



Someone out there needs you! Whether you feel adequate or not. Youth Unlimited believes this wholeheartedly and as a result we make incredible investments of time and energy by pouring into lives of Calgary's youth.

The Canadian Government has sponsored much research to understand favourable key impacts on youth's attitudes, behaviours, risk and protective factors. Concluding that proactive methods can have a great influence on the positive trajectory in the lives of youth. Is it any surprise to uncover that mentoring relationships are a big part of the proactive solution?

Our research, although a little older than government surveys and research, upholds the same conclusions as evidenced and taught by our Master Disciple and Mentor. (1 John 2:6, Anyone who says he is a Christian should live as Christ did.)

In Tim Elmore's book entitled "Mentoring - How to Invest Your Life in Others", he describes qualities of a good mentor as being a:

- Guide (with vision, able to see the big picture, assumes responsibility)
- Encourager (with patience, long suffering)
- Resource (good communicator, strong character, committed)
- Evaluator (with understanding, discernment)
- Provider (generous, enjoyment in giving)

It is said that a journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step. With Christmas and the New Year already in our sights, we ask you to keep partnering with Youth Unlimited Calgary on our journey. We are so grateful for you at whatever stage or 'step' that happens to be at this time but, we do ask that you prayerfully consider 'the next step'. Perhaps as a volunteer, a staff member, a prayer warrior, a financial partner? Could you perhaps embody a 'mentoring' role to Youth Unlimited and make an investment as a guide, encourager, resource, evaluator, and provider?

We would love to hear from you and about your investment of time, talent, or treasure. Perhaps with an encouraging word by email for our staff (calgary@yfc.ca), a regular or year end special donation using the form below or online at YUDONATE.ca The youth of Calgary need you!

EMAIL CALGARY@YFC.CA to sign up for your 2022  
**TAX RECEIPTS**

**MERRY &  
BRIGHT**

COUNT ME IN AS A PARTNER!

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

**One Time Donation**

Enclosed Cheque  Post-Dated Cheque(s)  Or Bank Transit # \_\_\_\_\_ Inst# \_\_\_\_\_ Acct# \_\_\_\_\_

Or Visa/Mastercard Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date \_\_\_\_\_ CVV# \_\_\_\_\_

One Time Donation Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Email My Tax Receipt To: \_\_\_\_\_

PRINT CLEARLY

**For Monthly Pre-Authorized Donation Plan** (Void Cheque, Bank Information, or Credit Card Information Included Above)

Total Per Month \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly Transfer Date:  1st  15th Starting Month: \_\_\_\_\_

In Support Of (Staff/Program or Campaign Name) \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**MERRY  
CHRISTMAS**  
to you and yours



**Youth  
Unlimited™**  
YFC CALGARY

**LET IT  
SNOW**

**Joy**

*love*  
*hope*

**Merry &  
Bright**

**Peace**



**HOLIDAY  
BLESSINGS**

## CAMPUS LIFE SARA WAGAR



4 years ago she had wandered into a high school gymnasium, brand new to the school and hoping to make the basketball team. Today she sat on my couch, a little stressed from university midterms but glad to be able to relax and not think about studying for a few hours.

I often find myself inspired by this particular student. She wasn't the most skilled at sports but I wouldn't have wanted to have a team without her. Every day she was consistently one of the hardest working girls and always asked what she needed to work on to improve her shot or her rebounding. Off the court she is a wonderful friend and excellent at just about anything she touches. Last year she was bored for a few weeks so she taught herself to crochet by watching Youtube videos and her first project was to make my son a blanket and a teddy bear.

Today, we talked about grief. She lost a close friend recently, so we reflected on the impact of this relationship and how hard the sudden loss has hit her. She mentioned how it was still so difficult to believe, how things like this happen to other people but not her - and yet here she is, in this new reality with no choice but to move forward.

I wish 19 year olds weren't faced with death and trauma or having to learn how to grieve friends at such a young age. I am thankful that she shares about these situations and leans in to positive relationships that can help walk with her through life. It's such an honour to be a part of young people's journeys.

Merry & Bright

## KERAMIKO SHARON HAU



The last time I saw Beth was in the spring. She was in a period of transition, living in a state of chaos. Beth and her three kids were living at an emergency shelter and preparing to head to Kelowna to stay with her mom until she could find permanent housing in Calgary. With everything that was going on, troubles with her ex, moving to and from emergency shelters, her two oldest kids were having a rough time and it was obvious. They were acting out more than usual and it was clear that this loss of routine was causing them to do whatever they could to maintain some sense of control.

At the beginning of November, Youth Unlimited had our regional retreat in Kelowna and I was able to visit Beth and her kids. When I saw them, I immediately sensed a difference. Living in Kelowna in a more stable and secure home for 6 months had made a huge difference. The kids were a lot calmer and they seemed to be getting along with one another a lot better.

Stability and safety is key for any family to be able to thrive and this is no different for our Keramiko families. They are looking for places to belong and spaces where they can feel safe and loved.



## WORTH AUTO DOUG WAUGH



Some youth come and go and you hardly get to know them while others, even though you only spend a few months with them leave an impression that you remember for years. Ashton was one of these young men who, though only in our program for a few months, left his mark on me and apparently we left a mark on his life as well.

Ashton came to us as a 20 year old but presented as much younger. He'd struggled with substance abuse and grew up in foster homes. He was a pleasant young man who had a softness to him that wasn't common in youth who've spent years moving from family to family in the "system". When he was at Worth he did what he was asked but didn't seem to click socially with the other guys very well so I would sometimes take him with me to pick up cars and we'd have interesting conversations about our lives and experiences. Yet, after a few months he just sort of fell by the wayside and stopped coming all together. I didn't get much feedback from his social worker after he left other than he'd moved to another residence and was continuing to struggle with substance abuse. Over the years I've often wondered what happened to Ashton, and every time God would bring him to my mind I'd say a quick prayer for him.

Then one day I saw him sitting in our office foyer with a huge grin on his face. He was with his supportive roommate who was having car troubles and Ashton had come back to ask some car advice. As we caught up it was like time had stood still. It was so good to see him clean and sober for several years now and growing as a young man. He told me how Worth Auto had impacted his life and that the few months he spent here had influenced him in a positive way. My heart filled with joy as we spent a few moments together catching up.

Seeing Ashton again after many years was so refreshing for me. It reminded me that every seed we plant here at Worth Auto, no matter how small, God is using for His Kingdom purposes.

## STREETLIGHT CARISSA LAWTON



As the days get shorter and colder I am reminded of the reason Streetlight exists. We are here to provide hope to youth who have none. Through building a community of safety and belonging, providing a warm loving space, and food that fuels the body; we are given a unique opportunity to be the hands and feet of Christ here on earth. Not only did Jesus teach others about who God is; He showed people who God is through loving them exactly where they are at, feeding them when they were hungry, and healing them when they were in need of healing.

The reason I love Streetlight is that being mobile we are able to go to where the greatest need is, and be that light in the darkness for so many.. As we head into Advent and then the Christmas season I am thankful that we have a God who sent His only son to be an example for us on how to love others, wholly and fully.

Thank you!

Youth Unlimited would like to express our sincerest gratitude for those who donated to Operation Backpack, Keramiko Christmas Hampers and to those who enable us to build our community by your generous support.

