



We're Doubling our Reach!

This summer we were able to celebrate a milestone that will allow us to reach twice as many children and families in the Lower Mainland. We are officially expanding our operations to include Langley and Aldergrove!

For many years Metro Kids Society has worked alongside the Bus Ministry of Langley CLA as they reach the communities of Langley and Aldergrove. Pastor Carl Willis has provided inspiring leadership to the bus ministry for over 30 years. When CLA was considering a transition plan for Bus Ministry and Pastor Carl, they reached out to Metro Kids and invited us to take on the care of this ministry and carry these families into the future. Our boards prayed and discussed our options, and as of July 1st, Metro Kids Society has added 8 more bus routes to the roll, which means another 298 children, 95 preteens, and 32 teenagers are under our care.

We are thankful for the decades-long partnership with CLA, which continues into the future as we will still be hosting all our programs in their facility. Pastor Carl is also continuing on into the future, now as a key staff member at Metro Kids, where he can continue to care for families and share his wisdom with our team.



This move does come with a price, however. Those 8 new bus routes need vehicles, fuel, and staff to keep going strong. We desire for the kids to have uninterrupted care as we take on this significant expansion.

Can you stand with us as we reach into two new communities this fall? If you have not become a monthly sponsor, now is an excellent time to start!

Simply go to www.metrokids.ca/donate and select the "monthly donation" option, and your support will automatically be applied each month. For every \$30 that you give, we can ensure uninterrupted care for one child. Thank you!

Growing up to make a difference

Pawlala Say is one of many amazing Metro Kids staff members. She started attending Kids Klub as a child and is now a student in the nursing program at Kwantlen University. Everyone who knows Pawlala loves her, so we want you to get to know her too!



How old were you when you started coming to Kids Klub and how did that happen?

I first moved to Canada from Thailand when I was 5 years old and Pastor Carl knocked on our door and invited my family to Kids Klub. My older siblings went first, but when they came home and talked about how amazing it was, I wanted to go too.

What are some things that stand out in your memory from attending Kids Klub?

I remember the bus rides the most. Kids Klub would go by in a blur, but we spent so much more time with the leaders on our bus and they really got to know us.

How old were you when you started volunteering at Kids Klub?

I was in grade 8 when I started volunteering. I loved getting to know all the kids and families on the Aldergrove route and I've been serving on that bus in that community ever since. I eventually became the Bus Captain when I was in grade 12.

You also started volunteering as a teen at Sidewalk Kids Klub in the summer; tell us what that was like.

It was amazing! I loved going to the parks and apartments and seeing all the kids come running. I loved spending time with them before and after the program, playing games with them, and getting to know the parents.

Growing up to make a difference (Continued from page 1)

It wasn't long before you were a team leader, and in charge of a group of young people putting on seven Sidewalk Kids Klub programs a week. Why did you choose to do that in the summer, compared to say, working at McDonald's?

It's so amazing knowing that we got to tell kids about Jesus, who don't have anyone else to tell them how much He loves them. Many children who come to our Sidewalk Kids Klub program aren't allowed to attend a church due to their family's religion, so it's a huge privilege for us to go to right to where they live and share the good news that Jesus loves them.

Are families open to hearing about Christianity?

Yes! A lot of parents stay outside and watch their children participate and cheer them on when they play the games. This summer I worked at a Sidewalk Kids Klub location where most of the families who live there are from Muslim countries where it is illegal to talk about Jesus. Sometimes we would have up to 50 children attend at that location, plus parents and older siblings. One week I had a newly immigrated mom come up to me after Kids Klub and say how much she loves what we're doing. She said her daughter came home after Sidewalk Kids Klub talking about Jesus and that she had questions about Him too! I gave her our Metro Kids Society phone number to call if she ever had more questions and she'll also get a home visit soon and an invitation to ride the bus.

Any other highlights of the summer?

One of the Sidewalk Kids Klub locations that didn't have many kids coming previously really grew this summer! We had about 20 new preteens showing up every week! Now we can invite them to ConnXion, our preteen program that is designed for their age group. I look forward to seeing them there.

Thank you, Pawlala, for all your energy and passion that you bring to our team, and the love you have for the kids and families in our communities!

When you support Metro Kids Society by giving, you are helping us support hard working young people like Pawlala who are doing so much to give back to young people at risk in our community.



One Bus replaced, One to go!

Thank you to everyone who has already contributed to our bus replacement fund. As you probably heard, a few months ago we lost both of the buses in our fleet due to mechanical problems.

I'm happy to report that we're halfway there! We have recently been able to replace our big bus with a reliable used one. It's been fully inspected, has our logo printed on the side, and it's all ready to hit the road again.

But we still have some miles to go before we hit our goal. We still need to replace our minibus and **we are still \$8000 short** where we would like to be to get a reliable bus on the road for the kids. **Can you help us get it all rolling again?**

To Support our outreaches financially,

please **e-transfer** to giving@metrokids.ca, visit www.metrokids.ca/donate, or send a **cheque** to

Metro Kids Society, Box 42102 Guildford PO Surrey, BC V3R 1S5

Please indicate on your email, online form, or cheque which project you're supporting. Thank you for your help!

PLEASE JOIN US FOR

METRO KIDS SOCIETY'S

DESSERT NIGHT AND SILENT AUCTION

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7 7:00 PM
at Langley Christian Life Assembly,
21277 56 Ave.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12 7:00 PM
at House of James in Abbotsford,
3743 Emerson St.

Please plan to join us on November 7th (Langley) or November 12th (Abbotsford) for our annual Silent Auction and Dessert Nights! Get your Christmas shopping done early and hear some inspiring stories from Metro Kids!

Reserve your spot or a whole table at www.metrokids.ca/dessert or call 604-812-7178



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