



**COMMUNITY DONATION VAN HAS A NEW LOOK!**



*Psalm 23 would like to thank the Province of BC (Grant) and Sunrise Ford for your donations and support towards Psalm 23 acquiring this Community Donation Van. There will be some service work and body work started on September 21<sup>st</sup> at Sunrise Ford and Carstar...Thank you for investing in the Charitable work at Psalm 23 Transition Society.*



**PSALM 23 HAS A NEW WEBSITE**

Psalm 23 would like to thank Psalm 23 Board Treasurer Matt Thiessen on your many months of Wisdom, expertise, time and vision to bring Psalm 23's website to life.

*"Our website has been in a dormant stage for over 4 years with just basic information for those seeking recovery. I am so excited to make this announcement and look forward to sharing various updated information with our supporters and those seeking recovery help.*

*Matt is still working on getting our Vocation Training Program information ready for the website and it will be added then. In the meanwhile, please go to [www.psalms23society.com](http://www.psalms23society.com) and let us know what you think, please also share this with those who may be seeking help!"*

Marvin Declare



**PRAISE & PRAYER**

**MINISTRY REPORT**

**JULY / AUGUST  
2020**

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**PSALM 23 CARE TEAM**



Marvin Declare  
Founder / Executive Director / Counsellor



Shelley Declare  
Administration Director



Marcus Reich  
Discipleship Program



**SHELLEY DECLARE**  
Administration Director

# ADMINISTRATION REPORT

## Moving forward with Grateful Hearts

As the summer months are now behind us, I must say that God is good! Our financial numbers are usually down during the summer months and this year is no exception but God has continued to provide throughout these unprecedented times that we are all facing.

We would like to thank all of our monthly donors for your ongoing support, and to pray for the ones who have had to discontinue...God will continue to bless each and every one of you, as you have blessed His ministry of Psalm 23 Transition Society.

The federal government has extended the Canadian Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) and we are able to receive some help with payroll for a few more months.

In June we applied for a grant for 2021 that we have received every year since 2010 (the funds from this grant can be used to pay a portion of our utilities, program expenses and payroll). This year we have been blessed with an increase of \$ 30,000.00 more than we received last year, PTL! We were also granted an additional \$ 20,000.00 to purchase used cube van for donation pick ups.

The Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions emailed us at the end of July about a grant due to COVID 19. This grant is based on the number of beds that we have registered with the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction. We have applied and will be notified by the end of September. Please pray for God's blessing on this opportunity.

At the end of August, we received an email from Assisted Living Registry about a grant opportunity. Funding is available to licensed or registered not-for-profit or private service providers providing high-quality, evidence-informed bed-based treatment and recovery services to expand publicly funded beds over a 3-year period (from 2021 to 2024). Service providers that are able to address current gaps in care to target populations, including rural/remote communities and small population centres, are particularly encouraged to apply. Senior staff will be collaborating on this grant as we only have until October 7th to apply and we are praying for God's direction and to provide His wisdom.

We have applied for other grants that were available from United Way and Community Foundations but we were not successful stating that they did not support because of us being a religious organization...unfortunately this has become a very common reply from so many grant applications.

If you have been following the income and expenses that we show each report, you will see adjustments that we have made. We have taken the income and expenses for all capital items out, as these are separate from the societies day-to-day operating funds.



## PRAISE & PRAYER

### 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

Revenue – January - \$74,035.09  
Expenses – January - \$26,552.12  
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) \$47,482.97  
*January revenue reflects \$50,000 Gaming Grant that was received for 2020*

Revenue – February - \$25,430.28  
Expenses – February - \$28,178.07  
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) (-\$2,747.79)

Revenue – March - \$20,405.38  
Expenses – March - \$24,169.88  
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) (-\$3,764.50)

Revenue – April - \$24,674.12  
Expenses – April - \$23,536.86  
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) \$1,137.26

Revenue – May - \$27,919.70  
Expenses – May - \$28,301.00  
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) (-\$381.30)

Revenue – June - \$28,229.62  
Expenses – June - \$28,670.71  
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) (-\$441.09)

Revenue – July - \$31,357.06  
Expenses – July - \$26,224.07  
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) \$5,132.99

Revenue – August - \$33,079.21  
Expenses – August - \$35,916.21  
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) (-\$2,837.00)

