

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

- National Homeless Youth Awareness Month: All of November
- SP Pre-Christmas Party: 11/26/10
- SP Closed For Abatement: 12/4-12/8
- Narnia: Voyage of the Dawn Treader opens in Theaters: 12/10/10
- SP Family Christmas Dinner: 12/22/10
- New Year's Late Night: 12/31/10

For more information go to:  
<http://acts512.org/Calendar.html>

## SP HOURS:

- Office Hours: By Appointment Only
- Regular Open Hours: Tues., Thurs., Fri. 6-9pm
- Stone Table Youth Group: Wed. 6-7:30pm
- Through the Noise Tutoring: Mon., Tues., Thurs. 4-6pm (snack included)

## WISH LIST:

### NEED:

- Used Ink Cartridges
- Sheets of 1/2" drywall
- 120 - 2"x4"x8's
- 25 - 2"x4"x14's

### WANT:

- Crayola Colored Pencils
- Bongos (hand drums)
- New solid-white twin sheets

See our **FULL LIST** at  
[acts512.org/Wishlist.html](http://acts512.org/Wishlist.html)

## BUDGET:

2010 Jan.-Oct. Budget: \$90,920  
Actual Income Jan.- Aug.: \$88,755

Aslan's Refuge Goal: \$700,000  
Raised: \$340,000  
Left to Raise: \$360,000

## LEADERSHIP:

### Executive Director:

Steven Knemeyer

### Board of Directors:

Sharon Morris

Rebecca Springer

Dianna Wheeler

Teresa Craig

### Program Director:

Desiree' Knemeyer

## SOLOMON'S PORCH: BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN THE CHURCH AND THE STREET

# The Porch Paper

NOVEMBER 2010

## Old & New Friends Expand SP's Reach

"Here's a backpack filled with stuff you'll need...socks, toothbrush, soap, a deck of cards... Oh, and a scarf and hat hand-knit for you...You say you're not feeling well, here's a place you can go to be cared for. When you're feeling better we'll get you set up with the school district's homeless liaison and we have tutoring three times a week here."

Being able to say this to a broken and recently homeless teenager was such a relief. So many groups from our area have come together to provide vital services to the youth we serve at Solomon's Porch. Although we are not yet able to house these youth, we've

been able to drastically expand our services to them. In the past few months, we've opened a fourth night each week, added the Through The Noise Tutoring Program, and seen a great deal of trust and unity grow between our volunteers and the youth.

Some of these service partners include Redi-Medi Clinic and Eastmont Pharmacy who are helping youth in need of medical services, Wenatchee Free Methodist, who have built the Isaiah-58 care kits, pictured above, and the Eastmont School District's GEAR-UP Program who come

twice a week to help peer-tutor many of our youth who are in need of a bit of class help.

The knit goods have been made



from individuals from all over the valley and we love that they love us and they love our youth... To EVERYONE who has partnered with us... Thanks.

## New Kitchen Update

Open Tuesday through Friday 6-9pm without a kitchen... that's not only hard on the volunteers, but harder still on our youth who are in need of meals, especially at dinner time. Our amazing volunteers have been forgoing dinner until after we close for months now! They are a FANTASTIC group of people and our leadership team feels honored to work side-by-side with them!

Our new kitchen is under-

way though. At the beginning of October a team from Wenatchee Free Methodist Church came and took out our stage and staff area wall as well as cleaning out our copy office to get ready for our remodel. This past week, five of our youth and a few other wonderful volunteers from the community helped our Executive Director, Steven, remove the interior of our old built-in cooler, saving us approximately \$1,500!

Now we're playing the waiting

game... Our office has been temporarily relocated to the front room (yes, files are locked) and we will have an asbestos abatement team come to remove asbestos from December 4th-8th. This is later than we had planned but their schedule filled up (and we're glad they have work!) All of our equipment is purchased, save two grease-traps, and we're excited to see the hope in the youth's eyes every time they come in.

# Youth Conference

Perspective and motivation are two issues that we learn about as adult community members. But what happens when a group of youth decide that they want to change and change the culture around them as well? The theme

place. The bathrooms had not only self-flushing toilets, but those “cool new air-pressure hand dryer thingies”

who had only gone on the trip so that they would have somewhere warm to sleep, food to eat, and a

as one girl called the modern hand dryers.

An the main hall was filled with high-tech equipment, lights, and video feed.

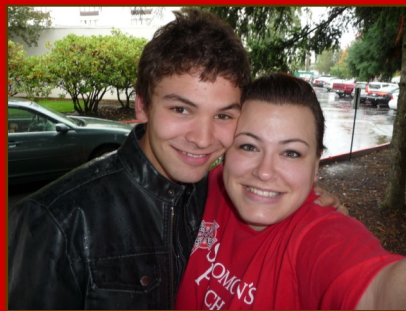


Although this was what excited them at first, what excited me was seeing other youth from the Wenatchee area that they knew! They had hardly ever been out of the valley and here were other teens they could relate with!

place to shower, came back truly changed.

Here we are, exactly one month later and we are still seeing growth and change!

During our break the second day we took them to the Westfield Center (old Southcenter Mall) This was the biggest mall that six of them had ever been to! How we often take some things for granted... A few



THANK YOU to those that contributed the funds to make this trip a reality... to invest in the

lives of youth who needed a motivation change...needed hope.



for the two-day Northwest Youth Conference in Renton, WA was to be “Compelled by Love.”

