



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**BEACON COMMUNITY SERVICES RAISES OVER \$22,000
FOR VICTORIA'S HOMELESS YOUTH**

VICTORIA – Over 100 people from throughout the Greater Victoria area came together this past weekend to support the Out of the Rain Youth Shelter. Local artists and businesses generously donated artwork and products for the Power of Kindness Auction and guests rose to the occasion, contributing over \$22,000 for the program.

Beacon Community Services' Board Chair, Dawn Fyke, is encouraged by the people's willingness to give. "With news of food bank donations down and poverty and homeless rates rising, it's heartening to see such wonderful support from our community for Victoria's homeless population," says Fyke. "This is what Beacon Community Services is all about – bringing people together to help those in need."

The Out of the Rain Youth Shelter is a program that not only provides safe, warm shelter, but also endeavours to build a relationship with homeless youth and connect them to resources that may lead them onto a healthier path. Last year, over 200 youth were served by this program, which is funded largely by charitable donations.

The existence of programs like the Out of the Rain Youth Shelter and the fact that our community will share generously to support it provide a hopeful message for the future of Victoria's homeless population.

For more information or to donate to Beacon Community Services or the Out of the Rain Youth Shelter visit www.beaconcs.ca or contact:

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