

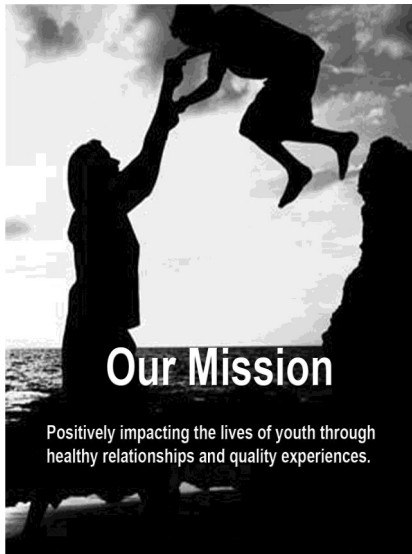


*Remember when you said  
someday you would give  
something back?*

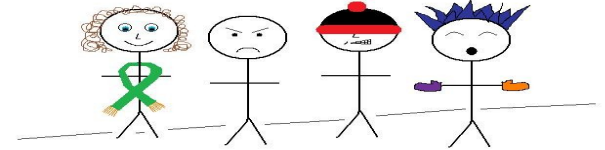
*Welcome to Someday!*

*You can make a difference.*

*Volunteer your time or make a  
contribution ... for kids sake.*



NOT EVERYONE CAN AFFORD EVERYTHING THEY NEED...



## Youth Winter Inn

**OPENING**

NOVEMBER 8th, 2013  
to APRIL 30th, 2014

**Who We Serve:**  
We provide basic overnight shelter for youth aged 14 to 17 who are not eligible for other shelters due to factors such as being under the influence of alcohol or drugs, homelessness, and lack of parental consent.

**Where We Are:**  
Red Deer Youth & Volunteer Center  
4633 49 St. Back Entrance

**When We're Open:**  
Everyday: 9pm—7am

**How to Get In:**  
Ring the doorbell at the back entrance of the Youth & Volunteer Center on 49th Street. Press the intercom to talk to a Youth Worker.



The Youth Winter Inn Youth Workers will provide you with a warm, safe place to stay. The Community Support worker will help you get where you need to be!

Red Deer  
Youth &  
Volunteer  
Centre

YWI : 403-341-0604  
Main Phone: 403-342-6500  
Fax: 403-342-7734  
Email: info@yvc.ca  
Website: www.yvc.ca

## MYTHS & FACTS ABOUT HOMELESS YOUTH

### The Idea

The Youth Winter Inn is a harm reduction strategy that provides basic overnight accommodation for youth aged 14 to 17 years, in Red Deer. Youth are provided with a safe and warm place to sleep and access to **Youth Workers** who can assist youth in working towards a more stable housing situation and refer them to existing community programs and services.

The Youth Winter Inn can accommodate up to seven youth a night. Youth are provided with a sleeping mat and blanket once admitted to the program. Their belongings will be safely secured upon admission and movable room dividers will allow for privacy. There are separate male and female washrooms available. The shelter is accessible all night.

**The Community Support Worker** will be available to connect youth to community resources, locate potential housing options and offer support, mentorship and be a positive adult in their lives.



#### **Myth**

They choose to be homeless.

#### **Fact**

Many homeless youth have suffered from physical, sexual, or emotional abuse, come from an unstable family environment that may have struggled with conflict, violence and substance abuse or have been kicked out. Many of these youth see living on the streets as safer than living where they were.

#### **Myth**

They are lazy and don't have jobs.

#### **Fact**

Homeless youth often don't have the experience, education or skills to get jobs that pay more than minimum wage. This is not enough to afford increasingly expensive rent.

#### **Myth**

They are mentally unstable.

#### **Fact**

It is estimated that about 30% of homeless youth have Major Clinical depression or post traumatic stress disorder but are not dangerous and can be self-sufficient and successful with the right support.

#### **Myth**

They are heavy drug users.

#### **Fact**

More than half have used alcohol or drugs but many use drugs to cope with exposure to traumatic events or as a substitute for expensive mental health medications.

#### **Myth**

They are dangerous.

#### **Fact**

Sometimes encounters with homeless youth end badly. However, this isn't common. Many homeless youth may engage in actions or offences that result from trying to survive living on the street (shoplifting, trespassing, prostitution, selling/using drugs). Homeless youth are often victims of violence and exploitation due to their vulnerability and desperation rather than perpetrators.

### **Other Resources in Red Deer:**

#### **Central Alberta Child & Family Services Authority (CFSA)**

#108, 4920 51st St. (Provincial Building)  
409-340-5400

**Child & Youth Advocate** 1-800-661-3446  
**Kids Helpline**

1-800-668-6868

#### **49th Street Youth Shelter**

4633 49th St.

24 Hr Crisis Line: 403-341-3190

#### **Alberta Health Services:**

#### **Community Addiction & Mental Health**

#104, 4920 51 St. 403-340-5274

#### **Central Alberta AIDS Network Society**

4611 50 Ave. 403-346-8858

#### **Clothing Bank**

5005 Ross St. 403-347-6909

#### **Native Friendship Center**

4808 51st Ave. 403-340-0020

#### **Street Ties**

4928 51 St. 403-348-8406

#### **Places to Eat:**

**Potters Hands** 4935 51 St.

403-309-4246

**Loaves & Fishes** 6002 54 Ave.

403-342-4722

**Sacred Heart Church** 5508 48A Ave.

403-346-2618

**Adventist Centre** 5014 49 St.

403-341-4470