



BREAKING CYCLES OF DEFEAT SINCE 2007

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Just sitting here thinking about the start of my recovery journey November of 2015. I am flooded with memories and filled with gratitude. 🧡 Shout out to all of the amazing staff and volunteers at Rising Above for the god-centred, life saving, self-less work that they do!! Tirelessly carrying out Gods work in saving the desperate, angry and broken. Thank you for never giving up on me! You all seen something in me and lifted me up so that I could see myself through Gods eyes! Because of you all, I was introduced me to the possibility of a power greater than addiction! I'll never forget and I'll love you always! Thank God for Rising Above!!

"I am very thankful for this program. It saved my life. I love you guys and I am so thankful for everything you've done for me."

PARTICIPANT - T.M

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

For many businesses and organizations, summer often brings a slower pace of life. Churches experience a "summer slump" in attendance and giving. Various businesses also experience a slowdown in activity and sales in the summer. At Rising Above the work and demands for our services continue at a steady pace. In the last 2 months, we have had 98 men and 37 women apply for admittance into the residential program. That number is more than a statistic to justify our existence. That number represents an increasing number of individuals who are trapped in cycles of defeat and turning to substance abuse to ease the hurt. That number represents a culture that is deprived of hope. Each of those 135 people has a story. Amid their story of abuse, abandonment, anxiety, despair, shame, and or feeling unloved is a cry for hope. That's why Rising Above exists. We believe there's hope, help, and healing for those trapped in addictions and cycles of defeat. As the demand for our services increases so does the opportunity to see peoples lives restored. Every day we see evidence of hope being restored in the lives of individuals and families. Again, that's why we are here. That's why we don't slow down during the summer. We can't do this work alone. We are dependant on the financial support of the people from the Peace Country. That support enables us to keep offering hope. Thank you for helping Rising Above fulfill its role in our community.

Blessings.

Mel Siggelkow

The staff there saved my life and helped me realize my potential and gave me room to learn and become who God created me to be which is who I was meant to be!! They helped my creativity grow. Love you all! Forever in my heart 💎💎💎💎💎💎

NEW FACES AT RISING ABOVE

Julie Forbes

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR
JULIE@RISINGABOVEGP.COM



Julie was born and raised near Grande Prairie, Alberta.

After two years of post secondary education at the University of Saskatchewan she attended Capernwray, Australia. From there she earned her Bachelor of social work from the University of Regina (2001). Over the last eighteen years, Julie has worked in several different social work capacities including child protection, with a mental health outreach team, and, more recently, as a private contractor for the Alberta government completing adoption and foster care home studies.

Julie's professional experiences along with her personal encounters have given her a heart for vulnerable populations. She feels honoured and blessed to be working as the volunteer coordinator at Rising Above.

She is also coordinating the renovations at the participants' homes.

In her free time, Julie enjoys spending time with her husband, Jason, and their three children. She also enjoys ultra running, coaching her children's sports teams and traveling.

Stephanie comes to Rising Above with a heart for the broken. Before Rising Above, Stephanie worked with hundreds of businesses in creating effective radio advertising and branding campaigns at the Jim Pattison Broadcast Group. "I knew I was supposed to do something different. All I knew is I wanted to work closely with people in a faith-based organization. After 2 years of praying, God brought the change my heart was crying out for. I am so grateful and honored to be here!" Stephanie's role consists of many duties including Grant writing, proposing new fundraising and event ideas, operating Rising Above's social media platforms and generating new business. Stephanie grew up in Fairview and married the love of her life in 2011 and made the move to Grande Prairie in 2013. Stephanie and her husband, Jaydon, enjoy the outdoors, spending time with friends and family and road trips up north.

Stephanie Hudson

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER
STEPHANIE@RISINGABOVEGP.COM





A DAY TO CELEBRATE

by Kim V.

I came here pretty broken from Ontario fleeing domestic violence. I had no hope to even live. I was suicidal for 26 years. This saved my life. It started with Robbi King. I met her before the program volunteering at Mission Thrift Store and she led me to Rising Above. My advice is to drop everything at the door coming here because our way never works. Ever. We all know this. So, show up, give the staff, volunteers and mentors the respect they deserve because they are married to this job. They love us. Every single one of us. And we should do the same for one another. It's been a tough journey, but the best decision I've ever made. Ever. And I stayed to it, I committed to it and I finished it and I am proud of myself for it.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Rising Above's Annual Shareathon on Reach FM is fast approaching! Tune in to 96.3 Reach FM Wednesday, September 25th from 6am to 6pm.



Rising Above Ministry is now on Instagram! Stay connected and follow @risingaboveministry



Nicole Gingerich



The Summer Spotlight is being cast on our Intern/Summer Student Superstar! Nicole started as a 6 week intern at Rising Above then graduated into our Summer Student program. Needless to say she impressed us all! Nicole is full of energy, loves the participants and is willing to take on any task she is given with enthusiasm and a great attitude. She is finished mid-August where she will continue her studies as an Addictions Councillor. We wish her all the best in her studies and look forward to partnering with her when she graduates!



The renovations are done and we have successfully added 3 extra office spaces on the south end of the building!

How can you help?



Donate

Being a non-profit means we rely on generous donations to keep our participants healthy and well taken care of. Below is a list of items we are always on the lookout for!

- Coffee
- Coffee Whitener
- Hearty Soups
- Granola Bars
- Oatmeal
- Laundry Soap
- Dryer Sheets
- Dish Soap
- Cleaning Supplies
- Hygiene Products
- Fall/Winter Clothing

Special area of need:

- 30 Laundry Hampers

Donations can be dropped off at our Park Campus location. 11007 106 Street!



Volunteer

If you love trying new things, meeting new people and helping a great cause, then join Rising Above's Volunteer Program! Here's how you can help!

- We are looking for trades people, handy people or individuals who are willing to donate their time to help us improve housing for our ladies.
- We are in need of a hair dresser/ esthetician and/or barber for our participants. When you look good, you feel better! The participants really appreciate this service.
- Are you a baker with no one to bake for? Fret no more! Our participants always appreciate a home cooked meal OR fresh baked goods. Bake for them once and you'll have a friend for life!
- Looking for an extra adventurer on your fishing trip, camping trip or quad trip? Consider taking a "Lover of the Great Outdoors" participant! They would appreciate the fresh air and time with new found friends.



Mentor

We are looking for imperfect people who are willing to share their hearts and time with our participants. Playing the role of a mentor is very beneficial to individuals on the road to recovery. The intention of the mentor program is to provide encouragement to our participants, as they make new friends and create a new lifestyle. Are you wanting to become a mentor but don't know if you have time in your schedule? Then there's good news for you as mentoring requires only an hour of your time every week to two weeks and can leave a lasting impression on your mentee.

"A lot of people have gone further than they thought they could because someone else thought they could."

-Unknown

If you, or someone you know, would like to become a volunteer or mentor, email julie@risingabovegp.com



Rising Above Ministry
11007 106 Street
Grande Prairie

Eric Prescott Thanx again Rising Above and all the staff for all use did for me last winter, use taught me how to live a better life and brought me back from a road leading nowhere words can't Express my gratitude I have for everyone there love use all