



Mosaic Centre

Connecting • Encouraging • Transforming

Mosaic Centre Summer Hours

Monday to Friday: 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Sunday: 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm

June 2011

WARMED by MORE THAN the SUMMER SUNSHINE

~Mosaic Centre Directors~



The days have grown longer now and we are all grateful to see the summer sun begin to show its face. Life always seems just a bit easier when we don't have to prepare for the bitter weather by donning extra clothing, warming our vehicles or shovelling the dreaded snow. We look forward to taking a walk or spending some time out doors with our family and friends.

We can only imagine how much of a relief the sunshine is to our friends living on the streets, in the parklands and shelters. What a blessing it must be for them to know that they can spend less time searching for shelter during the day and are not at risk of frostbite.

Mosaic Centre was designated by Homeward Trust as a Winter Emergency Response site during the coldest months of November to April. With the designation came funding which enabled us to hire a small staff and, with the support of volunteers, extend our hours of operations to seven days a week.

Relief from the bitter cold was offered inside the walls of Mosaic Centre where our friends could enjoy a hot cup of coffee, hot chocolate or a steaming cup of soup. They could exchange cold, wet socks and boots for dry ones and launder and dry out their clothing while they warmed their toes.

The community that grew within the walls of the centre was warmed by more than material things. Our excellent group of staff and volunteers offered genuine care and concern sharing the love of Jesus with those who visited. The centre retained its daytime characteristic of 'mom's kitchen'. It became the norm to see groups gathered around a table playing Scrabble or Cribbage or creating crafts as they shared conversation and laughter, assembled as they sang praises to a guitar accompaniment or sat silently and listening as a volunteer bowed beautiful notes from the strings of his cello.

Mosaic Centre has become known as the 'healthy choice' in the neighbourhood; a place of refuge from the hard winter and harmful influences; a place that offers acceptance, community support and encouragement. Friends, striving to stay on track while walking through temptation as they await entry to a rehabilitation facility or those who just complete programs find support and safety within the centre. Couples from the area enjoy an evening playing games with other couples while they find security in a drug and alcohol free environment. Neighbourhood parents bring their families to spend time at Mosaic experiencing the healthy environment with their children.

The close relationships that have developed with the local 'beat' officers, medical clinics and other service providers have assisted us in helping several people access housing and other resources. We are happy to be able to offer on-going friendship, mentoring and support at the centre and through our partner churches as our friends transition into new responsibilities and explore options for community involvement from a different perspective.

We are so very appreciative of the support that God provides to this ministry through the partner churches, E4C and other supportive community groups. We are encouraged daily as we are blessed to witness His hand at work in this community we call Mosaic Centre.

But how can one be warm alone?

*A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated,
but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better,
for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken.
Ecclesiastes 4:11-12*

Mosaic Wedding Bells

Recently we were able to host a Mosaic Wedding for a young couple who have been coming to the centre since we opened. They have a young daughter and baby boy and participate in the parent and tot group which meets upstairs at Mosaic Centre on Wednesday mornings. Their wedding, held at Emmaus, really was a Mosaic event.

Pastor Rich, from Trinity, provided the marriage preparation counselling; the Parent and Tot group, led by Erin and Suzie, provided the invitations, cake, decorations, wedding dress and photographer;



Pastor Glen, of Emmaus, married the couple and a group from Steele Heights Baptist, led by Sheila from Beverly Alliance, cooked and served a beautiful banquet.

The couple and family were overwhelmed by the spirit of generosity and were blessed with a beautiful celebration as they began their life as a married couple.

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12758 Fort Road
Edmonton, Alberta, T5A 1A9
mosaiccentre@shaw.ca
780-722-3247

Free Haircuts:

First Monday of Month

Health Nurse:

Tuesday Mornings

Parent & Tot Group:

Wednesdays at 10 am

Cocaine Anonymous:

Thursdays at 11 am

MOSAIC CENTRE IS GRATEFUL for all of the support we receive from the community. The generous gifts



Partridge Hill United Church

we receive including: prayer; donations of finances and client resources; projects by service teams and countless volunteer hours help us to continue to operate and offer our best to our friends every day.

We are thankful for all of the effort put into organizing benefit concerts, food drives, special offerings, perogy fundraisers, curling bonspiels, meal preparation, golf tournaments, mosaic blanket quilting and youth group and school fundraising projects. We wish to extend our sincere appreciation to all Mosaic Centre Supporters and Volunteers, too numerous to include in this small space, that are a huge part of this ministry.

Our door is always open if you would like to stop by for a free cup of coffee and experience Mosaic Centre first hand. We enjoy visiting and presenting to groups who are interested in Mosaic Centre and would be pleased to arrange a visit to speak to your group.



Beauty from Ashes

Sonia has lived on the streets since she was 12 years old. She has been exploited in the sex trade and physically and mentally abused by various partners her entire life. To complicate things even more Sonia is mentally and physically ill and is addicted to drugs and alcohol.

When we first met Sonia she didn't think about or plan much more than how to get her next drink or high. She didn't have the ability to take her medications for her illnesses & we watched her get more and more ill. We could see that underneath all the rough exterior Sonia was a beautiful soul. Our hearts were opened up to her and we just continued to show her love and care when she would come to the centre on a daily basis.

One day Sonia was feeling sad and frustrated so we offered to pray with her. She reluctantly agreed. Rough tuff Sonia began to cry and hug us and speak about how her dad used to pray with her, when she was a little girl, before he died.



Afterwards she told us she didn't know what was wrong - that normally she would just as soon stab someone as hug them and didn't know what had come over her. She started coming in daily for her hug and prayer from then on.

Since then Sonia has successfully been taking her medications for the first time in her life. She has been able to cut down her alcohol & drug consumption by a huge amount.

Just recently Sonia got her own apartment and is busy setting up house and learning how to budget and cook. She has plans to hold a funeral for her alcoholism and her past in the very near future. We have been so blessed to be able walk with Sonia and witness her life as she is blossoming into the beautiful and confident woman that God created.

Encouraging Words

~Danielle~

Working at Mosaic is a wonderful experience. Learning about people, giving them a sense of dignity and respect is the most important way to show how we love them. Building relationships is not always easy so patience is required on a daily basis. Sometimes blessings come in small disguises and I realize how my Mosaic friends positively affect my own life. I am here to serve them the same way Jesus served others and show them how they can make positive changes in their lives. Of course, changes are entirely up to the individual and we must ultimately accept their decisions.



Mosaic Centre Needs:

Financial Gifts / Bus Tickets / Men's T-Shirts
Blue Jeans (Men's 32" to 38" waists)

Financial Donations can be made to Mosaic Centre

12758 Fort Road, Edm AB, T5A 1A9

Phone: 780-722-3247

Email: mosaiccentre@shaw.ca

www.mosaiccentre.com

Charitable Reg. 13155 8140 RR0001