Eleven youth and four staff endured the infamous “road-trip” with rest-stops, snack-stops, sight-stops and still made it on time! We had a wonderful time building relationships and growing closer as a “family.” The looks on these youth’s faces when they saw the building we were going into was astonishment. A stunning entry-way with a coffee house feeling was accented by an out-door fire-

## Seeking Truth

“Do you really believe that what you believe is *really* real?” The amazing introduction to “The Truth Project” is going to be challenging the teens that attend Stone Table Youth Group on Wednesday evenings starting December 1st. This renowned



video series encourages

participation in the questioning of all you know.

Start from the bottom and build a firm foundation, know why you believe what you do, and where those thoughts are grounded. All of our volunteers will be going through this ahead of the youth so we can be prepared for questions they may have. We are truly excited to be able to offer such a wonderful program!

## Thanks!

There was a young lady who walked into Solomon’s porch today who had gone door-to-door and collected donations for us. We think her name was Abby. I thought that was really cool and that I would write about it in the newsletter. Everyone at Solomon’s Porch would like to thank you for your generosity. So... thank you.

- Sincerely, One of the Youth

# Letter From the Director

It is exciting to see things progress as the remodel is starting to take shape. We have started demolishing some of the walls and are just a couple of weeks away from contractors starting the new kitchen.

To give you a very brief update we still need about \$30,000 to finish the kitchen (the biggest expense is upgrading the electrical service to 3-phase). We do have all the major pieces of kitchen equipment, so construction is all that is left. I hope and pray that we can finish the kitchen before

winter is over so we can start feeding these youth ASAP. We've been seeing a lot more kids "couch surfing" from house to house lately, as well as many being evicted and either sleeping in vehicles or down by the river.

Two weeks ago I was able to give one youth a sleeping bag, gloves, and hat to keep him warm. He was very appreciative of the gift as he said he was going to be down by the river that night. All he had for warmth was

a light jacket. Please continue to support us and these youth through prayer, volunteering, and / or donations so we can meet the needs of the homeless and at-risk youth in the Wenatchee area.



**Merry Christmas  
& Warm Holiday  
Dreams!**

## NHYAM Highlight!

One year ago, it came to our attention that November is National Homeless Youth Awareness Month. It seems amazing that it was, in fact, exactly two years ago that the dream of a teen shelter blossomed in the hearts of our directors.

Every year we become much closer to that vision. As you read on the opening page, we are now in the midst of remodeling our facility to add a commercial kitchen. This is the first physical step towards providing that dream shelter.

Every Friday in November supporters are gathering at Solomon's Porch at 4:30 to go out and raise awareness by waving to passers-by. Feel free to join us. If you would like to show your support by putting a bumper sticker on your vehicle, a yard-

sign in your front yard or by wearing a Shelter Support pin, please let us know!

In January of this year, we were



able to secure the funds to launch a significant informational and fund raising campaign for this month and into December. Keep your eyes open for the orange and white banners, yard signs, and even buttons and bumper stickers you will see around the Valley for the next five weeks! Also keep up-to-date on our plans and our wish-list on our website, [www.acts512.org](http://www.acts512.org)

## Speaking

Kiwanis, Faith Communities, Companies, Boy Scouts, Rotary, Non-Profits, Ladie's Bible Study Groups... all of these have invited us to come present about Solomon's Porch.

Our hope is to spread the word about how we have been able to impact our community and how we are partnering with so many groups to move forward.

Whether it is in anticipation of a contribution or for widening the view of our community. We would be honored to present to your group.

Our presenters are able to do 10 minute to one hour presentation with or without PowerPoint, and a financial gift is not necessary.

Please call our office or email [info@acts512.org](mailto:info@acts512.org) to answer any questions or to set a date.



# SOLOMON'S PORCH

PO Box 2267  
Wenatchee, WA 98807  
509-662-1712

NON PROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT #1  
WENATCHEE WA

We're On The Web:  
[www.acts512.org](http://www.acts512.org)

To update your address or be removed from our mailing list please contact us at the address above.

## Taylor's Story

Hi :) My name is Taylor. I am 15 and I LOVE going to Solomon's Porch. SP has changed my life for the better. I have been a "Porchie" for almost two years. Since I have been hanging out here I have become close with a lot of good people. They help me understand things that I would never know.

The staff members are the best! Desiree', I love your hugs.

Steve, thanks for being here for me. And Grandma Pam... your hair could survive through a hurricane. :)

So, when I walk through the doors at Solomon's, it feels like a second home and a really big loving family :) I come here every Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 6pm-9pm since that's all the times they're open right now. I hope you love Solomon's Porch as much as I do! :)

A beautiful and blossoming young lady, Taylor has become a ray of sunshine here at Solomon's Porch. Despite hardships, she has set goals and is striving to achieve them. We were pleased when Taylor accepted the offer to speak on our behalf for the radio ads run with Cherry Creek Radio. You can here these ads on KPQ, Apple FM, and KYSN Country from now through December!

## \*Lives Subject to Change... With Your Help!

Sara didn't expect to become pregnant at such a young age. She had her whole life ahead of her, plans for college in the distance. So much has changed. She's no longer living with her parents, she is trying to stay in school as long as possible, she's trying to pretend everything's alright... but it's not. Sara's overjoyed that she and her boyfriend are still together. They've had the name chosen for a while now but still... she's so young.

Sara is a strong enough young lady that

she will do what she must to put her child first, to protect it's little life from the harsh realities of her situation as long as she can. Sara is only one of five pregnant young mothers we've seen recently.

Sara, and other teen moms like her, need a safe, warm place to sleep in the winter months when they're no longer welcome at home... Imagine this picture of Sara... a stamp spread across the front. Sara's life is "\*Subject to Change."

**-Thank You For Your Help In 2010-**

