



Living Rock NEWS

SPRING 2007

Founded 1985

905-528-7625

www.livingrock.ca

CREATION IN COMMUNITY



Tammy's eyes sparkle with creativity as she describes the ways she's involved at the Living Rock. She came here last September and immediately began helping at the Evening Program. Now she starts every day with a nutritious breakfast before working in Rock Resources or going to school.

"I like meeting new people and making new friends," she says, adding that if she wasn't at the Rock, "I'd be sitting at home doing nothing. I come here to keep out of trouble and away from drugs and alcohol, and also because my rent's high and I don't have much money." On-site at the Rock, Tammy met Megan from the Adult

Basic Education Association and now goes to school twice a week. She thinks the 'Bag-It' Lunch Program - where school youth at the Breakfast Program get a bagged lunch - is "kind of cool".

When she's not at school, you'll find Tammy working at the Rock. She loves creating tasty treats - like her delicious cake at the last Professional Lunch - and the Food Bank volunteers love her.

But it's Rock Resources, she says, "that's really helped me give back to the community." As part of the program, Tammy works around the Rock to earn incentives like shoes and items for her apartment (which she found through Tim, the Rock's Housing Coach).

She loves working out at the YMCA, and it's inspired her to cut back on smoking. "I can see what I can and can't do," says Tammy. "It's interesting finding out what all my qualities are." Spending time with Rock Resources staff Mary-Anne adds to the fun.

**"Rock Resources has really helped me give back to the community."
- Tammy, youth at the Rock**

"Rock Resources helps youth work on issues in their lives and do something worthwhile with their time," says Mary-Anne.

"We're looking for people to donate food vouchers, gift certificates and other items to use as incentives, as well as financial donations."

If you would like to help support Rock Resources, please call 905-528-7625.



**Soupfest Winners and
Photos Inside!**





From the Director

Here at the Living Rock, our focus is to work with street-involved and incarcerated youth - one of the largest and most

challenging groups living in poverty in our city. Initiatives like the Poverty Roundtable, which the Rock is involved in, are committed to seeing services and ministries brought to the poor in Hamilton.

At the recent TrueCity conference, keynote speaker Rick Tobias said if all the references to the poor were taken out of the Bible, there wouldn't be much of the Bible left. And poverty isn't just an economic status. You could be rich in possessions but still be poor in spirit.

The key to reducing spiritual and economic poverty is community. Churches like Hughson Street Baptist and Philpott Memorial are coming together as part of the TrueCity movement to make life better for the people of Hamilton, and it's really exciting because it's what we've been doing for 21 years. Movements like this build real unity and bring people together.

Community is also what keeps us going at the Rock. We wouldn't be able to reach youth as effectively if we didn't have our community partners. Churches like The Meeting House, Hamilton Friends of Israel, Bethel Gospel Tabernacle and Grand Valley in Brantford provide much-needed prayers, volunteers, donations and monthly sponsorship.

If you want to know more about the needs of the Living Rock, why not invite us to speak or come and take part in a 'Meet the Street' Service Project? We're always looking for people to partner with us as we offer youth a place of belonging and a bridge to the community.

Rev. Alan Craig

CREATION IN

SOUPFEST!

Soup's On!

This was Soupfest's best year ever, with over 3100 people pouring in to LIUNA Station on January 30 to support the Living Rock. The soup was pretty good too - delicious creations from talented local chefs like **Acclamation Bar and Grill's Seafood Chowder (winner of Best Soup)** and **Sfoozi's Blood Orange Prawn Bisque (winner of Best Display and Most Unique Soup)**.



It was a great day for the Rock, raising over \$27,000 (net) to help youth at risk - a huge increase from the \$4,000 raised in Soupfest I! Celebrities like Hamilton Tiger-Cat Mike Morreale and Connie Smith from CH News could be spotted amongst the servers, while local stars Larry Di Ianni and Mayor Fred Eisenberger made the event sparkle. And professional volunteers from local branches of PricewaterhouseCoopers, TD Canada Trust and Scotiabank meant the whole community was involved.



