



Donors are the Life Blood !

It is hard to believe that the 1st month and most of the 2nd month of 2024 has passed into history.

Here's an update on the special request to help the single mom and 3 boys who were able to move to a small 2-bedroom apartment, leaving the life of existing in a low-rental motel room behind. They are no longer sleeping on the floor; the bunk beds and single bed for the boys have been assembled and installed in their room. The first sleeping arrangements have been altered a bit. The youngest was going to sleep on the top bunk but now has chosen the bottom bunk. The oldest is enjoying his own single bed!



Thank you, thank you to all who came through to help this needy family, from those who contributed so many items--dishes, pots and pans, cutlery, a microwave and even a box of games--to an organization called Matthew 25 who outfitted the bunk beds in sheets and comforters. (see above pic) The bunks look terrific and the boys are enjoying their own beds. Items such as dressers, a Lazy Boy recliner, and bookcases have all found their spot and the apartment is beginning to look like a home.



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Needed Right Now!

- **[Sleeping Bags](#)**
- **[Tents & Blankets](#)**
- **[Coats & Boots](#)**
- **[Men's Pants 28-32](#)**
- **[Ladies Pants Small](#)**
- **[Sweat Pants & Shirts](#)**
- **[Under Garments](#)**
- **[Hotel Soaps, Shampoos etc.](#)**
- **[Volunteers--Call 365-880-0818](#)**
- **[Donate at www.JCsPlace.org](#)**

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It Really Hurts My Heart . . .

It really hurts my heart when I see the weather conditions and the struggles the homeless have to contend with here in Niagara Falls, from wet cold hands and feet to cuts and sores without bandages and poor living conditions. They rely on alcohol and drugs to deaden the pain, physically and mentally, of the reality in which they find themselves. I am grateful that there is help for them here— case workers, medical vehicles and shelters, and JC's Place Ministries, if they want.



There are other countries that have no such help. On one mission trip to Guatemala I saw things that still come up in my mind. A missionary friend dropped me off in a remote village while he went to make a pick up in his jeep at another location. He told me he would be back in an hour. I decided to walk

around the village. I was standing on a wooden sidewalk a little higher than the dusty road where motor bikes and donkeys and carts were going by.



I looked to the right and saw an animal-like creature walking toward me on that dusty road. As it got closer, I realized it was a man and he stopped right before me and looked up at me. He had no arms and no legs. He had some sort of cushions fastened to his elbow and knee joints.

He literally walked like a dog on all four joints. When he looked up at me, I took note of his grimy and unkept hair, his razor-sharp teeth, his thick eyebrows. What impressed me, though, was his beautiful smile. He gave me a hearty, "Good afternoon," in Spanish. I responded in amazement with, "Good day to you." He turned his head forward and began to walk, on all those four joints, down the road. My missionary friend arrived 5 hours later; he had had a vehicle breakdown and there were no cell phones at that time there. I was so relieved as I did not know where to go and didn't speak the language. Once we arrived at our camp, I decided to walk down a small road to a cantina to get a bag of chips and a drink.

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on the streets . . .

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The Mayan lady gave me the items, then went to the back of the store. As I enjoyed my refreshments, I looked into the store and saw chickens and pigs running around on a dirt floor behind the store. There was a dog house by the cooler and a metal chain that ran into the dog house. I wondered what kind of dog she had. She came back and threw some food on the dusty ground for the dog and spoke something in a Mayan dialect and walked away. The chain began to move and, to my dismay, a young boy came out of the dog house on all fours. There was a dog collar around his neck and he looked at me with a wild look of terror and showed his pointed sharp teeth. He went back into his dog house, chewing on the food the woman had left for him. Later on, totally baffled, I found out that the boy was mentally challenged and that the people here did not understand what that was. The local witch doctor told her that he was demon possessed and should be treated in this way. Later, the boy was helped by the local missionary and the problem was resolved through education.



I am definitely grateful that we have help for our homeless here in the Niagara area; we have many agencies to deal with our problem here, with dignity for our people.

On another day, and repeated a few times since, I helped a homeless person get gasoline for his generator, otherwise he would freeze in his encampment in the sub zero temperatures. It cost over \$75.00 for 3 cans of gas and that fuel doesn't last for long in the climate in which we live.

