M.J. CHRISTIAN COUNSELLING CENTRE INC.

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SPRING

Celebrating 25 Years

A group of men and women believed God!

The Centre is celebrating its 25th Anniversary in May and as with many of us when it comes to an anniversary, we tend to take some time to reflect on the past. This is also true for us at the Centre. So, please join with me in a time of reflection.

I wonder if the group of men and women who had a vision for a Christian Counselling Centre in Moose Jaw 26 or so years ago ever thought there would be a 25th celebration. I wonder what it was like for this group to gather and begin to share the needs they saw in the lives surrounding them in Moose Jaw and how the Christian community could come alongside and help with those needs? What was it like for them to gather and seek the Lord as they began to plan, explore and dream? Did it feel like a daunting task filled with many challenges? Were they like Joshua and Caleb, who after going in and spying out the promised land came back and reported that while there were very real challenges, "We should go up and take possession of the land, for we can certainly do it." Their testimony – they believed God was in their midst and therefore they should go and conquer!

Just like Joshua and Caleb, I believe this group of men and women who met and began to dream of a Christian counselling Centre believed God and that He was in the midst of their dream! They met, planned and talked with people and soon their dream began to form feet and others came and joined in. A steering committee was struck, a direction was set and seeking support began.

The dream became a reality for them on May 1, 1987. The official opening of the Moose Jaw Christian Counselling Centre took place through the dedicated work of a Board of Directors representing a cross section of churches in Moose Jaw and area. The centre opened its doors with Brian Heaney, the man chosen to be the director and provide counseling, a part-time receptionist/secretary and an office in the Walter Scott Building. It was not long before people began to come seeking help with the things they were facing in life.

Throughout the years, many have come seeking a counsellor to sit with them in the midst of what they were experiencing and to speak the truth to them in love. They come from all walks of life, are representative of all ages and come wanting help with struggles/challenges they may be facing in life. These times of coming alongside those

seeking help has translated into over 22,000 sessions in the 25 years.

The Centre has been and continues to be committed to providing a broad range of confidential counselling services to all individuals and/or families in the community of Moose Jaw and surrounding area. A fee for service is charged based upon one's income and ability to pay. The fee makes up approximately 60% of the Centre's operating budget. The remaining portion of the budget comes from church donations, individual gifts and fundraising events.

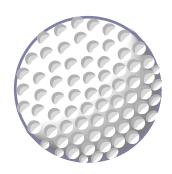
Often there is great passion when a building project is underway or a group of people has a vision/passion of a project.

People get behind it and it comes to life. The struggle is in sustaining the vision/passion once it has been in place for a time. That is the challenge before the Centre. We desperately need the Christian community's involvement through prayer, serving on the Board of Directors, involvement in fundraisers and financial gifts.

"\$25 for 25" CAMPAIGN

As we have an ongoing need for financial support, we are asking that Christians in our community consider joining in a 25 for 25 celebration by pledging \$25 per month as an expression of appreciation to the Lord for His grace and faithfulness for this 25 years of ministry. The period of time for this commitment is very open to one's choice. Any and all pledges would be greatly appreciated. In 2011 the Centre lost \$4974. If we could find 100 people who would be willing to partner with us in this way, the

financial struggle would be greatly lessened.



21st ANNUAL TEXAS SCRAMBLE GOLF TOURNAMENT

WHEN: Sat., June 16th, 2012

WHERE: Deer Ridge Golf

Course

COST: \$75.00 per person

Cost includes 18 holes of golf, one banquet ticket, prizes and a tax deductible receipt for a portion of the fee. Additional banquet guests will be charged \$12.00.

To register, phone 692-5500 or email us at www.mjccc@shaw.ca by June 7th if you would like to participate in a great day of fun and fellowship!

Sponsor a 'hole' on the golf course! Your \$50.00 sponsorship entitles you and/or your company name to be posted as a sponsor plus you will receive a tax deductible receipt for your sponsorship.

Advertise your business at the Golf Tournament