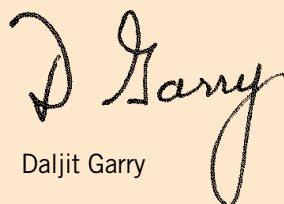
Hamilton Spectator article, May 14, 2014. With a 13% drop last year, combined with the 19% drop in 2012, police credit **"...partner agencies such as Wesley Urban Ministries, (who) help those with mental health and addiction issues from becoming criminals."**

A recent research study also credited Wesley for the impact we have had on the lives of chronically homeless individuals in Hamilton through Wesley's Transition to Home (T2H) program. They found that since 2010, **"...over 300 chronically homeless participants have spent fewer nights in emergency shelters and were more likely to secure and maintain housing with our help."**

By reducing criminal activity and homelessness, we are seeing great outcomes from our supports for at-risk individuals. We are also ensuring children and youth have fun and safe places to be and help make positive life choices, such as our Summer Camp, featured in this newsletter.

We need your continued help! Please support us this summer by making a donation, volunteering, supporting our Knapsack Drive or participating in Wesley Golf Open. Read more in our newsletter or visit our recently redesigned website wesley.ca

Sincerely,



Daljit Garry



P.S. A big thanks to Case for Kids participants, donors and sponsors! With your generous help, Case for Kids raised \$100, 000 to support Wesley's programs for children living in poverty. (picture is of Daljit Garry, Denise Scott, Director, Children, Youth & Family Services and Kathleen Bingham, Board of Directors)

22nd Annual Wesley Open Golf Tournament



Monday September 8, 2014
Century Pines Golf Club
12:30 Start

Limited sponsorship and golf opportunities available!

wesley.ca or 905 528 5629

Wesley's 5th Annual KNAPSACK DRIVE

Give back - fill a knapsack!

You can ensure that the 1 in 4 children living in poverty in Hamilton begin school ready to succeed!

Fill a Knapsack * Sponsor a Knapsack * Host a Drive

wesley.ca or call **905 528 5629**

Vision:

Wesley Urban Ministries has a vision of community, where justice and compassion guide the way we live, where all members are treated with respect and dignity.

Mission:

- Decrease Barriers by developing and delivering programs that address the needs of people who are marginalized
- Increase Opportunities by providing services that help individuals to achieve their full potential
- Be a model and catalyst for social transformation

"Summer Camp Fun" *continued...*

"I grew up in a low income family and my siblings and I went to Wesley's summer camp. As a kid, the opportunities the camp gave me were amazing! We made new friends and had a great time with the staff. I am currently attending McMaster University

and I thank Wesley for helping me become the person I am. Now as a staff member, I am really happy to see the kids having a great time and learning important skills like reading and cooking." Navi, staff member

Thank you Wesley Volunteers!



A special congratulations to Mario Biscak and Marilyn Patterson for being nominated for the Senior of the Year Award through the City of Hamilton.



Thank you to the volunteers and businesses selling Wesley's new baseball caps. For every \$10 cap sold, \$5 directly supports Wesley's programs. Staff member Carl shows off the cap!

How can you get involved?

Current volunteer opportunities include Board of Directors, helping at programs, sorting donations and selling baseball caps at community events!

Contact Tara Monks-Canfield at:
905 528 5629 ext. 240
or tara.monks-canfield@wesley.ca

CHARITY CHALLENGE

Trek, bike or climb throughout the world and raise funds for Wesley Urban Ministries!

Charity Challenge, a tour operator, has a variety of trips available for summer or fall 2015, such as a Trek to Machu Picchu in September 2015. For over 15 years, Charity Challenge has offered adventure trips that raise funds for worthwhile causes. www.charitychallenge.ca

Contact Andrea Buttars at 905 528 5629 ext. 248
or andrea.buttars@wesley.ca

Shop for Wesley this Summer!

- New single bed sheets
- New & gently used towels
- Hygiene Items - razors, toothbrushes, combs, feminine products, deodorant

Please drop off at:
195 Ferguson Ave. North,
8 am - 4 pm daily