



INFORMATION BULLETIN

May 1, 2015

Out of the Rain shelter receives youth endowment funds

VICTORIA, BC – Beacon Community Services today gratefully received \$3500 from the Victoria Foundation's Vital Youth endowment fund program, to help shelter and support homeless youth through the Out of the Rain youth shelter program. \$2500 was received from the Parkland Secondary School Endowment Fund and the remainder from Belmont Secondary's fund.

The money came through a unique program administered by the Victoria Foundation.

Through the foundation's Vital Youth program, student project teams are each allocated \$2500 to distribute to charities on southern Vancouver Island. Students research community issues and charities and then submit recommendations to the foundation's Board of Directors about how the funds should be used.

Today's contribution will help improve life for some of our community's most vulnerable youth. They rely on the Out of the Rain shelter (which rotates among host sites each night from October – April) for a safe, dry place to sleep during the coldest, rainiest months.

Out of the Rain opened in the winter of 1998 and has run every winter since. In the most recent season, it served 250 youth.

Shelter services are provided by community agencies, faith-based organizations, businesses, and individual volunteers through a coalition that's led and coordinated by local charity Beacon Community Services.

Established on the Saanich Peninsula in 1974, Beacon Community Services has evolved to become one of BC's largest non-profit social services organizations. It serves more than 6,000 clients across the CRD, including through programs and services in: Child, Youth and Family Services; Counselling and Mental Health Services; Employment and Training Programs; Housing, Assisted Living and Licenced Dementia Housing; Adult/Senior's Recreation Services; Volunteer Services; and Home Support Care. Many community programs – including Out of the Rain -- are supported by funds from Beacon's seven thrift store operations.

For more information about Beacon Community Services, please see www.beaconcs.ca

-30-

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