On another day, and repeated a few

On my way home, I decided stop at a bakery where I pick up small treats for myself once in awhile. Two Chinese ladies asked me politely, "Where you been in last 2 weeks? What you doing today?" I told them how I helped a homeless man and told her about the work that JC's Place Ministries is doing. Then she questioned, "Is it a church mission and what church?" Yes," I told her, "the Seventh-day Adventist Church." Her next question was, "What does JC stand for?", and I had the opportunity to explain, "Jesus Christ." Her face lit up as she said, "I am Christian too!" She took my business card and told me that she would bring some clothes and I could pick them up there at the bakery. "If it is okay," she added, "I will call you for day-old bake goods soon." Then she held the business card and said to the other lady, "I am now part of JC's Place Ministries and I can help those less fortunate!" She then giggled and the excitement on her face and in her voice was amazing. It's too bad we all, who are able to enjoy the comforts of home and family, don't have that same enthusiasm.



Funny how things happen so easy and automatically without even trying. I love it when the Lord does the work. ~ ~ Blessings! John

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Mattresses were purchased and installed, and a donor kindly bought a few hundred dollars worth of groceries to get the family off to a good start. The boys and their mom are so thankful; the middle boy can't stop saying, "Thank you! Thank you." It is so wonderful to see the smiles on their faces and to hear the joy expressed. Sorry, I can only tell you about the heartfelt thanks that is being given. It brings a



smile to my face as I see this transformation that you, the donors, have made possible. The 2nd Greatest Commandment in the Bible is being fulfilled by your generosity.

On another front, JC's Place Ministries has received 120 pair of warm woolen socks in army green (They were destined for the armed forces, but the army changed their colour to grey!). I made contact with an organization a month ago called "Socks for Change" run by Sam Baio, and received a phone call to please come and pick up a box that will be donated to JC's Place Ministries. Sam is running an outstanding ministry in providing sock to those in need.

If you would like more information, please contact him at:

info@socksforchange.ca

I'm sure that this organization can also use more financial support. (see pic on Right)

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Donors are the Life Blood ! . . .

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. We've had a strange winter this year in the Niagara Region; not much snow, but lots of rain, wind and enough snow to make it miserable to walk around in running shoes which allow the cold and wet to penetrate to the very bones of the feet. Each year we lack the winter boots we need, and the



socks that are given out are soon soaking wet. I hope, as we bring you the stories from the streets of Niagara Falls, that we are doing a good job telling of the needs on the street. We look forward in hope, knowing some day soon all this pain and mess will be forever gone.

Thank you for listening and supporting JC's Place Ministries with your prayers, donations, and thoughts. **Thank you from those on the streets** who are saying, God Bless you and THANK YOU. ~~ Carl

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As I sit here at my computer writing this February Newsletter, it is with sadness that I announce my resignation as chairperson of JC's Place Ministries, effective February 29th 2024.

The Ministry has been foremost in my thoughts and activities for the past three years. Its mission is one I'm passionate about. I believe the work of the organization deserves the full attention of each committee member, but so much more so that of the chairperson who must have the vision and insight of directing the mission of the program.

In mid-November 2023, I suffered the onset of intense dermatitis which has impacted my ability to serve at the level at which I had been functioning. On the advice of three healthcare professionals who specialize in remedying this condition, and my personal health care team here at home, I need, and will be taking time off, to relax and see if things clear up and heal.

I have truly enjoyed my time serving and leading JC's Place Ministries, but health is one thing that is not replaceable, hence the recommendation and decision to step aside to allow for someone else to take over the reins of the Ministry.

Thank you, Donors and Readers, and our faithful Volunteers, for your support and prayers. As the committee works on revamping the leadership of JC's Place Ministries, you will be kept in the loop to know what is happening.

Ways to Give:

- 1. E-transfer: carlDokimi@gmail.com (tag for JCsPM)**
- 2. Electronically: www.jcsPlace.org**
- 3. Mail: JC's Place, 5355 Belmont Ave Niagara Falls On L2H 3H6**
- 4. Phone: 365-880-7229**



JC's Place Ministries

A mobile ministry of
the Niagara Falls Seventh-day Adventist Church
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