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What Are the Workers Saying?

In March we interviewed JustPotters participants to hear their reflections on their involvement with the social enterprise. Here are some comments they shared on what they appreciate about the opportunity and environment:

"The work itself is good, and it is good to have work"

"The confidence building that comes from teaching others how to make a certain piece... I'm not just waiting on pills to help me out [from depression]"

"Positive environment... good support structure... the chance to build skills and practice art at the same time."

"I'm getting better at what I am doing"

"Income... the opportunity to be creative... a break from everyday life."

"There is growing organisation and stability in the program"

"There is more trust; people are coming around"

Some Reflections on Fundraising

Fundraising is proclaiming what we believe in such a way that we offer other people an opportunity to participate with us in our vision and mission. Fundraising is precisely the opposite of begging. When we seek to raise funds we are not saying, "Please could you help us out because lately it's been hard." Rather, we are declaring, "We have a vision that is amazing and exciting. We are inviting you to invest yourself through the resources that God has given you—your energy, your prayers, and your money—in this work to which God has called us."

— Henri Nouwen, Fundraising As Ministry, pp. 3-4

At JustWork, we believe our vision is "amazing and exciting." Consider this newsletter your invitation. If you would like to join in the vision of "a healthy community where people are meaningfully and gainfully employed and where business practices embrace an ethical, social mandate," then please respond with your energy, prayers, and financial contributions.

To make a donation, you can use the accompanying Donor Form (both Canadian and U.S. donors) or you can donate electronically through our website (Canadian donors only). Simply click on the Donate Now logo at <http://www.justwork.ca/donors.html> to make a donation for JustWork through our partner Salsbury Community Society.

THINKING ABOUT OUR VALUES...

By: David Holcomb

In 2007 the JustWork Board and Staff spent time reflecting upon and re-phrasing our statement of values. Through this statement we hope to inform others about who we are, while providing ourselves with a continuing reminder of our core convictions. When we are being true to the calling we have received, our actions and decisions will reflect the four values highlighted below:

Empowerment: By connecting and entrusting people with meaningful work opportunities, we desire to enlarge and elicit their gifts and capacities for work and, therefore, their ability to contribute to the common good.

Interdependence: Our future is bound up with those we are including in our social enterprises. Therefore, we embrace a model of interdependence—mutually giving and receiving to create a more caring and just neighbourhood.

Stewardship: We will care for the resources, opportunities, and relationships that we have received. Therefore, we will be fiscally responsible and, even more, will promote the good of others and of the creation in which we live.

Transformation: We envision a new world where all

are valued and all make valuable contributions. A transformation like this does not require technological advances or improved efficiencies but new ways of being, seeing, and relating.

At JustWork, our understanding of these values and this new world are grounded in the Christian Story. This Story calls us to live by faith, not sight, waiting patiently as we orient ourselves towards what will be, the ongoing redemptive work of God.

One implication of these values for our work is a belief that individuals can be active participants in life, not simply recipients. Charity can be paralyzing in many ways; very often those effects begin with the false mindset of both givers and receivers that people in need are incapable of helping themselves. At JustWork, we want to give people opportunities, specifically the opportunity to work. We believe that work, while sometimes frustrating, is a context for many good things to happen. Work is invigorating, challenging and affirming, and it can even be redemptive. We trust that this redemptive work of God is happening in our midst.

Social Enterprise Summary

JustGarden—Growing People and Gardens:

The 2008 gardening season, the third for JustGarden, is now well under way. We have started the year trying out some new things:

- **New Truck:** a pickup truck was graciously donated to help with the operations of JustGarden.
- **New Crew Leader:** The new truck will make it easier to occasionally operate two crews. JustGarden has hired a part-time crew leader to assist Mike each week.
- **New Line of Work:** This year JustGarden is expanding to complete more hardscaping projects (e.g. patios and walkways).
- **New Advertising Areas:** In March and April flyers were distributed door-to-door in an expanded area of East Vancouver and North Burnaby.

JustGarden offers full Maintenance, Design, and Installation services using organic methods and a power-tool free approach. Call today (604-710-7414) to arrange a spring cleanup, regular maintenance for the year, or to discuss ideas on a new garden design for your home.

JustPotters—Pottery With Purpose:

2008 will be the first full year of operations for JustPotters. Leigh and Shelimar have worked diligently, along with nine individuals who have regularly participated in the program since January, to create a beautiful line of ceramic pieces. Much work is happening on the marketing side to build a customer base of organisations that will purchase pieces for promotional/gifting activities and for use in their workplaces. Call today to order promotional mugs for your organisation or gift pieces for your employees or supporters. Go to www.justwork.ca/justpotters to see our product catalogue and retail outlets carrying our work.



"We don't hire people to bake brownies. We bake brownies to hire people."

— Greystone Bakery, a US social enterprise and supplier of some ingredients for Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream

A Note to U.S. Donors. For the past year we have had a partnership with the Tides Foundation (San Francisco) that has allowed U.S. donors to receive a charitable tax receipt for the IRS. Unfortunately, Tides has significantly increased their fees due to changing U.S. regulations regarding cross-border giving. Therefore, we anticipate that we will need to end our relationship with Tides this spring. (We are currently looking for other potential partners). We want to provide one more opportunity for U.S. donors to make a contribution to JustWork through Tides. If you would like to contribute, then please send us a check, payable to The Tides Foundation, by May 20th. Please see the Donor Form for more details.

DONOR FORM

JUSTWORK

economic initiative

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Yes, I'd like to help JustWork!

Mr. Mrs. Ms. Dr. (circle appropriate title)

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Prov / State: _____ Postal / Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Monthly Donation Options: Enclosed are 12 post-dated cheques each for:

\$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 \$ _____

One-Time Donation Options: Enclosed is a cheque for:

\$50 \$100 \$500 \$1000 \$5000 \$ _____

Please make cheques payable to Salsbury community Society (Canadian donors) or Tides Foundation (U.S. donors) and mail them to the address listed above. You will receive charitable tax receipts from Salsbury or Tides, respectively.

COMMUNICATION PREFERENCES

We strive to be good stewards of both financial and natural resources, and we recognise that communication methods that work best for some, may be less than ideal for others. To indicate your preference for how we communicate with you, please send us the form below by regular mail, fax (604-255-0414), or email (david.holcomb@justwork.ca). Thank you for your response.

If we do not hear back from you we will send future updates to you electronically. If we do not have your email address, we will send updates to your mailing address.

Name: _____

I prefer to receive updates:

Electronically

My email address is: _____

By Regular Mail

My mailing address is:

Please remove me from your mailing list at this time.
