**The Salvation Army Cascade Community Church and Ministries**

**SPIRITUAL & RELIGIOUS CARE**

**Program Plan (Updated May 2018) for TSA Centre of Hope**

The Program Plan consists of 6 parts with delineating sub points:

Part I: Mission and Vision

Part II: Goals and Objectives

Part III: Program Description and Services

Part IV: Staff and Volunteers

Part V: Relationships with other churches and faith communities

Part VI: Improvements to our Programs and Practices

**Part I: Mission and Vision**

**Mission:**

“The Salvation Army exists to share the love of Jesus Christ, meet human needs and be a transforming influence in the communities of our world”.

**Vision:**

“Everyday Church with Everyday Connections”

1 Peter 1:22-25

Everyday is an opportunity to “GROW” in our connection with God and others. Everyday is an opportunity to “LOVE” God and others. We want to see people daily connecting to God and others by following the example of Jesus. We are committed to creating opportunities that foster these values of ‘growth’ and ‘love’. These opportunities revolve around studying God’s Word, serving together in our community, growing together through small groups, active involvement in ministry, and enjoying the fellowship and accountability of a loving church family.

* Spiritual & Religious Care is an integral part of all the programs and services provided by The Salvation Army Cascade Community Church and Ministries
* All Officers, Employees and Volunteers will uphold and be committed to the mission of The Salvation Army when it comes to being a transforming influence in our community
* We will have a dedicated Chaplain at TSA Centre of Hope (COH) to provide direct oversight of this integral ministry, along with their active involvement in offering and providing the spiritual and religious care of all those who come to TSA
* We value all people! Our target audience is those living at or below the poverty line who are under pressure socially, physically, spiritually and emotionally and as a result find themselves in a vulnerable place and have come to TSA COH. We also will respond (i.e. hospital or home visits) to people that cannot make it to the COH. Our Spiritual and Religious Care services are inclusive of anyone that comes to us, no matter their background or circumstances. We offer spiritual or religious care to all guests, volunteers and staff.

**Part II: Goals and Objectives**

1. Develop trusted and genuine relationships with people as we walk with them through difficult circumstances
2. Develop, teach and model a safe and caring community
3. Provide opportunities to pray about the challenges that people face
4. Provide opportunities to share the love of Christ both practically through services, but also in word as we teach about the hope in Jesus
5. Provide opportunities for people wanting to search out God and engage with us as we Worship as a group; share and learn about God’s Word through Bible Studies; pray together and share in other spiritually focused activities

**Part III: Program Description and Services**

* All Officers, Employees and Volunteers will be oriented to understand and promote the mission by being aware of what spiritual services are offered within The Salvation Army in Abbotsford and communicating the same to all people
* A list of services offered will also be available to everyone who enters the building by way of a poster, brochure or pamphlet

We are committed to providing one-on-one spiritual and pastoral care for those seeking spiritual direction and/or desiring to know more about God’s love and grace. The Salvation Army is committed to proclaiming the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, to nurturing people in their faith, as they learn to live a life committed to Jesus. The Spiritual Care program is responsible for delivering Christian based services at The Salvation Army Centre of Hope and around the greater Abbotsford Community.

We value the dignity of those we serve as being created in the very image of God; the truth and the power of God’s Word; prayer; the work of the Holy Spirit and the Great Commission. A key part of our mandate is to show the love of Jesus Christ and this is practically achieved through our intentional interactions and relationship building with all people. Everyone is welcome to sit with our Chaplain or Officers to share their concerns, hear about God’s love and pray. This is not a counseling session, but rather a time to feel safe, listened to, and accepted.

* The following is a description of the spiritual and religious care services open to all people who come to the COH:
	+ Spiritual Care includes:
		- One to one spiritual meeting with our onsite Chaplain or Corps Officers
		- Weekly Bible studies offered to our guests
		- Sunday morning corporate worship service. This includes music, prayer, testimony’s and teaching from the Bible
		- Opportunity to join in with the Sunday morning service at the Corps with transportation included from the COH to the Corps (and back).
		- Tuesday devotions for guests, staff and volunteers. This includes music, prayer and teaching from the Bible
		- Opportunities to attend Camp Sunrise (i.e. Men’s Camp) to grow in God’s Word; worship together; become connected to a larger community and grow in their faith
* Expected Outcome: Each person will come to know that they are loved by God and us; grow in their knowledge of who God is; become connected to a church family; and their faith in God will become the key source of strength and hope.
	+ Bible Reading/Devotionals in programs:
		- Adult Day Program (weekly)
		- Women’s Support Group (weekly)
		- Community Meals (Breakfast and Lunch daily) – we share grace; have scripture on the wall and table announcements; and Christian music and videos are played via visual and sound system
		- Supportive Independent Living (weekly Bible study offered; along with special events i.e. Christmas)
* Expected Outcome: Each person would be encouraged and grow in their understanding that God is Almighty, the giver of all things and they are loved by Him and us; promote and develop an understanding of what a caring community looks like.
	+ Biblical Teaching/Encouragement; Brochures/Pamphlets are shared through:
		- Emergency Food Hampers
		- Offered daily at our Thrift Store
		- Handed out through our Client and Family Services
		- Available in our main reception area
		- Posted on Walls and Bulletin Boards
* Expected Outcome: Each person would be aware of who we are and the holistic services we indiscriminately offer to each person.