**YTD REVENUE = \$265,130.46**

**YTD EXPENSES = \$221,548.92**

**SURPLUS (DEFICIT) = \$43,581.54**

2020 BUDGET REVENUE \$394,040.00

YEAR TO DATE \$265,130.46

2020 BUDGET SHORTFALL

(-\$128,909.54)



# TESTIMONIES

I will sing unto the Lord because He has dealt bountifully with me  
Psalms 13:6



## *Lone Butte man beats addiction, seeks to help others*



*Psalm-23 Transitional Society executive director Marvin Declare presents Lone Butte resident Marcus Reich with a certificate that signifies he's graduated from the program. Reich now intends to return to Psalm-23 in a mentorship capacity and help others who have experienced the same struggles he has. (Photo submitted)*

Psalm 23 Transition Society has helped Marcus Reich kick his addiction and rebuild his self-esteem.

Now, after graduating from the treatment program in July, the Lone Butte man hopes to give back to others by becoming a mentor and member of the 59 Mile-based society.

“I want to help the other men. I want to be there for them, support them, because I did it and I know they can do it,” Reich said. “It’s just being there and being supportive of them during their walk, their journey.”

Psalm 23 was first started in 2001 by Marvin Declare, the centre’s executive director, who had a vision about wanting to help individuals at a deeper level while working at the Union Gospel Mission in Vancouver. Although the 12-step program is faith-based, meaning they have Church and Bible studies, Declare said participants do not have to be believers to join. The aim is more focused on helping people find out what’s blocking them off from receiving help and finding their purpose in life.

Declare, who himself has been clean for 23 years, said Psalm 23 addresses the core reasons why people use and behave the way they do. It’s unfortunate, he added, but many people with addictions are also often dealing with mental health concerns such as depression, anxiety and abandonment issues.

“We have these voids in our life, losses, people that we’ve loved who have passed away,” Declare said.

When men arrive at the facility, they experience loneliness and sadness right away because they’re isolated from distractions, Declare said. This allows his team to work more deeply with them in a structured process that is designed to help them struggle with the idea of: “What do you do to promote the changing?”

“In the counselling format, it’s really about teaching these men that you can’t pray it or wish it away,” Declare said. “Whatever happens to you, positive or negative, is a part of you for the rest of your life, our purpose is to try and teach you how to live with that in your life. It’s like a hula hoop, you’re only responsible for what’s in your hula hoop.”

Reich said he first found out about Psalm-23 through a family friend while he was going through some “pretty rough times in (his) life.” He’d spent a lot of hours trying to kick his addiction on his own. Although he said he was in control of his life, he came to the realization he couldn’t do it on his own.

“Deep down inside, I knew I needed to go. I didn’t want to go, but I knew I had to and I knew that I needed help,” Reich said. “It was the best thing I ever did. It was quite challenging, I had difficulties, but I was able to persevere and face my fears and my pain and to work through them.”

Now on the other side, he wants to help others. There is a way out, Reich said, and people just have to work to reach it. Slowing down and not setting unreasonably high expectations for himself and taking it day by day, made the program start to work for him.

“Like Marvin said the program is really designed to make your struggle and it did for me because it made me have to face these things in my life that were holding me back,” he said.

The program requires a commitment of at least eight-and-a-half months, although it can stretch to as long 10, depending on the individual. It starts with a 40-day stabilization phase, which can include visits to a doctor, dentist and government offices for ID, followed by the foundation phase and four-month intensive recovery, where participants learn to “stop with excuses,” recognize denial, take accountability and begin to focus on the new course of their life.

“We tell families that you’re going to get a new son ... it’s about them developing a new relationship with themselves so they can start to love and care for themselves, which allows for other relationships,” Declare said, adding that they don’t have the resources for a woman’s program or facility at the moment.

For Declare, watching people like Reich turn their lives around is the most rewarding part of his work.

The program encourages participants to give back to their community and help to lift other program members up – as Reich intends to do. He said stepping into a leadership role has been something he’s especially liked and is giving him a reason to keep growing and learning.

“I’d like to get into the ministry and become a pastor one day so this is something I believe God has opened the door for me to be able to help others and learn more,” Reich said. “To be there to help and give back.”