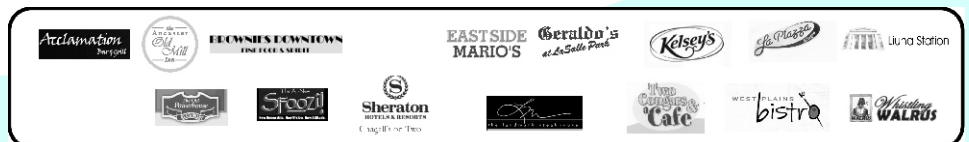
With an International Café featuring youth art from the Immigrant Culture and Art Association and Arts of August, everyone was bowled over. And to top off a perfect day, the whole event was aired live on Y108.

Soupfest Project Liaison Kevin Charles says the best part was the way the youth blended with the community.

“The youth know that people are there to support them, not just for the soup,” he says. “They're very marginalized - but at Soupfest they can see and experience true community that's so important.”

Many thanks to our community sponsors!

- Canada Brokerlink (Ontario) Inc.
- Hooper Law
- Taylor Leibow Accountants & Advisors
- Allegra Print & Imaging
- Jackson Square Mall
- Bell
- Ian Martin
- BDH Rehabilitation Advisory Services Inc.
- Prosigns
- Wayne Paterson Insurance Brokers Ltd.
- Salerno Dairy
- Bates Audio
- Limeridge Mall
- Crystal Clean Services
- The Warehouse Limited (Ray Jung)
- Pongetti's Music
- The Cat Clinic



COMMUNITY

Continued

PARTNER FOCUS: CRIEDA

We have many different partners in the community who make it possible for us to help youth at risk. This spring our thanks go out to CRIEDA, a group of women who are passionate in their ongoing support for the work of the Living Rock.

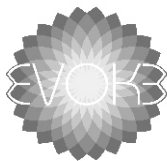
They provide brand new items for our quarterly Rock Auctions; they help out with our Spa Night once a month; they purchase a beautiful cake for our monthly 'Birthday Bash'; and they donate \$50 a week to the Breakfast and Evening Programs which, says Evening Program co-ordinator Julie Conway, has enabled the Rock to offer youth more meat and fresh produce.



"Having CRIEDA on board has been a real blessing," says Julie. "They have a real passion for the youth."

BUILDING CAMPAIGN - BREAKING NEWS!

Our Building Campaign has received a huge boost through donors from the Rock's 21st Anniversary Gala and the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation. Work is being completed on a new roof, plus an elevator, porch, and stainless steel kitchen counters! Thanks also to Historia for sandblasting the outside of the Rock. A local businessman stopped Karen Craig on the street and said, "Your building looks incredible!"



medi
spa

Plaza Hotel, 150 King St E, Hamilton 905-308-3438

PEDICURE - \$10 OFF

With purchase of \$30 'Touch of Giving' Manicure (\$10 donated to Living Rock Ministries)

Offer expires June 30, 2007. Not valid with any other offer.

CARING AT CHRISTMAS

We would like to say a big 'thank you' to our volunteers, sponsors and everyone who helped make Operation Christmas Blessing such a huge success. The Living Rock looked wonderful and more than 200 youth enjoyed the festivities.

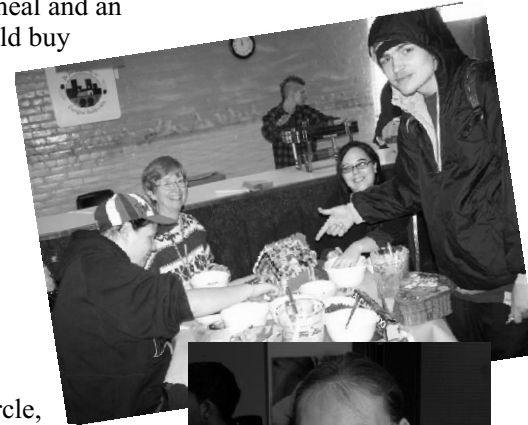
Thank you for helping us create a magical Christmas

There was a Christmas meal and an auction where youth could buy presents for their friends and family.