* Spiritual & Emotional self-assessments are completed with each person entering the SIL program, whenever possible. In addition a Spiritual Care Assessment is offered, case files are created for those seeking ongoing Spiritual and Religious Care. A record is also maintained by the Chaplain, for any other spiritual conversations and interactions. These are keep in a locked file cabinet to maintain confidentiality.
* We have intentional follow up with our in house Supportive Independent Living program (14 men capacity), as they work through life skills training; Bible studies; and other programs. This is facilitated through one-to-one conversations with our Chaplain or SIL Supervisor. In addition, follow up with other guests depends if or when they return to the COH. As relationships and trust are built, this becomes more frequent and increases positive lifestyle choices.
* We have an intentional integrated mission between the Corps and the COH. This is fulfilled through connecting with the larger Corps family on Sunday’s; Bible Study nights or fellowship events (i.e. potlucks, picnics, or family fun events). In addition, the Officers attend Tuesday devotions and weekly connect with guest, staff and volunteers at the COH. Furthermore, we promote the various volunteer opportunities or even employment at the Corps, and we have many that graciously serve in both areas.
* Within spiritual and religious care, there are some volunteer opportunities that include, but are not limited to music; practical care through assisting people in wheel chairs; preparing and/or serving meals; and other supportive roles to the leaders of a group or a larger church service.
* The budget for Spiritual and Religious Care is discussed annually with the ED and Corps Officer. It is incorporated into the main COH budget (3000), and provides for all the needs of the programming and services.

**Part IV: Staff and Volunteers**

* Chaplain Chris Kendall

Chris is a Senior Soldier (since 1984). He has held a variety of position within The Salvation Army Corps ministries that include: Sunday school; Bible study facilitator; Youth group leader; Community & Family Service ED; Recruiting Sergeant; Census board and Corps Council member. Chris has worked within The Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction for 21.5 years. He brings a wealth of knowledge to assist clients, and a passion for the Lord that is contagious.

* Chaplain Fred O’Brien

Fred is presently our part time/on call Chaplain. He has worked for The Salvation Army Centre of Hope in a variety of roles and has been and continues to be an asset to our team. He retired from the full time role of chaplaincy at The Salvation Army Centre of Hope in 2017. He is ordained with the Evangelical Church of Canada. Fred holds a certificate diploma in Pastoral Counselling, along with a certificate diploma in Social Services. He is also a Soldier in The Salvation Army and taken part in banding ministry in years gone by.

* Bible Study leader Jason Shellborn

He is a Christian leader that volunteers his time to share God’s Word weekly at The Salvation Army Centre of Hope. He is a congregant and leader in good standing from Ross Road Community Church.

* Sunday Worship Team

Cliff Delorme and the Joyful Noise band are volunteers that love the Lord and share their musical gifts weekly at our Super Sunday Service at The Salvation Army Centre of Hope.

* Christian Staff

The Salvation Army Centre of Hope is also blessed to have staff who are Christians and actively support the Spiritual and Religious Care ministry and help us fulfill our mission to ‘share the love of Jesus Christ’ both verbally and through practical ministry.

* The ED at the COH and the Corps Officers continue to mentor the Chaplains and ensure they take advantage of any additional education (TWU or BUC), training or conferences (TWU or TSA Divisional and/or Territorial Social Services Conferences), as well as written or online resources.
* Hours of Chaplaincy Services

Chaplain services are available 7 days per week 7am -12pm. Specifically as follows: Monday / Wednesday / Saturday 7am – 3pm and Sunday 7am – 2pm. We hold services for all people on Sunday’s 8:30-9:30 and Tuesday’s 8:30-9:00am.

**Part V: Relationships with other churches and faith communities**

* We are blessed to have the practical support (i.e. monetary donations; food donations; and Kettle Volunteers) of many churches here in Abbotsford and are connected to the Abbotsford Christian Leaders Network:
	+ Gateway Community Church
	+ Abbotsford Adventist Church
	+ New Life Church
	+ Living Hope Christian Reformed Church
	+ Heritage Alliance Church
	+ Emmanuel Free Reformed
	+ Northview Community Church
	+ Central Heights Church
	+ Bakerview Church
	+ Mountain Park Community Church
	+ Ross Road Community Church
* We are also blessed to have the support of other faith communities:
	+ Blueridge Temple Youth Group: Clothing drives
	+ W.E. Club at Abbotsford Senior Secondary School: Donation of backpacks filled with personal hygene items
	+ Jag’s Furniture: Lunch service in our Meal Centre; monetary sponsorship of Thanksgiving luncheon and furniture donations to our Emergency Shelter
	+ Sikh Sewa International Society of Youth: Volunteer services in our Meal Centre and other Community Banquets
	+ Gurmat Centre – youth focused, non-profit school: Donations of items for the homeless, and they serve Saturday lunch twice a month at our Meal Centre
* List of other faith communities – Upon request, where able, TSA Center of Hope Chaplain will be available to assist these guests in locating nearby religious institutions of their choice. In extenuating circumstances, accommodation could be made for clients to meet on-site for pastoral care with a representative from their faith background.

**Part VI: Improvements to our Programs and Practices**

* We offer a front line feedback form and assessment of our services, and review them along with a self-assessment quarterly as a team
* We agree on any changes as a team (Chaplain, ED, and Officers) and then communicate to the larger team as needed and implement them accordingly