Article by Patrick Davis – 100 Mile Free Press



*Marcus is pictured in taking a leadership role in pouring the foundation for Psalm 23’s woodwork shop. This is just one of the examples of Marcus working with students in his Mentorship Role!*

## THE MIRACLES CONTINUE

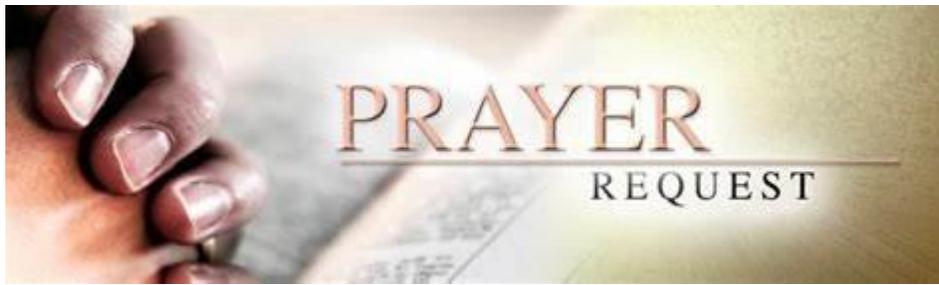
### Alumnus Sobriety Celebrations

#### JULY CELEBRATIONS

Tom K. – 16 yrs.    Antonio Q. – 16 yrs.  
Gordon M. – 15 yrs.    Robert Mc. – 15 yrs.    Gerald P. – 14 yrs.  
Dave M. – 13 yrs.    Gord R. - 13 yrs.    Alex M. – 10 yrs.  
Bill L. – 10 yrs.    Mike E – 10 yrs.    Jake C. – 4 yrs.

#### AUGUST CELEBRATIONS

Matt S. – 14 yrs.    Darren G. – 14 yrs.    Ray V. –14 yrs.  
Dale M. – 13 yrs.    Frank K. – 13 yrs.    Scott H. – 11 yrs.  
Anthony S. – 8 yrs.    Brad A. – 7 yrs.    Terry S. – 7 yrs.  
Ryan Mc. – 7 yrs.    Marcus R. 1 yr.



**Psalm 23 are asking our Prayer Warriors to please pray for Andrew and Gabriel**



Andrew came to join the Psalm 23 family by way of Victoria, BC.

Andrew is adjusting well and gaining deeper insights in our Stabilization Phase and is gaining much confidence.

Please pray for God's strength as he adjusts to the



Alumnus Gabriel will be undergoing a double hernia operation on September 16<sup>th</sup> that will take a couple of months for complete healing.

Please pray for a successful operation that God will provide His wisdom to the medical team and that He will give Gabriel complete healing.

**Seeking Your Prayers for Comfort**

Psalm 23 received the very sad news that Alumnus Ed Johnson has passed away and gone Home to Glory.

Ed was a very vital part of Psalm 23's family for many years and we ask for you all to pray for Ed's sister Julie, family and those lives he touched. There are no details at this time and with Covid-19 there are no current plans for a funeral.

Pictured is Ed celebrating his 64th birthday at Psalm 23. Ed was a man of much wisdom and loved his practical jokes while being there to always give a helping hand.

Ed was able to live the last years of his life addiction free. RIP our brother as you now spend your eternity in Heaven!



Ed was pictured here celebrating his 64<sup>th</sup> birthday



**PSALM 23 TRANSITION SOCIETY**

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Registered Charitable Organization - Business Number # 85907 4171 RR0001

**PERSONAL / FAMILY / BUSINESS PLEDGE CARD**

**YES - I would like to support the Ministry of Psalm 23 on a monthly basis “**

“If you prefer to use Pre-Authorized Checking then please include a VOID cheque”

All personal information is for the sole purpose of Psalm 23 and will not be shared with anyone outside our organization

<b>(Starfish Club)</b> \$30.00 X ____ = (\$ _____ per month)	<b>(Sponsor a meal)</b> \$3.23 X ____ = (\$ _____ per month)	<b>(Business Starfish Sponsorship)</b> \$50.00 X ____ = (\$ _____ per month)
<b>(Hope Fund)</b> \$100.00 X ____ = (\$ _____ per month)	<b>(Half month Student Scholarship)</b> \$500.00 X ____ = (\$ _____ per month)	<b>(Full month Student scholarship)</b> \$1,000 X ____ = (\$ _____ per month)
_____ 15th of the month	_____ 30th of the month	this is a one-time gift of \$ _____

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_