



The URBAN EDGE

Your Exclusive Update On Your Generosity At Work | Spring 2023

SIERRA'S SOMEONE

How your care and compassion walked alongside Sierra when she felt alone and afraid.

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SIERRA'S SOMEONE

How your care and compassion walked alongside Sierra when she felt alone and afraid.

When Sierra found out she was pregnant, she was living in a trap-house in the North End with no heat or electricity.

She had no family close by. She felt all alone. She feared for herself and her future child.

More than ever, Sierra needed someone to help her find a new path forward.



At a challenging moment in Sierra's life, you were there to provide her with the care she and her child needed. ❤️

And thanks to caring donors like you, who support our community ministry program, someone was.

Because of you, she was introduced to Carissa, one of ICYA's community ministers.

After regularly connecting, Sierra reached out to Carissa — ready to make a change. She wanted to break her cycle of trauma so she could be a present and loving mom to her baby.

Over the next few months, she worked hard to do that — and Carissa was there beside her, every step of the way.

Driving her to medical appointments. Finding grocery hampers. Setting her up with social workers.

When Baby Aurora was finally born, Carissa visited them in the hospital and prayed with them.

Afterwards, she shared how beautiful it was to see how far Sierra had come. Not only that, she saw God at work in the life of a smart, strong, and resilient young woman.

Like all of us do in difficult and challenging seasons, Sierra needed someone to walk with her and encourage her. Thanks to your generous gifts, she had someone beside her when she needed it most. ✕



Your generosity is supporting and encouraging community members through Rosemary!

UPDATE ON MAGNUS AVENUE

New workers are being trained right now...because of you!

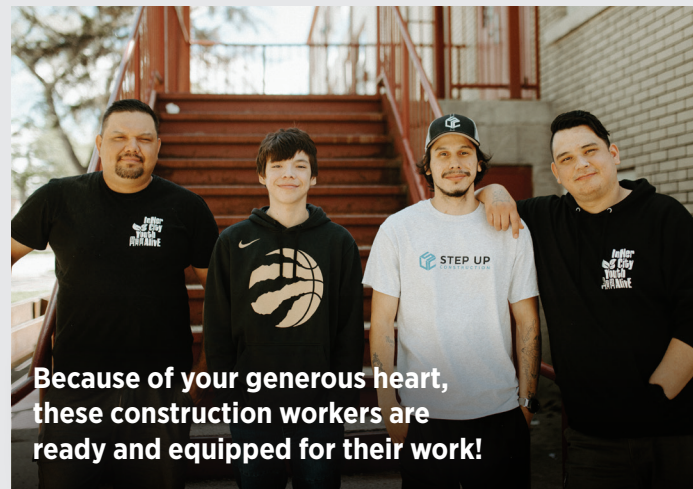
This Easter, we asked caring people like you to help us turn a property on Magnus Avenue into affordable housing for families in the North End...

...By hiring and training youth in our community to build and renovate it.

And honestly? Your generosity blew us all away.

Together, our caring community gave over \$74,000 (and counting!) to provide over 100 days of work for our Step Up Construction employees. More than that, you showed your deep desire to see our North End neighbours thrive.

If you've tried to get something built in Winnipeg you'll know: waiting for permits can feel endless! But in the meantime, we've been able to use your gifts



Because of your generous heart, these construction workers are ready and equipped for their work!

to do something really important: hiring our fourth construction crew member, Dillion.

He's already hard at work, training with our Step Up construction crew team — and learning skills in the trade of home construction and renovation.

We appreciate your prayers and support as work begins to make this dream into a reality.

Thank you for being a special part of this project! More updates to come when possible! ✕

ROSEMARY SHARES HER REDEMPTION... BECAUSE OF YOU!

Thanks to your support, Rosemary serves as a community minister — inspiring others with her story.

Rosemary joined our staff as a community minister in the fall of 2022.

Her job is to connect with, listen to, and support our friends and neighbours in the North End. She works with others to show youth and families the power of God's love.

It's extra special then, that Rosemary has so clearly seen God at work in her own life. Her own testimony uniquely equips her to work with our community members.

Seventeen years ago, Rosemary was living in a drug house, in the midst of an active addiction to alcohol and crack cocaine.

One day, she walked into a hospital with extreme stomach pain — pain so intense, she thought she would die. She walked out with the knowledge that she was six months pregnant.

A month and a half later, Rosemary was a mom.

It was meeting her daughter that led Rosemary to God. This new little life showed Rosemary that God valued her. God loved her. God protected her and the child she was carrying — even through addiction! God gave Rosemary a miracle through her daughter.

Now, Rosemary is able to share her powerful testimony with other moms — who may be in the exact same situation she experienced.

Trapped in a desperate cycle, no hope for a different future...

...Until someone steps in to support and encourage them. Until someone steps in to reveal God.

And you're one of those people, stepping in to support and encourage. Because of your care and love, Rosemary's important ministry is made possible. She's able to share her testimony with those who most need to hear it. Thank you! ✕



ONLY 6 WEEKS UNTIL CAMP!

For \$200, you can send a North End kid to camp for one special, worry-free week! ❤️

The adventure starts right away: a long drive, a hike, and a boat shuttle to reach their final destination — Gem Lake Wilderness Camp.

Kids in the North End look forward to their week there all year long. **It's because of caring Manitobans like you that there's always a place for them!**

Many of the children and youth we work with are being asked to grow up too fast. Some of them have taken on the responsibility of caring for their siblings while their parents work two jobs.

Others have parents who are struggling with addiction or generational trauma. In those cases, teens feel the pressure to help provide for their families... in whichever way they can.

Every day, we see too many children missing out on their childhood because of the consequences of poverty.

That's why Gem Lake is so special. It's been designed for them — so they can just be a kid for a while. For one wonderful week, they get to eat marshmallows, sing songs around the fire, and swim in the lake.

But that's not all: some truly incredible transformations happen during camp, too. There, kids meet Jesus — some for the very first time — and hear about God's great big plan for their lives. It helps them set a new course for their future adventures — and life back home in the North End.

This summer, will you be a part of our summer ministry and help send kids to camp to be encouraged and strengthened?

Your caring gift of \$200 can send a child to camp for one week. But if that's too much, we completely understand. Please know that any amount you're able to give will be put to great use — giving kids an unforgettable summer.

Will you also consider joining us in praying for our campers and staff this summer? That God will bless their time together and provide them with the healing they need?

Thank you for helping North End kids and youth create summer memories that will last a lifetime. ✕



Yes, I want to give inner city youth the opportunity to just be a kid at Gem Lake Wilderness Camp this summer!

Your gift of \$200 will send one child from the North End to camp for one special, worry-free week!

Please use the enclosed coupon and reply envelope to send in your most generous gift today.

To donate by phone, call (204) 582-8779 or give online at icya.ca/gemlake

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