

THE PATHWAY

Newsletter of
Ishaawin Counselling Centre

September 2012

A Ministry of RISING ABOVE ABUSE COUNSELLING AGENCY

The Annual Breakfast . . .

was a huge success. Held on April 14th at TBCF, over 190 people came out (we had to set up extra tables) to support Ishaawin and over \$10,000 was raised. The Rising Above Board and Rising Above Band came to Thunder Bay for the event and we were truly blessed by a powerful message from Mervin Cheechoo and testimony and song by Howard Jolly. The Rising Above Band shared their music with us and Laura Trapper shared a very emotional testimony. The theme was "We remember . . ." and God's hand on Ishaawin was reflected and celebrated. We feel so encouraged that though there have been many challenges since Rising Above took over ownership, God continues to confirm to us that He is still working through the ministry of Ishaawin.

Staff Update

Liz Beardy has been on leave since April, 2012 to take care of her parents who are still going through medical care. She was hoping to be back the first week of September, 2012 but there was another medical setback for the family. As of now, there is not a specific date as to when Liz will be able to return full time.



Bonita Ledua, Associate Counsellor, continues to see clients at Ishaawin on Tuesdays and Thursdays while working on her Masters in Marriage and Family Counselling. As Director of SCA Eagle's Cove, she is excited to see the



Two placement students . . .

in the Social Service Worker program from Oshki-Pimache-O-Win Education and Training Institute completed a two-week placement at Ishaawin in July. Naomi Chikane and Amy Winter worked so hard and in only two weeks they spoke to many people on the streets about Ishaawin, they created an Ishaawin home page at www.knet.ca, they set up and attended a meeting for potential funding, they handed out brochures to various agencies in the city and began organizing a Grief and Loss workshop as a fundraiser for Ishaawin. They were extremely motivated and so enjoyable to have around during their placement. Ron Kanutski, a teacher and coordinator at the Institute has always been interested in Ishaawin but this is the first time he and the Institute have been involved in any way. He is looking forward to placing students



here every year, if possible. Naomi and Amy will complete two more two-week placements at Ishaawin in November, 2012 and March, 2013.

"Escaping the Streets" . . .

a Sex Trade Education Seminar was held on June 19th and Ishaawin was asked to set up a display along with several other social service agencies in Thunder Bay. Gini Thompson and Liz Beardy attended and made significant connections with several agencies, which have since resulted in client referrals.

A family from Kashechewan . . .

came to Thunder Bay in September for one week of intensive counselling and teaching. Christina and Bonita took on this incredible task as their first time working together and working with a family from a northern community with little time to prepare. This was also a first time partnership between Ishaawin and Eagle's Cove who provided a safe place to stay for the week as well as meals and recreation. The family shared that they learned so much and were going home changed. We look forward to a continued partnership with Eagle's Cove.

growing partnership between Ishaawin and Eagle's Cove and considers it a privilege to journey with families and individuals that come to Ishaawin.

Christina Long. We are so blessed to have Christina Long join us as an Associate Counsellor who provides counselling services on Wednesdays. Christina is presently completing an MA in Counselling Psychology (Yorkville University). She has a BA in Psychology (Lakehead University), Diploma in Biblical Counselling (Providence Seminary), is Co-ordinator of Marriage Ministries (Redwood Park Church), has been a Support Group Facilitator/Trainer (Ishaawin Counselling Centre) and has 12 years experience counselling and facilitating support groups for women in recovery from childhood abuse.



Gini Thompson just joined us in June, 2012 as our part time Office Manager/Program Assistant. Gini is an excellent administrator and keeps the office running smoothly. In addition, she provides the rest of the staff team with the emotional and spiritual support they need to work with clients. Gini is a Registered Social Service Worker, former Residential Counsellor at Faye Peterson Transition House (shelter for abused women), Support Group Facilitator (Ishaawin Counselling Centre), 5 years experience facilitating support groups for women in recovery from childhood sexual abuse, 30 years administrative experience, 10 years office management experience, 10+ years experience working with First Nations peoples.





Needs and Prayer Requests

- ◆ Please pray for Liz as she figures out how to best manage her time between time for herself, caring for her parents and her ministry at Ishaawin;
- ◆ Funds are always needed at Ishaawin and we desperately need financial supporters, especially regular monthly supporters to carry the ministry;
- ◆ Gini Thompson, Office Manager was hired with funds that came from the Annual Breakfast but only has enough funds available for her position until the end of October, 2012;
- ◆ Ishaawin purchased a new high efficiency furnace/air conditioner in 2009 but the heat and air do not flow into the offices due to the inefficient duct work, causing us to constantly operate fans and electric heaters. A quote of \$3,000 has been given to sufficiently replace the current duct work;
- ◆ The two desk top computers here are extremely dated — if you have a newer computer (laptop or desktop) that you are not using and would like to get rid of, please contact Gini;
- ◆ Most importantly, we need people to regularly pray for the work of Ishaawin and there are a couple of options available:
 - ◆ We pray every Monday at 1:30pm here at Ishaawin — if you are interested in participating, please stop by;
 - ◆ If you would like to receive regular emails of prayer requests, please email gini.ishaawin@risingabove.ca.

Added to our volunteer team are **Dianne McCooeye** and **Donna-Lynn Wiitala**. They join **Gail Marshall, Rose McGratten** and **Christina Long**. We are most grateful for each one's contribution to the ministry.

STAFF OPPORTUNITIES Ishaawin is seeking to fill ministry positions of: full-time **Director**; part-time **counsellors** — in particular a male counsellor. Inquiries should contact Terry Martin or Daren George at the Rising Above head office: 204-388-5408. terry@risingabove.ca; daren@risingabove.ca

New Clients

New clients keep coming through the doors of Ishaawin seeking counselling. Since the start of June there have been 11 new clients plus approximately eight new intakes that did not pursue their appointments. Please pray for those who have the courage to take that first step but, for whatever reason, do not follow through — this appears to be a regular occurrence.

Financial Update

Summary of Operating Revenue and Expenses January 1 to August 31, 2012

REVENUE	
Donations	3,976
Fundraising	10,584
Fees Collected	493
	15,053
EXPENSES	
Salary & Benefits	4,138
Administration	2,043
Programs	0
Equipment	93
Building	3,340
Insurance	1,600
Promotion & Fundraising	2,759
Professional fees	157
	14,130
EXCESS REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	923
BALANCE, beginning of year	1,761
BALANCE, year to date	2,684

Coming Up . . .

**WORKSHOP ON
GRIEF AND LOSS
(Fundraiser for Ishaawin)**

March 5 & 6, 2013

Victoria Inn

Thunder Bay, Ontario

**COUNSELLING THE SEXUALLY
ABUSED
(NYM Ministries)**

November 1-3, 2012

Prince Arthur Hotel

**Thunder Bay, Ontario
(Registrations available at
Ishaawin Counselling Centre)**