

HeartSong

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

OPENING LINES

Reports from all areas of the ministry say it has been a very exciting and productive winter.

The worship services at the prison are full to overflowing. We have opened our transition home doors to immigrant women and their children. We have also decided to network more closely with Hope Now Ministries (note photo and website this page) which helps women who are dealing with crisis pregnancy. We are presently loaning our transition home in the St. James area of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada to this worthy ministry.

Along with the above, in February, a preliminary assessment of women's needs in one particular area of the Middle East was made. Do read on to find out more.

God is on the move!

Shon McLaren-Froese
Executive Director



SAVING LIVES ---TWO AT A TIME

Hope *NOW* Family Concepts Inc. is a non-profit, non-denominational, faith based organization that exists to create a safe housing and learning environment for vulnerable and at risk women during and after their pregnancy. Hope Now focuses on applying practical and biblical solutions. Find out more about this important ministry at www.impregnant-now.org.

(To donate, make cheques out to ICWMI noting Hope Now in left had corner)

FRONT LINES TESTIMONY FROM THE PRISON

My name is Terri Goertzen. I first got involved with Inner City Women's Ministries when the Executive Director came to Providence College in Otterburne, Manitoba this past September.

At that time I had not seen prison ministry as something in which I would want to be involved but God quickly changed my mind. Before my first visit I had never even been inside a prison. Everything about the whole experience was not what I expected. I expected it to be intimidating, and it was the first few times, with the air pressured doors and the one way glass, but this feeling soon disappeared.

I have come to enjoy fellowshiping with the female inmates. They really just want to be encouraged and feel like there is someone who is willing to listen. I also found meeting the ladies one-on-one before the service during visitation a pleasure. It has been an amazing experience so far. I am so thankful to have the opportunity to be involved in this area of the ministry.

ADDICTION PREVENTION

Our last newsletter stated that CHANGE is the main indicator someone may be struggling with an addiction. This can be change in behaviour, appearance, marks at school, friends etc... If you or a loved one is struggling please call us. We are here to help.

Today we would like to discuss prevention. There are three keys to prevention.

KNOWLEDGE, OPEN COMMUNICATION, POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS

KNOWLEDGE: Let's take a personal inventory.

Do you have knowledge of over the counter medication and prescription drugs?

Do you know that prescription drugs will be the number one reason for death in North America within the next five years? (Surpassing heart attacks and strokes.)

Do you have knowledge of what type of illegal drugs are in your town or city?

Do you know what these drugs look like and their effects on the body?

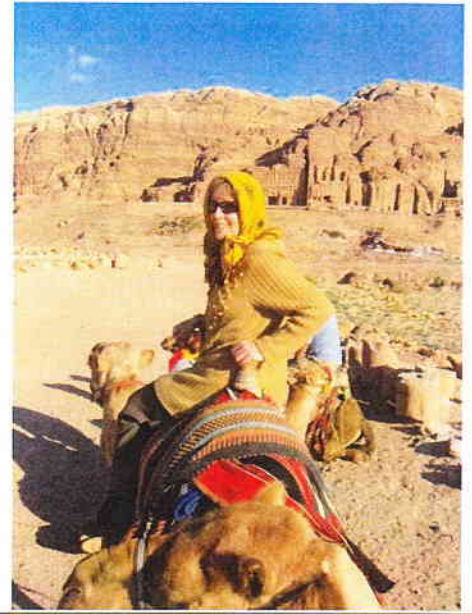
Do you know the frontline workers in your area who can help prevent addictions?

Knowledge is power – power to help you and your community be responsible with medication and work towards an “illegal” drug free environment.

Finding the answers to the above questions will set you well on your way to the first component of addiction prevention.

More on addiction prevention in our next issue.

OUTREACH OVERSEAS



Middle East Reporter
February 2011

THE MINISTRY EXPANDS

Through Middle East Eyes

In the past few weeks, North American media has portrayed the Middle East as a complex and dangerous place.

In reality, this area is not complex to the people living there. Everyday life is continuing as usual in most places. Our contacts in one Arab state report there is a huge need for the saving grace of our Saviour.

An Inner City Women's Ministries International Staff member did a preliminary assessment of women's needs in one Arab State this past February. Females are needed to engage in relationships with local women and lead Bible Studies.

Please call our main mission office if you would like to book a one hour talk/discussion on our newest ministry outreach.

Inquiries or donations may be sent to our Blumenort office.:

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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.

PRAISE & PRAYER

- ❖ Praise for a safe and productive trip to the Middle East by one of our staff in February.
- ❖ Praise for strong partnerships with other Christ-centered ministries.
- ❖ Praise for provision of hydro and rent monies for our West Winnipeg Safe Home.
- ❖ Praise for Christ-centered tracts.
- ❖ Praise for a Mighty God.



- ❖ Pray for Child Evangelism Fellowship 5 day clubs in transition home back yards this summer.
- ❖ Pray for a new location to hold our Recovery Life Group on Mondays.
- ❖ Pray for safety of women struggling with addictions, mental illness and homelessness.
- ❖ Pray for God's glory to be seen in the small things.