

## Youth for Christ Youth Unlimited™

## **Dear Friends,**

Each year we are fortunate to have a number of seasonal employment opportunities and internships available for young people. Many of these positions are some of the first employment opportunities for the young people we work with. We feel privileged to walk with them as they gain skills and experience in the workplace. These roles are often more than just about employment as we mentor these individuals and watch as God works in their lives.

Asha Chandra joined Kawartha YFC | Youth Unlimited, in Ontario, for the year as an intern, volunteering with The Bridge Youth Centre, and most recently as a Summer Student coordinating the summer outreach programs. Throughout her internship, staff Josh Lott observed first-hand how God worked in Asha's life, and noticed her increased boldness and confidence and her willingness to dive into the position. "As YFC staff, we are so privileged to be able to witness how God moves in the lives of young people such as Asha," said Josh. YFC works closely with youth in our programs, but we also create opportunities to bring young people into leadership positions, walking with them as they navigate their first paid work experience and grow into adulthood.

Asha shares about her experience at The Bridge Youth Centre:

"This year, The Bridge has been life-changing for me. Looking back to the person I was six or seven months ago, I feel as though I've grown in so many different ways that I couldn't have even imagined before starting here. All of these things are because of this place, these people, because of God's hand, just never leaving me through my entire life, continuing to guide me.

If you had asked me a year ago where I would be right now and what I would be doing with my life this year, everything would have been completely different; my focus, my dreams, and my intentions for the year couldn't have compared to what my dreams are right now. I could have barely imagined being at a place physically or emotionally where I'm happy and at peace, nonetheless in a place where I can serve God fully and be surrounded by people filled with God-given clarity and hearts for people. All I can do is thank Jesus for placing me here right now.

Looking back to almost 2 years ago, I was a completely different person... I was lost and desperate to fit in and find purpose. I had the

typical Christian story of growing up in church, surrounded by believers; I had a strong family who instilled in me good values and aspirations. I knew Jesus was real, but I don't think I really knew or could have called the faith my own until maybe 2 years ago when everything changed. I reached a place mentally where I didn't know what else to do; long story short, it led me to pray for the first time in a really real way, and I remember just feeling some of the pressure releasing; I remember feeling my shoulders relax for the first time, and it's only continued since I began to open my heart to Jesus' plan for my life, and through a course of doors opening and doors closing... He led me here where I really couldn't be disappointed with how He led me... here.

"[My internship with YFC] has made me a person who is open to Jesus' plans for my life. Seven months ago, I was dreading the next chapter of my life. Today I am excited about it."

... Letting Jesus take control of your life is the best thing that you can do because He works in your weakness, and He transforms your perspective if you let Him. My work here has been so amazing and fulfilling... and all of it has just made me a better person who is open to Jesus' plans for my life."

Together, with your partnership and God's grace, we are working towards every young person living fully in Christ. Your generous support and prayers mean we can continue to build meaningful relationships with staff, interns, and young people in our communities and share the Good News of Jesus.

Grace and Peace,

Tim Coles National Director

P.S. To watch more of Asha's story, visit yfc.ca/asha

A chartered nation of Youth for Christ International

"FOR I KNOW THE PLANS I HAVE FOR YOU," DECLARES THE LORD, "PLANS TO PROSPER YOU AND NOT TO HARM YOU, PLANS TO GIVE YOU HOPE AND A FUTURE." JEREMIAH 29:11 NIV