

UPDATE

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A NEW SAFE SPACE

Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

Luke 2:11-12

I could only imagine what the shepherds must have thought when they heard that the Messiah, the long-awaited Savior, would be found in a manger. The sign they were given was not a throne or palace, but a baby lying in a feeding trough. The humblest, yet most glorious place you would ever expect to find a King.

This Christmas, we are excited to share the profound meaning of this story with nearly 100 children and 30 high school-aged students we call StreetLeaders.

Providing a safe space and safe people is vital to our 20-year journey with children and their families to help them overcome the obstacles that poverty creates. Within these spaces, children find caring

mentors, academic help, spiritual and social development, youth employment and leadership development—supports they rely on as they navigate various challenges growing up.

As we enter the Christmas season and the New Year, we are grateful to have access to a local school to provide a safe place for our children. As you continue reading this newsletter, you will learn more about this opportunity and how you can help.

Thank you for your continued partnership and generosity. On behalf of the UPT team and Board, I wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas.



Shawn James
Executive Director

A SAFE SPACE FOR EVERY CHILD

For many years, Camp Hope was known in the community as the Warden Wanderers because we often had to move from place to place whenever a space became unavailable or unsafe. It was challenging, but we kept showing up because the children needed somewhere to belong.

When we finally settled at the local Toronto Community Housing building it felt like we had found a stable home. The building was filled with laughter, learning, and friendship. Children and families felt connected and supported.

Then the pandemic changed everything. Our program space was reduced and we began sharing the building with services for vulnerable adults. With ongoing maintenance problems and pest issues like bed bugs, cockroaches, and mice, it became

This Christmas, we're praying for 25 new Promise Partners to help us sustainably cover our school rental.

A monthly gift of \$36 provides a safe space and people for children between the hours of 3-6 pm, when they are most vulnerable.

OUR MISSION >

To reach children in Toronto Community Housing with the love of Jesus, and raise them into leaders, who restore their community.



REACH
A CHILD.
RAISE
A LEADER.
RESTORE
COMMUNITY.



harder to offer children the stable and welcoming environment they needed. On a few afternoons, we even had to cancel our AfterSchool program because the space was not safe.

This past summer, God opened a new door. Through a partnership with Taylor Creek Public School, our children were welcomed into clean and safe classrooms and a gym where they could learn, play, and grow. The Vice Principal, who once attended our camp as a child, helped make this possible.

We are now continuing this partnership through the school year, giving children the safe and steady place they have needed for so long.

Camp Hope first day at Taylor Creek Public School



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Already a monthly donor? You can still make an impact with a **one-time Christmas gift.**

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