

HeartSong

The Newsletter of Inner City Women's Ministries International Inc.

OPENING LINES

It gives our ministry great honour to highlight others who are heeding God's call to the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19,20). This edition includes more on this, gives specifics about a new project - Operation Tim - and most importantly includes a testimony from one of our participants.

God continues to bless us. All praise to him as we move into 2010.

Shon McLaren-Froese
Executive Director



PARTNERS IN CHRIST

Two ministries who have walked alongside us since the beginning of ICWMI are House of the Risen Son and Lighthouse Mission. Both are based in Winnipeg. Both excel in working with marginalized people.

House of the Risen Son (HRS) is known for their motorcycle ministry, men's transition homes, prison ministry and "biker church". HRS is also ICWMI's official

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**House of the Risen Son
Brother Chuck Sheridan**

OUT OF THE MOUTH'S OF PARTICIPANTS

Allow me to introduce myself. I am Sarah, 32, a mother of five. I am an addict in recovery. I am a child of God.

During my life I have had problems with drinking too much, using pills to cope and violence to protect myself. In 2008, I began drinking daily and pretty soon I lost my most precious possessions, my children.

I came to my senses in Decem-

ber of 2008 and I wanted to quit drinking. Unfortunately it took more than just *wanting* to help me.

I began attending AA meetings. A friend took me into her home as I was broke and homeless. After, I attended a treatment program for two months while still attending AA meetings. There two ladies told me about an Inner City Women's Ministries recovery house that I could live in. It is a 3

bedroom house where I can live with my kids. I got my kids back through much prayer and working on myself.

I now live in a house that I could never afford on my own. The staff help me so much with support, prayer, accountability, food and friendship. I am going to school, work and still attend AA meetings. I honestly believe that without the security of this

OPERATION TIM

Just before the 2009 Holiday Season we asked a few of our participants how we could bless women living on the street. We prayed, We discussed. We came to a conclusion.

The needs are basic. There is a need for:

1. positive relationship
2. a place of shelter
(if only short term)
3. food

We are now working through our participants and the staff of "Love Lives Here" (www.loveliveshere.org) to provide women on the street a small but effective kit. Each kit contains a Tim Horton's Gift Card (enough for a meal), a tract telling about the positive relationship one may have with God through Jesus Christ, ICWMI's phone number and an invitation to our Life Recovery Group on Mondays.

We plan to run "Operation Tim" through the winter months and then re-evaluate. Please pray that the recipients of the kits will be open to God's free gift.

PARTICIPANTS cont'd

house, I would not be doing as well as I am right now. It is so hard for a single parent, especially one who wants a better life for herself and kids. I have been sober for almost a year and most importantly, I am changing on the inside. I thank Inner City Women's Ministries and most of all God my Father who is in control of all things!

God bless you all, one day at a time.

PARTNERS IN CHRIST (cont'd)

brother ministry in Christ. Aside from letting us share their Winnipeg postal box, HRS staff continue to provide us with prayer, legal advice, drug testing kits, help in administration (thanks Cathy) and spiritual encouragement. Do check out this exciting ministry at www.houseoftherisenon.ca.

On another note, one of the locations of ICWMI hangs its hat is Lighthouse Mission. This mission's board of director's and staff have graciously given us free use of their facilities since 2004. Many women have gone on to lead Christ centered productive lives after attending ICWMI's programs here.

The enclosed Lighthouse Mission newsletter will tell you more about its heart. We at ICWMI are very grateful for God's provision, through the Lighthouse Mission and the House of the Risen Son staff and volunteers.

PRAISE AND PRAYER

- Praise for:**
- the over and above finances in December which allowed us to richly bless our participants and others.
 - the start of "Operation Tim"
 - the individuals and ministries who walk alongside us.
 - a gracious God!



- Pray for:**
- Life Recovery Groups to start in Richer and St. Ann, Manitoba
 - direction and physical help with the rural Winnipeg Harvest initiative (we need drivers)
 - spiritual guidance and protection for all associated with ICWMI.
 - regular monthly finances from ethical sources
 - a continued heart for God and his desires for us personally and as a ministry.

Inquiries and donations may be sent to:

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All donations over \$10 are eligible for a tax receipt if you live in Canada.

*ICWMI is a non-profit, volunteer organization operated solely by private donations.