But the best part was a visit from Santa, who was the star of the show with presents for all the youth and their children.

Special thanks go to:

- Daddy's Girl Sister Circle, who donated 200 gift boxes
- Hamilton Community Foundation for providing food vouchers
- CRIEDA
- Y108/CHML Christmas Tree of Hope
- Hamilton-Wentworth Detention Centre (School)
- Kingsway Lambton United Church Women's Ministry
- Oakrun Bakery



DID YOU KNOW?

The Living Rock is now open on weekends!

On Saturdays and Sundays from 1:30pm to 8pm, youth who might not have anywhere else to go can have a meal, stay warm and take part in positive social activities.

Weekend programming has been open since November 2006 and fills a crucial need, giving youth a safe place to hang out off the streets and away from drugs and alcohol. An average of 30 to 40 youth have been coming to the Rock each weekend day.

We're looking for volunteer support for this program, so if you would like to help please call Julie at the Living Rock.



Living Rock 11th Annual Golf Tournament!

Whether you're a seasoned pro or you think a tee is something you wear when it's hot, the Living Rock invites you to our annual golf tournament!

The fun takes place on June 7 at the Beverly Golf and Country Club, with registration and lunch at 11:30am and tee-off at 12:30pm.

We're looking for foursomes to participate - single registrants can be matched into groups.

If you'd like an enjoyable day out while raising money for the Rock, call John VanWyngaarden on 905-627-3860 to register.

If you want to be involved in another way, we're also welcoming sponsors. Call the Living Rock to find out more.



LIVING ROCK MINISTRIES

contact info:

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WEBSITE: www.livingrock.ca

EMAIL: mail@livingrock.ca

Charitable # 88345 8812 RR0001

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers who have supported the Living Rock at our recent events.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Living Rock Golf Tournament

Thursday 7 June 2007
Beverly Golf and Country Club
Call John to register 905-627-3860

"Meet the Street" Service Project or Day Camp

Throughout 2007
Call to register 905-528-7625

Arts of August

Thursday 30 August 2007; 7 -9 pm
"Hands Around the World" Youth Art Exhibition @ Hamilton Public Library

Living Rock 22nd Anniversary Dinner

Thursday 22 November 2007
Carmen's Banquet Centre

MEMORIALS

The following is a list of donations made to Living Rock Ministries in memory of past friends and colleagues:

<u>Received from:</u>	<u>In Memory of:</u>
David & Donna Siddall	Mrs Johnson
Patricia Dolan	Robbie
Dorothy McMaster	Barbara Dixon
Gail Alderson	Ray Brown



YOUR RIGHTS AS A DONOR

If at any time you would like to change the amount of mail you receive from us, please contact the Development Team at 905-528-7625 ex 39 and we would be happy to comply with your request.

In addition, Living Rock Ministries assures its donors that personal information is not used for commercial purposes. We do not rent, sell, trade or share our donor information. Personal information is kept confidential and is used to mail information about our services to donors.

LIVING ROCK MINISTRIES PROGRAMS & SERVICES

youth food bank ▪ breakfast program ▪ evening meals ▪ positive recreation programming ▪ anti-racism initiative
employment readiness training ▪ chaplaincy ▪ visiting youth in custody ▪ urban ministry training ▪ addictions counselling
health clinic and medical supports ▪ volunteer opportunities ▪ educational assessments and supports ▪ youth work-to-earn
incentives ▪ computer resource room ▪ housing help ▪ supports for pregnant and parenting youth
creative art competition celebrating diversity ▪ self care and health promotion for young women